

# Mark Warner

**#267580 | March 15, 2021**

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

I worked w the homeless for 5 years in Portland with Janus Youth programs. I'm troubled that you see providing our parks as a viable long term option for our homeless issue. My son, my mom, my girlfriend... I use these parks. Moving the homeless from off ramps to the city parks is a ridiculous idea that doesn't address the roots of the problem. Please address the issue with drug prevention, counseling, sanitation, job training. What are you doing? Seriously. Right now in N.E. Portland the homeless come at night from 33rd and Marine drive and steal catalytic converters, mail, cars, property. The community knows this. It's a scary situation. And the condition of these camps are third world appalling. And your idea is to allow the homeless to camp in our parks?! Are you crazy? Seriously. Are you okay? This doesn't help homelessness and it will make Portland more trashy than it already is. WTF! Do something! Please!! The homeless situation needs to be addressed. This idea will only create more problems. Please. Think. Think and be audacious in helping solve this problem. This is one of those most ludicrous ideas that I have ever heard of. All you will be doing is moving our problem into the parks. "Hey kids. Let's go to the concert in the park with the stolen Cars and meth heads. Or, let's spend an interesting evening watching a movie in the park with a group of mentally ill and disturbed." What are you thinking? Every quadrant of our city should help address this problem with the aid and help that the homeless need- Not allowing them to camp in parks without vital services. You will kill our city. No exaggeration. You will kill this city if you allow our parks for families and children and taxpayers to become shelters for the the homeless. This is so disturbing to hear that this is a possible solution for our situation. It's not even a band aid. You'd just propel an absolute mess. Please. Come to your senses.

Testimony is presented without formatting.