

# Cheyenne Michael

**#278045 | March 16, 2021**

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

Dear Portland City Council, As a tax paying Portland resident, I am NOT in favor for the code changes to allow homeless people to set up camp in our parks. For one, these are people, not animals, why are we keeping them outside and not providing shelter for them? You can look around Portland and know right away that this is horrible idea. Our parks will become trashed with litter, needles, feces, and whatever else. This will not be a safe place for children to play or people to walk their pets. Portland is already becoming a dump because you allowed the homeless people to come in and do whatever they want and there are no consequences, no accountability. There are fires all the time, you can't walk down a lot of the sidewalks, and it has become so unsafe to even be out, especially as a woman. For a city that is supposed to be environmentally friendly, we look like a giant dumpster. There are piles on piles of trash everywhere you go in this city, and you have yet to do anything about that. And you think that the homeless people are going to keep their area clean in the park? You have already failed this city during a pandemic and now you want to destroy our parks for people who do not contribute anything to this city. Maybe try exploring some real solutions, like finding ways to provide actual shelter for these people. We pay a ton in taxes to live here so I know there are funds available somewhere to provide actual resources, like housing for these people. Letting people camp in the park is NOT the right answer, it's not even a good temporary one. That will only lead to more issues for Portland.

Testimony is presented without formatting.