

# STEVEN MICHAEL

**#278057 | March 16, 2021**

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

Dear Portland City Council, I strongly oppose the code change to allow homeless camps to set up in our parks. You say they can only be there for 6 months but a lot of damage can be done in 6 months. Have you seen Portland? It is becoming a dump. You have allowed the homeless to come in and trash everything. Do you think they will keep the parks clean? What about Laurelhurst park? Our parks, that we pay taxes for, will become littered with needles, trash, feces, the area will become infested with rodents and diseases. It will be unsafe for children and pets. There are better options than allowing the homeless people to take over our parks. Why don't you find better solutions to get these people off the streets instead of keeping them outside? Like instead of building a bunch of expensive high rises, put in some affordable/transition housing. Offer programs to help people with mental illness/drug addictions. We pay enough to live here, there are for sure some funds that can be moved around. You know maybe try to do something to actually better the city instead of destroying our city. You can clearly see that is not what the people of Portland want. You need to do better.

Testimony is presented without formatting.