

Kate Khine

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

I'm a single mother with a 5 year old child. I moved to Laurelhurst over a year ago. My house is directly across from the Laurelhurst park annex. I can see the homeless camp from my house and they can see me. I have had 4 break in attempts and 1 actual break in. I feel unsafe living across from the park knowing that I'm being monitored by the people at the camp. I don't let my child play at the playground. I have found trash and needles thrown in front of my yard and sidewalk. The reason that I moved to Laurelhurst is the desirability and livability of the neighborhood. I'm not speaking of just Laurelhurst but Portland in general. The city has been transformed to a lawlessness and trashy place. Driving around in Portland breaks my heart. There are landfills all over the city. I don't understand how the city let it be ok for the homeless to camp where ever and let them trash the area and threaten the security of the residents around them. I feel as if they are given priority over the residents who actually live there, pay taxes and care for the land that they occupy. The homeless does not care or do any of that. All they do is transform the area into an unlivable place. The residents do want to support them but time after time, they have been harassed by those that they support. We want to make Portland the city of Roses and not the city of Homelessness. These people don't even come from here. They come to Portland because the city's rules are so relaxed and allow for them to do whatever. To approve the SHCP is like giving the death sentence the city of Portland. People who truly love the city will move out of here and what is left is the homeless roaming the city. The parks, schools and natural areas should not ever be allowed camping. We pay taxes to keep them well taken care of. We don't pay taxes to upkeep these areas so that people can do whatever and even destroy them in the process.

Testimony is presented without formatting.