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

I have developed residential and commercial properties with RV hookups and I professionally assist others in doing this. I'm writing in strong support of the proposed regulations related to RVs and THOWs on residential properties. It is important that we support market based solutions to address lower cost housing alternatives, and this is a big step in that direction. Three minor improvements that could be considered are: 1) allowing for multiple mobile dwellings on a residential property. There's several of these pods occurring on residential properties already in NE and SE Portland, and they're working out quite well for the residents and neighbors. 2) allowing for blackwater holding tanks with a pump out service to be deemed an acceptable and legal form of sewage treatment as they are for RVs located in any other zone. 3) allowing for RVs and THOWs to be situated in front of the front architectural façade of the primary dwelling. Current parking regulations state than an RV must not be located in front of the primary dwelling. Many residential properties do not have adequate room to park an RV behind the front facade of the house, nor a property that could accommodate an RV in the back yard. Otherwise, these regulations represent a thoughtful and deliberative means to achieve a reasonable balance in fostering a lower cost type of housing alternative that will work for many current and future residents. And, even though there are some improvements that could be made to make the code better, I offer full support of the proposed regulations that BPS has developed with feedback from the public and the PSC.

Testimony is presented without formatting.