

Holly Van Fleet

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

Expanding or loosening areas for camping, is not addressing the core issue of the house less...there is a lack of leadership and tough social decisions. You must change infrastructure...and enforcement, not city code!!! Just look at the refuse we currently have. Tax paying citizens are loosing their rights to safety in the areas they live... needles, human feces, theft and other criminal acts are going unaddressed. This is not acceptable. It is an unsafe environment due to what are considered criminal acts by people in public parks and right in front of homes. Houseless individuals that refuse help for addiction are not capable of making good decisions without help and being clean and sober. Camping, drug use in open spaces and refuse can not be accepted or tolerated, leadership needs to step up or step out for the safety of individuals that pay to help communities and folks who are living in public places. Tough love for those who leave a mess...stop the madness and let the police do their job for criminal acts and addiction. Fund social services to support recovery or decide people should be in jail till they are clean or do community service. We have the money, I would like to see the leadership prioritize and make the un popular decisions to make Portland the vision of a creative and welcoming city, diversity, health and equity.. where the streets are safe and even people who choose to live on the street know they will not be un observed. We are teetering on the definition of a great place to live due to lack of action and loosing appeal. We are smart people in Portland... time to be tough and not Portland nice.

Testimony is presented without formatting.