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

The "Shelter to Housing Continuum Project" is poorly conceived and will make Portland less livable for everyone. The current homeless situation is driven by mental illness and addiction. What most of this vulnerable population needs are services and accountability. You will do harm to them by allowing them to place their dwellings where there are little to no services and where they will not be accountable to live within our societal norms. I live in the Brooklyn neighborhood and work downtown; and I travel around the city regularly. What I have observed is that whether they are in tents, camps, small hut-type shelters, recreational vehicles or cars; this population will hurt themselves, each other and our community. There is wide-spread drug usage all over the city in these camps, cars and rvs. Because of addiction or mental illness this population is largely service-resistant and that is dangerous. People who need services but resist those services, should be made to leave, not given free homes; not be aloud to buy/sell/use dangerous, harmful drugs and spread their trash around the city. I know very well that we also have a need for affordable housing in our city. But another solution must be found. The changes included in this draft will not serve Portlanders, but will continue to hurt the vulnerable population it is puorting to help; and will not help the city recover from the damage that has been done to it.

Testimony is presented without formatting.