



To: Portland City Council  
From: Community Alliance of Tenants  
Regarding: Shelter to Housing  
Date: April 14, 2021

Dear Portland City Council;

I am writing to you on behalf of the Community Alliance of Tenants (CAT) in support of

- **Pass the Shelter to Housing Continuum**
- **Adopt amendments that give greater flexibility to provide shelter, and**
- **Extend the Housing State of Emergency.**

CAT formed in 1996. CAT is Oregon's only statewide, grassroots, tenant-controlled, tenant-rights organization. CAT educates, organizes and develops the leadership of low-income tenants. We believe that housing is the basis of a strong community. So, we bring tenants together to organize and collectively advocate for fair and equal protections in housing practices and policies.

The Shelter to Housing Continuum specifically needs to:

- **Legalize THOW & RVs on residential property.**
- **Codify the current rules from BDS for utilities; don't make them more restrictive.**
- **Use the loan program to incentivize sewer hookups but don't pretend it's a replacement for flexibility.**

Homelessness disproportionately affects people of color in Oregon and across the nation. Many of the people of color served by CAT are experiencing a disproportionate harassment and housing instability. The Housing Crisis, is made much worse by the public health crisis of COVID-19. Adopt sensible housing policies that give us the flexibility to adapt to changing situations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Kim McCarty*

Kim McCarty  
Executive Director



**community**  
alliance of  
**tenants**

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