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

Hello, I read this article regarding the Portland City Council's housing access review:

<https://www.oregonlive.com/news/2021/03/portland-city-council-assures-residents-that-homeless-quarters-will-not-be-allowed-in-parks.html?outputType=amp> As a Tiny Home dweller, I would like to offer my insight regarding utility hookups on private residential property. Power and sewer hookup access should definitely be required to be made available for RVs/Tiny homes on private residential property. If the homeowner cannot provide sewer, use of the homeowners restroom is an appropriate alternative. I think offering loans to help cover the costs of installing campground style hookups (ideally for sewer and power supply installation cost) is a great idea. However the loans should be made to the home/property owner, shifting the responsibility of providing hookups to them as opposed to the RV/tiny home dweller. This makes sense for 2 reasons. 1. The home owner generally will have a higher income, and realistically charge some amount of rent for allowing the RV/tiny to park on their property. They can use those funds to repay the loan, and then generate rental income once the upfront installation costs have been covered. 2. Installing these kinds of hook-up would involve permanent changes/improvements to the home owner's property. Because of this, they ultimately should be in charge of the who and how the installation is done, meaning they should be the one choosing and hiring contractors to complete the work, as opposed to someone who has to legal right to make modifications to their property. Once the campground style hookups are installed and available, the only costs to the RV/tiny home dweller is to purchase the proper hose connections, which is generally less than \$30. As a tiny home dweller, I know there is a lot of demand for residential parking spaces with hookups, but there are few appropriate spaces available. I think encouraging homeowners to make these spaces available, and providing incentives and special loans to help cover setup costs would go a long way towards increasing the supply within the city. I also suspect that many vehicle dwellers currently parked on the street or in illegal camps have some amount of funds to pay rent for a place with hookups, but either can't find an available spot, or won't be accepted into an rv park or residential space because of the condition of their vehicle. It's difficult to live in vehicle without hookups, and I'm sure most people would be happy to pay what they can to have access to basic amenities. A city sponsored section 8 type of rv park, offering a permanent place to park with basic hookups might be a good idea. Remove any vehicle requirements other than safety issues. Tenants who can afford to pay a small amount of rent should, and possibly some of the homeless housing funds could help cover costs for tenants who cannot afford to pay anything? This would be a great project for vacant land or parking lots.

Testimony is presented without formatting.