

# Richard Toscan

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

Allowing homeless shelters or camping within City parks (the temporary siting of shelters in parks and open space for no more than 180 days) will actively discourage all other residents from using the parks, one of the few areas available for recreation given the continuation of Covid-19 risk. Cities across the country have demonstrated that there is no such thing as "shared use" of parks when homeless are allowed to congregate beyond a few individuals. That's unfortunate, but the urban planning reality.

Testimony is presented without formatting.