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

This is information for the record. The map of unsanctioned campsite locations documented between November to February 2020/21 is an unreliable document due to the method used to gather the data. The way the data is collected through an english language government run site - creates an incorrect assessment of the issue when considering access by non english speaking Portlanders and undocumented Portlanders. The areas where these residents live, due to how the data is gathered, is misrepresented on the map. Further, the data does not show the quantity of the issue.

PROPORTIONALITY: It is not a document that describes the quantity of the number of houseless residents/vehicles at a reported site only that a vehicle or structure exists. An unsanctioned camp that has 10 tents and five cars/RV's and has 20 houseless residents is the same data point as an unsanctioned camp that is one tent, one houseless resident. As such, it does not illustrate the number of houseless residents in one area compared to another area of Portland. Due to that the information derived from the map is of very limited use for writing policy. **DATA**

GATHERING/DEFICIT: The data collected is dependent on a knowledge of the english language and therefore is incomplete. The data points are collected by residents reporting a campsite to the City of Portland via the one point of contact website. As is known to the city from the most recent census many residents of East Portland are either non English speakers or have limited knowledge of English. Any area with a greater number of non english speaking residents will have a data deficit in the document since non english speaking residents have a barrier to reporting/creating a data point vs. english speakers. Other languages may be available but accessing the other languages creates a barrier that is not faced by english speakers and will change the number of data points for an area. Further, our vulnerable non documented Portlanders are not likely to report to a government website. Where these residents live in Portland must also be considered when reporting data that is solely gathered through a government web site as their hesitancy to interact with a government entity would create a deficit to the data gathering. For these reasons the document does not represent the extent of the homelessness issue in East Portland and does not give an accurate picture of the issue. For these reasons the document is unreliable as a data document for City staff to rely on for creating policy. Lin City of Portland Resident

Testimony is presented without formatting.