

Marianne McClenaghan

#278880 | March 24, 2021

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

I believe everyone has the right to a safe place to live, food, water, access to restrooms and showers. I have lived in Portland for over 40 years and gladly payed my taxes to help in these beliefs as well as my belief that cities need clean green spaces where people can walk, play, gather with friends and family. I have gladly payed taxes to support these green spaces. I realize that Portland has a growing population of families and individuals who have no place to call “home”. I am heartbroken that there has not been a more aggressive action to provide safe places for families who are in need of support. I realize money, resources and individual rights are a stumbling block. I few years ago I watched my grandchild in the Hawthorn area. I became increasingly uncomfortable walking with him in his own neighborhood. I stopped taking him to the park. The neighborhood school, Sunnyside Elementary, was surrounded by individuals that left unsafe items and messes on school grounds. I strongly ask that you protect all our parks, including Gabriel, from anyone living, camping or staying there. This is not a solution, it is a short term fix that will cost more to fix than to find a viable long term solution. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. Sincerely, Marianne McClenaghsn

Testimony is presented without formatting.