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

Every neighbor and citizen of conscience deeply understands the need for more housing resources for the un-housed in our city. However, homeless encampments in our parks and on the municipal golf courses is not a sustainable solution and brings with it many problems of public health, hygiene, and public safety. It is a poor and imprudent choice. The homeless among us need permanent structures with walls, not tents. Why not work on a real and effective solution to this need rather than a stop-gap measure? Convert unused storefronts or strip malls, or use eminent domain to acquire some of the unused apartment/condo stock. We have had a veritable boom of multi-unit buildings, why do we still have un-housed people? Tent encampments are not a solution.

Testimony is presented without formatting.