

# Lisa Brenner

**#279112 | March 26, 2021**

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

Rights and responsibilities apply to everyone who is competent. Housing is a right, and we voters have voted repeatedly in Portland and Metro to provide that housing for those who cannot afford it. Camping in the city is not a right as long as the city can provide shelter. Do it! We have voted to provide parks and green spaces to support nature and recreation. Portland has a responsibility to maintain those green spaces and keep them safe, clean, and thriving. Do it! An enormous amount of trash lines our streets wherever campers squat. It is no longer safe to shop in many local businesses everywhere but in SW Portland. You are fostering the destruction of the community that is needed to stay intact and strong in order to have the resources and desire to help those in need. Stop throwing money perpetuating a worsening situation and stop destroying the city we used to love by indulging bullies and avoiding responsibility for those who cannot help themselves. True compassion commands: "First, save yourself," then help those who are willing and able to go half way. Take charge of the sick and impaired by placing them in mental health/rehab facilities. And last but not least, draw the line for the bullies and criminals.

Testimony is presented without formatting.