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#278967 | March 24, 2021

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

Commissioners, please do NOT give JOHS and private concerns free rein to destroy East Portland neighborhoods! We have so much pressure right now in East Portland from very low income and homeless residents that we have grocery stores and other businesses shutting down. We invested in this neighborhood because we wanted to live in a diverse and thriving community. Members of Portland City Council, I implore you to vote against this hastily put together, yet permanent institutionalism of poverty in our East Portland neighborhoods. Please craft a proposal that first and foremost, addresses a fair geographic distribution of shelter to be developed in each neighborhood in its zoning rules. Your proposal should also encompass a comprehensive, city-wide plan of shelters and services supporting them, minimum standards for shelters (and their management), a process of review for shelter sitings and the decommissioning of illegal mass camping sites. Please do the right thing and vote down this zoning proposal until it shows a bit of equity and compassion for our East Portland neighborhoods!

Testimony is presented without formatting.