

# Allen Teeterig

**#278632 | March 18, 2021**

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

I oppose expanding shelter zoning to allow sheltering in our parks. The reality of our homelessness crisis isn't a lack of shelter or affordable housing the reality is city and county staff visit camps constantly throughout the year and offer shelter, transitioning housing and other programs and services and almost every time a majority of people living in camps turn offers of services down. Our homelessness crisis is fueled by drug addiction and mental illness and those people suffering from these ills are unwilling to come inside because they have to be outside to steal to support expensive meth and heroin addictions that can cost the average addict hundreds of dollars per day. Every social worker who visits camps knows this isn't a crisis that's solved by more shelter space. We have cities like Reno putting their homeless on buses and sending them here and we've become known as a city that allows theft and other crimes and has vast services and food available to the homeless. We've basically become a homeless magnet.

Testimony is presented without formatting.