

# Tim Chilina

**#279278 | March 30, 2021**

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

Please do not allow shelters or overnight camping in any of our parks, for any reason at any time. Please do not allow them in or near an ezone. Please require a substantial setback from any ezone for this use. In formulating a response to the homeless situation, please be mindful of the following objectives: 1) Protect The Commons. Our parks and other open spaces are precious community assets, and valuable to all citizens, in the past, the present and the future. Using our parks to help solve the homeless situation is not appropriate, and sets a terrible precedent. 2) Seek long-term solutions. The homeless situation is beyond a both a crisis and an emergency. The situation will likely persist for the foreseeable future. Short-term measures will continue to harm all citizens of Portland, and not just our homeless population. 3) Promote regional solutions. The entire metro area should be involved in aspects of long-term solutions. The homeless population is growing and mobile, and not limited to the City of Portland. 4) Advocate for public-private partnerships. These kinds of entities could greatly expand the range of options available to provide longer-term solutions. The community will have great ideas for these could be structured for success. 5) Require enforcement of zoning codes. Codes without practical enforcement are not binding for the city or its citizens. Please consider the practical aspects and resources required to enforce the zoning codes as they relate to the homeless situation. Failure to do so will further disenfranchise the citizens from the city.

Testimony is presented without formatting.