

Kiel Johnson

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

I am writing my support for the Shelter to Housing Project, especially the inclusion of open space zoning. At Go By Bike we park and repair people's bikes who ride to the aerial tram. Anyone who regularly commutes by bike has a unique and close perspective to our city's homeless crisis. The 205 path, the Springwater Trail, and many other bicycle and pedestrian spaces next to our freeway infrastructure have become places for people to camp who do not have housing. Most of these are zoned open spaces. Since we have not invested space on our main arterials for bicycles these trails are vital to our network. In order to make these spaces safe for all users, especially woman and people of color, we need to find a more regulated camping solution for folks currently living on these paths. Including Open Spaces would allow for non profits to help find solutions and invest resouces into making safe alternatives to our current unregulated camps. By not including Open Space Zoning we are drastically and unnecessarily limiting our ability to find safe locations. We need an all hands on deck approach, please include open spaces in the final policy for the Shelter to Housing Project.

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