

Carla Stanley

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

The City of Portland must NOT allow public spaces used for homeless camps. Downtown Portland has already become a dangerous city to live. As quoted from the Wall Street Journal of Tuesday, March 23, 2021: “Part of the challenge is convincing residents and visitors that the city is safe. As in many cities, crime rates have increased. Homicides climbed 60% in Portland last year over the previous year and burglaries rose 30%.” If our government allows homeless to live in residential areas, our children will no longer be safe. Our beautiful downtown bike path along the Willamette River is now a homeless camp. Trash and tents are everywhere along our freeways and underpasses. Provide safe housing and services away from where we live and play. Don't we deserve that after paying the highest property taxes in the state? Don't allow our parks to be ruined along with the city. Picking up their trash is not a solution for the homeless. People should NOT have the right to pitch a tent anywhere they want. A responsible city would provide areas with sanitation, cooking facilities and safe housing instead of suggesting we now ruin our parks and neighborhoods.

Testimony is presented without formatting.