

**From:** [Ella Ziraz](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Housing crisis  
**Date:** Friday, October 28, 2022 3:07:36 PM

---

Thank you Commissioners for working to solve the housing crisis in Portland. I would like to suggest taxes or fines for large housing developments that continue to let vacant apartments sit. I don't know how many units are currently sitting empty, but a quick browse on Craigslist shows several newer apartment buildings with multiple vacancies. These units are advertised for 1,800 to 2,300 which are not affordable for families. As a single mother of 2 on 1 income, with kids that go to school in inner southeast, it's been hard to find anything affordable without having to move them to a different school. A move to tax landlords (of larger buildings) for vacant units could cause rent prices to decrease and make hundreds of units more affordable to average families. I know this might not immediately help people get off the streets, but it could help by not adding to the problem. Thanks for listening!

Ella