

Margaret O'Neill

#267412 | March 15, 2021

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

Dear Portland City Council....PLEASE do not allow the beautiful Portland parks to become camping grounds. I have been a very proud resident of the Portland area for over 37 years. During those years I have participated in numerous city-wide events (Portland Parkways, Portland Marathon, Neighborfair, etc.) My career also included planning and facilitating conferences in downtown Portland. Each of these events and conferences have brought much needed revenue to the city. During the past 3 years I have watched with deep sadness at the growing state of homeless taking over our city sidewalks, parks and freeway medians. Outside camping is no way to solve the issue of homelessness, nor is it any way to attract tax-paying citizens to the city core. Opening up camping in our city parks does not solve any problem. As a taxpayer and a concerned community member, I ask that you do not allow this to pass. Most sincerely, Margaret "Peggy" O'Neill

Testimony is presented without formatting.