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

Many of the homeless are living on the streets of SE/NE Portland most within neighborhoods. We voted for \$\$ to be spent to help get these people off the streets and just like our gas tax cannot see any improvements, as a matter of fact it's only gotten worse. There is garbage everywhere, we see public urination and nudity along with theft like never before. If your solution is to have them in designated areas then we must hold them to those areas and not be allowed along our neighborhood streets as well. In our little neighborhood we've had this mess for the last 4-5 years. It stretches from Market to Main on SE 96th often times all the way to Division. The garbage is out of control as are the rats. We pay taxes and are held to certain standards yet they are allowed to roam free, steal and damage the environment. This is across from a private school, near a daycare center, in close proximity to 2 large senior care homes. Elderly, vulnerable and young walk this area. It's time for the city to step up and get them out of neighborhoods. If they can't live by rules they need to get out..period. I have lived in this neighborhood since 1962, a once beautiful and clean area is now an absolute mess! It's so obvious the city has pushed the it's problems out to this area. Out of sight, out of mind. Basically "if you don't like it move". Many of us are seniors who can't move. Most small business have moved out of our area and the ones left are experiencing theft on a grand scale. If they move out of the area, what is left to make this a viable area? The city of Portland is slowly suffocating our area and it's absolutely wrong on a grand level. You cannot allow this to happen! Our roads are crap, we have homeless everywhere, garbage/needles everywhere. We are made to feel like Portland's ugly stepchild. People come in from out of town and call it a \$hithole. It's time for the city to give us some love and not keep dumping the problems into our area. **MAKE OUR AREA BEAUTIFUL AGAIN!!!!**

Testimony is presented without formatting.