

Bryan King

#279199 | March 29, 2021

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

I am in complete agreement with finding solutions to end homelessness, and agree with parts of this proposal, including making it easier to open and run regulated outdoor shelters, more flexibility in group living configurations, and allowing RVs/tiny houses on residential property. That said, I think it is a large mistake to loosen zoning laws to allow for unregulated camping in/around parks and open spaces. I have seen first-hand many local parks made unsafe and unusable due to dangerous and unstable people camping there. Used syringes, feces, and threats of assault are common, not to mention both I and several friends have had our homes broken into and items stolen by many of these people. I believe homeless people that are safe and law-abiding deserve safe and affordable housing like the regulated shelters/camps that are proposed, however the law should not be loosened to allow criminals and those that are dangerous to themselves and others to legally camp in/around our open spaces. Thank you Code changes to make it easier to site homeless shelters and associated services in various zones.

Testimony is presented without formatting.