

# Marvin Sturgeon

**#267584 | March 15, 2021**

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

A NE Portland resident for nearly 40 years urges you to consider removing the language: “...Open Space Zones, including developed parks, natural areas, and trails... for the siting of either temporary or permanent houseless shelters..” (or open campsites), from the language in the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project. Allowing shelters or campsites in Open Space Zones is a misuse of these areas, and creates threats to the physical and mental health of Portland residents who rely on these outdoor spaces for natural beauty, relaxation, and the health advantages of the outdoors, especially in this time of COVID-19. We all should look for better solutions to the houseless crisis in Portland, which should also not include sidewalks and thoroughfares. Thank you for your consideration.

Testimony is presented without formatting.