

# Shelley McGinity

**#278151 | March 16, 2021**

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

Wow! I am shocked that I came upon this project notice quite by accident and the outreach by the city council for input on this has been slim to none, considering that only 31 comments were received in October of 2020. Without further ado: 1. Changing the city codes? On a permanent basis? Why not temporary until this is established and deemed appropriate and headed in the right direction? Why were the city codes put into play in the first place? My guess is a) Public land use b) Public safety and c) Public access. The theme being PUBLIC, ie. TAXPAYERS. 2. Providing "Emergency" housing on a "permanent" basis seems an oxymoron to me... Not assistances, not transitional- we need a light at the end of the tunnel, not a "come on in and stay FOREVER". There is a problem here and we need to make sure we are not increasing and inviting more homeless to Portland- We need to fix the problem- this should definitely NOT be another bandaid, but also include longterm solutions for the occupants. 3. Will medical "wraparound" include drug enforcement? Is this just buying time without consideration for public safety, lack of law enforcement and law and order, not to mention the damage to property values in the "selected" neighborhoods, which could be another cause for homelessness... Our homes, are our investments, our future and retirement which people have been working HARD all their lives to achieve. This should NOT be overlooked. 4. 180 days and then what??? For sure, no use of the public parks that are maintained by taxpayer moneys. People are fearful to enter many of these areas, not to forget that the once beautiful downtown Portland, is currently a wasteland and people are fearful of going there, due to the riots of 2020 that were supported by the very council that wants to create this project. Public confidence in your ability to be honest and trustworthy is at an all time low. 5. The # of people allowed in a dwelling unit? Isn't this a life/ safety issue the does not conform with the UBC or fire protection? 6. "Clarify clients may stay longer than 30 days in a short term shelter"? How long? No specification for this have been laid out... 7. Informal camping is Prohibited??? Really? No obvious enforcement means this is not a true statement. Will this happen to the project if services become overwhelmed? Based on past result, I would have to think that it will... You are not offering any guarantees for your proposals. 8. SUMMARY/ MAIN CONCERN: Public Safety, law and order, and following the laws as they are written today- local, state and federal! WE WANT OUR BEAUTIFUL, SAFE, LIVEABLE CITY BACK!

Testimony is presented without formatting.