

# Daniel Kaven

**#277972 | March 16, 2021**

## Testimony to **Portland City Council** on the **Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, Recommended Draft**

Dear Councilors, My name is Daniel Kaven. My job in conjunction with an architecture practice, is to interpret and apply the City Zoning code. I have read the Shelter to Housing Continuum Draft in detail and I have found it to be a deeply flawed effort to fix the humanitarian crisis that we are in. The alteration of the Zoning code to allow Shelter uses, which by international standards would be akin to favelas or shantytowns, in all zoning conditions would be devastating to the vitality of the City. Portland has been decimated by camping all over the City's arterial streets and open spaces with a lack of regulation and oversight. The Draft measure would actually compound the issue immensely by making those issues permanent on private property. The City is ill-equipped to police and regulate the widespread adoption of permanent encampments and their rapid growth and it will disproportionately affect those in lower-income communities where land is less inexpensive and the zoning would be an Allowable Use. What this draft and its creators don't seem to have contemplated is the operation of bad actors buying cheap land and renting small spaces for shelters to be built en masse. This would actually be a very profitable enterprise and have unintended outcomes and consequences. There should be no path forward whatsoever with the work done in this proposal. It is wholly flawed. Council needs to chart a path forward that is led by a dually elected member of council to locate 40 large sites that are evenly dispersed throughout the entire City and not concentrated in any area. Of these 40 sites, which would be permitted for shelter for a 5 year period, only 10 would be allowed to operate quarterly. At the end of each and every quarter all residents and mobile supportive services would be required to move to one of the other sites. Any families with children would be housed in permanent shelter. The City would pay for all moving and would facilitate the program with a fleet of mobile bathrooms, showers, and commercial kitchens. There would be onsite counseling, rehabilitation opportunities and security. Each site would be within walking distance of public transportation and would have a pick up point for those looking for daily labor. Thanks for your time, Daniel

Testimony is presented without formatting.