

Mazie Drummond

#278240 | March 16, 2021

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

Hello Commissioners, My name is Mazie Drummond, and I am a high school student, and youth climate organizer with Sunrise PDX residing in Creston neighborhood. I urge you to vote YES on the Shelter to Housing Continuum with the recommended policy amendments proposed by Portland: Neighbors Welcome. It is crucial that we fight for all houseless Portlanders who have a fundamental right to shelter. In a housing crisis exacerbated by a global pandemic, we cannot allow our communities to be displaced. We must protect Portland communities and guarantee our support. I go to school in downtown and each day, pre-COVID, I would walk up from my bus stop and past houseless neighbors on the way to class. It seemed so ironic that City Hall was just a few blocks away, a symbol of power and legislation, while folks mere minutes from the doors remained without they support that they needed. By implementing the Shelter to Housing Continuum and passing the proposed amendments we can take steps towards supporting all Portlanders, and make sure that our city thrives because of it. We have to take steps to support our communities in the midst of a raging pandemic and a worsening climate crisis, and always. Lives are at stake, and you have the power to make real change to support houseless communities. Please vote YES on the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, and pass the amendments proposed by Portland: Neighbors Welcome. Thank you, Mazie Drummond

Testimony is presented without formatting.