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

Allowing people to do what ever they want does not help them. People need to live by expectations to be part of a society. Our children do not grow in society because we let them do what ever they like. They are expected to learn for instance, to take part in maintaining family areas, or pick up after themselves, etc. If we allow people to camp anywhere they want, they will; and they will have NO expectations to try to improve their situation and there for they won't. As TAX PAYERS we expect to have parks that are nice enough to use because we pay for them. If you allow people to use these parks for what ever they want without any expectations such as rules (like no camping), or no expectation that they have help fund the parks, or the expectation to maintain the park, THEN THEY WON'T. In the end the parks will be full of people taking up space, leaving trash, pooing and peeing, and potentially using drugs who have zero expectations to improve their situation for which they won't. TAX PAYERS will be paying for their situation. There are many reasons why people are homeless. Some are their own fault and some are pure circumstance or bad luck. But it is NEVER the fault of the neighbor who has to live next to those parks. If people are having trouble living in society that does not mean they should be allowed to abuse it. If taxpayers have to fund other people's situations then let's have places that people can go that might improve their situation and not simply languish it.

Testimony is presented without formatting.