

Isha Leinow

#278289 | March 17, 2021

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

I support the Shelter to Housing Continuum project! Thank you for working to improve the lives and decriminalize the actions of those seeking the basic human right of housing and shelter in our city. Portland's conventional housing remains unaffordable for so many and we desperately need the far reaching and creative options that the S2HC brings. As you know, at least ten City Bureaus and numerous Portlanders have been involved in shaping the legislative amendments to seven sections of code. I've personally experienced and witnessed numerous friends and neighbors benefitting from the decriminalization and de-stigmatizing of creative housing alternatives that resulted from the stay on evictions from vehicles, a innovative alternative very much applauded by residents of my neighborhood. Given the positive outcomes for those in desperate need of shelter to be able to obtain refuge in Tiny Houses on Wheels, trailers, campers, cars, etc., I urge you to pass the S2HC, as is, on the grounds that we remain in a housing emergency that is worse off now then when it was declared it in 2015. Please also note the the S2HC will not completely resolve the severe challenges our unhoused and under-housed city residents face and extend the Housing Emergency declaration. Thank you for your outstanding courage to do what is right and pass the S2HC!

Testimony is presented without formatting.