

Jasmar Reddin

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

I have been a resident of Portland since 1976. I have been a small business owner in Portland since 1995. I have never felt so unsafe and threatened by the conditions in my Gateway area where both my residence and business exist. I am fearful of walking alone with my dog in my neighborhood as well as in the nearby hydropark on 114th and Holladay. I fear walking to or from work in the dark only to find a vagrant on the back step of my clinic or on the front porch of it. Needles, filth and unenforced vagrancy have stolen the cleanliness and safety of my neighborhood. I feel Portland is looking to the city of the future with rose colored glasses: reduced speed for vehicles,; ready to paint another bike lane and declare victoriously another walkway. Sounds lovely, but enforce vagrancy and public health laws that protect me so I can enjoy the future vision as a reality rather than getting assaulted on a dog walk in a public park or parking area. Right now, I feel totally disenfranchised as a tax paying citizen and business owner. Take care of us taxpaying, law abiding citizens also.

Testimony is presented without formatting.