

# James Wazlaw

**#278865 | March 24, 2021**

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

I urge the Portland City Council to not approve the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project. As a long time Portland resident, I am very concerned about the proliferation of garbage and derelict tents on our streets and in our parks. It is amazing that the City is considering a project that would officially encourage this. Currently our parks are mostly spared from this scourge and citizens of Portland can enjoy the respite from the downtown dereliction while recreating in the parks. Already, for those of us who walk the streets of our city, to shop and avail ourselves of services we must dodge the garbage, derelict encampments, dog and human excrement and, then, remove our shoes before we enter our homes. The filth in Portland continues to increase. Occasionally I drive in Portland and, this week, as I drove West Burnside dodging the potholes and dips in the road, I reflected on other cities where I travel. I couldn't recall dodging those obstructions on main thoroughfares.

Symptomatic. I urge the Council to focus less on national and international matters and more on cleaning the City, removing and not encouraging the growth of derelict habitations on our streets.

Testimony is presented without formatting.