



To: City of Portland, City Council
Re: Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC) Project

Dear City Council:

On behalf of the Mt Scott Arleta Neighborhood Association, we want to express our gratitude for your work on and offer our conditional support for the Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC) Project. As a low-income neighborhood, we understand that increasing the range of housing options for people here --regardless of income or housing status-- is an investment in livability for all. We support increased flexibility in our codes to better our community including options to support our unhoused neighbors.

We are also grateful for the community-led coalition that has led on innovating the range of options under consideration here, including PDX Shelter Forum, Portland: Neighbors Welcome, Stop the Sweeps PDX, Interfaith Alliance on Poverty, the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods, and many other community members and organizations who have worked for years bringing it to life.

Given the need for urgent solutions across a range of contexts and needs, we ask that you join us in urging City Council to extend the Housing State of Emergency. In addition, please preserve their current authority to waive codes and rules accordingly, regardless of the outcome of this planning process. In addition, we hope you will seriously consider the recommendations of Portland Neighbors Welcome and the Shelter PDX / alternative shelter and villages coalition working group, including:

- Allow Group Living by right in existing residential structures of any size. In low-density zones, increase the number of sleeping rooms allowed without triggering the Group Living category.
- Avoid counting occupied RVs against the number of ADUs allowed on a site.
- Allow far more beds per indoor shelter and far more accommodations per outdoor shelter.
- Relax conditional-use review requirements for shelters.
- Include RVs, Tiny Houses on Wheels, and other types of shelter/housing as allowed in Outdoor Shelters.

- And although it is somewhat beyond the scope of this project, we hope that the city can move toward developing a general vehicle-dwelling permitting program similar to Eugene's Overnight Parking Program, which provides legal places in the community for unhoused people to sleep in their vehicles.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mt. Scott-Arleta Neighborhood Association