

William Hostmann

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

Hi, I am a 30 year tax-paying, home owner resident of Multnomah County. The Portland Bureau of Planning's goal is to "...enhance livability and preserve distinctive places and plan for a resilient future". This project does none of that and in fact negatively affects the work so far in achieving those goals. I have deep compassion for the homeless and have supported numerous tax initiatives to provide more services and assistance. As an avid user of our cities distinctive Parks, bike paths, and trails, I have seen an extreme deterioration of the cleanliness and the ability to use these public areas. It is apparent that homeless camps have taken over these areas without adequate restroom and garbage/needle disposal facilities as well as mental health facilities. Outdoor activities have been vital to us all during the COVID pandemic; however, many of us have felt restricted from using public areas due to the homeless camps. If we continue to allow use of parks and natural areas for temporary shelters, not only will it will be impossible to control, reverse and cost the City more dollars to clean up the areas, but will attract an influx of homeless people from other states. Again, please do not use Open Spaces for the siting of temporary or permanent shelters. Please help us make Portland Parks a safe and desirable place for us ALL to enjoy.

Testimony is presented without formatting.