

Rich Schwartz

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

I am a 15 year resident of Portland's Sunnyside neighborhood. Unfortunately, the housing supply in the city has not kept up with demand, and that's especially true for low-income housing. The result has been the establishment of many illegal campsites throughout our neighborhoods with all the problems that go along with them. Here in Sunnyside area that has included Laurelhurst Park and Sunnyside school. The current way of dealing with the issue - sweeping the illegal tent sites - does not address the underlying issue. I support the passage of the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project proposal as a framework for creating options that can address both shorter and longer term needs of our houseless population. It is unjust to sweep those living on the streets without providing reasonable alternatives for those people to live. Under the guidance of S2HC I believe those alternatives will be forthcoming, creating a win-win situation for both the housed and houseless among us.

Testimony is presented without formatting.