

# Sue Hildreth

**#267418 | March 15, 2021**

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

Allowing homeless camps in parks and golf courses is not an acceptable solution. Part of what makes Portland a place for people wanting to live or visit our city are the beautiful parks and green spaces. If you turn family friendly parks into open homeless camps, families and tourist will not want to bring their children there to play amongst the trash and needles that these camps bring with them. Golf is an inclusive sport, where anyone can play a round of golf or hit a bucket of balls regardless of skill. It is a place where people connect and enjoy an afternoon together. The city needs to focus on keeping the green spaces and the communities that surround them. This would be just one more step of taking something positive for families in Portland and stripping away yet one more place that hardworking Portlanders and visitors enjoy. Property values will decline as will the livability of our once fair city. Don't think for a minute that all the trash and needles and broken down cars will stay within the green space of a park or golf course. All of it will spill onto the surrounding neighborhood streets. Some of the golf courses are next Portland's most desirable neighborhoods, where residents have worked hard all their lives and chose to purchase in a particular area because of the liveability. If this is voted through will devastate property values and livability This is not the solution for Portland.

Testimony is presented without formatting.