

Jane Berry

#278150 | March 16, 2021

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

I am a resident of outer northeast Portland, and I am testifying in opposition to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project. We have more than our share of homeless congregations in our area already and I don't trust the City Council to ensure that the homeless are housed in these shelters equally across the City. Most of our main streets (NE 141st, NE Shaver, NE 122nd, the I-84 off ramp) have homeless camps already. In my immediate neighborhood RVs are allowed to park in violation of posted parking signs. I also want assurance in writing that the Council will not permit any shelters to be build inside parks, and for me that includes the parking lots for these parks. If you consult with Parks staff you will find that they are already dealing with human excrement in their shrub beds and have been warned to protect themselves against the Shigella bacteria. It is not fair to park users or Parks staff to be in daily proximity with groups of homeless people who cannot conform to the usual public standards of cleanliness and sanitation. In outer northeast Portland we have long, wide streets, farmers' fields and an industrial area. We also have unpaved roads, no shoulders or bike paths and poor drainage in places. We don't need another semi-permanent encampment of the homeless - we already have these areas on NE 138th and the paths that border the Columbia Slough. Please do not use our neighborhoods as a convenient place to house people you find it hard to deal with and who have problems that you are finding it difficult to solve.

Testimony is presented without formatting.