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

S2HC is a plan for Disaster. The work of many people planning this very kind effort is appreciated. However, much planning went into previous ideas destructive to Portland- such as the Mt Hood Freeway, destroying the Mt Tabor Reservoirs, etc. These were stopped once the majority of Portlanders became aware of the overwhelming negative effects. This process is just coming to public light for many people. Please delay the Council vote 1 month so that more voices can be heard. S2HC is wrong because it will: perpetuate indefinitely many existing camps, it will Encourage new campers within the city, and camps that have been in out-of-the-way but irritating places like the SpringWater corridor and along I-205 will be encouraged and Enabled to move into more publicly visible locations. S2HC will intentionally bring camps to neighborhoods and areas that haven't had them before! Confidence that these "managed camps" will be different than the existing camps is extremely low. Each non-profit/government agency/ vacant lot will have varying "management" and 24 hour staff won't be on-site. Does the plan address how to assertively get people Out Of unmanaged camps? Instead, actual transitional campgrounds, with compassionate services, need to be set up outside of Portland neighborhoods. These could have warming tents for cold weather and food provided regularly. For example, along Marine Drive there are a number of large empty parking lots owned by the Port of Portland, also areas such as Delta Park could be made into transition camps. Interventions could be focused to get folks off Portland streets- not make it more likely that they will remain there for years to come. Homeless folks should be hired to oversee these camps; active efforts should be made to link people to natural solutions: facilitate reconnection with Family, Friends, AA Sponsors, Clergy etc who could offer lasting life-changes. Thank you in advance for delaying a final decision

Testimony is presented without formatting.