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

We can't build fast enough to house the many people who are currently houseless, and everything suggests there will be far more when people start having to pay deferred rent. Please vote YES on the Shelter to Housing Continuum, because expanded shelter and housing options are the only way to get people off the street. Do not adopt any amendments that would reduce or limit the ability of the city or providers to site shelters across the city. There will always be people who don't want more neighbors. Adopt the "Portland: Neighbors Welcome and Social Justice Coalition" amendments to ensure maximum flexibility for shelter and housing: Give greater flexibility for siting Outdoor Shelters, on a permanent or temporary basis, including allowing permanent Outdoor Shelters on specific sites in Open Space zones with a vote of city council following a public hearing. ODOT properties cry out to be made useful spaces. Allow churches, religious organizations, and community organizations to host outdoor shelters serving up to 20 people by-right in all residential zones. This is how the community can help, if we are allowed to. Allow RVs and tiny houses on wheels on residential properties without a sewer hookup, if they utilize other safe sanitation options. Composting toilets are small and inexpensive. This kind of flexibility is necessary to accommodate the most people in the most locations, which will then not unduly burden just a few neighborhoods.

Testimony is presented without formatting.