

Robert Coffeen

#279157 | March 26, 2021

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

I am a Portland resident of twenty-two years in the Concordia neighborhood. The situation with the upcoming vote on changes in zoning restrictions is a very important issue to me. The reason this concerns me is because I have yielded my bike riding to the homeless on Portland's bike trails and access points to the trails due to the unsafe and unsanitary conditions. This has left me in a position where I have bought a puppy and use the park next to my house very heavily, which is Fernhill Park. I am angry that I have had to give up my one passion that made me feel whole, which is bicycle riding along Portland's multi-use paths and bike trails, of which I have done for twenty-two years solidly. I have a very expensive Cannondale model bicycle that just sits in my garage now because of the deteriorated conditions along the multi-use paths and access points to Portland's bike trails due to the homeless. I used to ride at least 3-5 times per week, but not anymore. I don't ride anymore because of the homeless filth and territorial hostile homeless people along the multi use paths, thus yielding lawless conditions for Portland's bike trails that are unsafe for Portlanders. There are cars that drive the bike paths with no license plates, and it seems today in Portland this lawlessness is acceptable. To me it's not. It shows a decline in city function and a failure and abdication of duty from the city leaders. So the question plagues me, what bonehead moron thought of the idea to spread the homeless filth and trash from the areas they vacate and desecrate in to neighborhood parks and residential areas? The idea is sick! Homeowners who pay taxes and work and live here should not be held hostage by the incompetence of city leaders who have failed in keeping the city clean and usable for taxpaying residents that pay exorbitant amounts of property taxes. It's not fair and it's not right! Do not let homeless camps in parks! Do not let camps in parks' parking lots! Do not let camps use natural areas that were paid for by taxpayers to clean up and restore, only to be destroyed by homeless filth. Thank you, Robert Coffeen

Testimony is presented without formatting.