

David Boyd

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

Regarding to the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project proposal to allow camping within city parks. No! This change the parks from an inclusive and diverse space for all residents to an area that only serves the homeless. Why? First of all, people would not feel safe in the parks, especially women and children. There are many documented cases of aggression from homeless within Portland and Seattle. There would be increases in garbage, feces and needles within the park. People could get infected by COVID-19 or hepatitis. It would be a public health disaster. What is needed is what Portland used to do 10 years ago: utilize unused city lots and provide a managed environment with security and toilets for campers to use. Don't destroy one of the last beautiful things about Portland. No camping allowed in the park!

Testimony is presented without formatting.