

# Tina Boyd

**#289280 | April 7, 2021**

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

To Portland City Council, As the gap between rich and poor continues to widen and wages fail to keep pace with housing costs, more and more people are left struggling to make ends meet. It is the right of every person to have safe, clean, affordable housing. It is the dream to own a home. I am 55 years old and currently live in an apartment and my monthly rent for a 1 bedroom is \$1600. That is 50% of my take home pay. I cannot afford to save for retirement. My only hope of being able to save money for my old age is to reduce my rental income to below \$700 per month. Owning a tiny home is my path towards financial stability. It will also provide income to a local home owner. Tiny homes provide entryway into the housing market for those who cannot make enough money to put down a deposit for a standard foundation home or condo. They are great for senior citizens who cannot afford rent or a mortgage. They provide separate, close by housing, for in home caregivers. Students can benefit from tiny homes as an affordable alternative to living on campus or renting apartments. Tiny homes are not just for the homeless!!!! Many tiny homes are built with great care, with particular focus on being environmentally sound and using sustainable practices. They also allow for people to be more involved within their community. Given tiny homes are built and lived in by people who have lower incomes and striving to secure their financial stability, it is excessively burdensome proposed, to tiny house owners and the homeowners who rent to them, to have sewer hookups. Portland zoning currently only allows tiny houses to park due to a moratorium on parking enforcement. So, the insistence on tiny houses having a costly sewer hookup, when a moratorium on enforcement can be discontinued at any time is a 'cart before the horse' practice. It is unnecessary and unfair. I strongly encourage Portland to change zoning to allow tiny homes on wheels the right to park and live in as a legal permanent residency. Thank you, Tina Boyd

Testimony is presented without formatting.