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

The proposal to authorize the use of Portland's public parks as campgrounds is a direct blow to the livability of the city. The parks have been set aside as public places for the purpose of providing green space for city dwellers. Using parks as campgrounds takes that green space away from all residents and disrupts the communities that the parks were developed to serve. The Portland City Council's own statement on the proposal says "Parks and open space have often been purchased with bond money limited to specific purposes or were given to the City with deed restrictions, often stipulating they must be used for parks, recreation or open space purposes, which doesn't include housing, shelters or other types of development." That was done very purposefully, and the public trust must be maintained. I therefore oppose the current open space proposal.

Testimony is presented without formatting.