

SWAN PAIK

#267661 | March 15, 2021

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

I strongly object to the proposed zoning change provision in the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project that would allow for the use of Open Space Zones by the houseless. Please remove Open Space Zones from consideration - for either temporary or permanent houseless shelters, except for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster. I live with my elderly mother and a child in downtown Portland and we are faced daily with houseless people who defecate and litter in and around our building, who shoot up drugs in our building entrance and all around our neighborhood, and who often block our building entryway in utter disregard for our private property and in violation of our fire code safety standards. I do not want to see our city parks where families, especially ones with young children, have to be exposed to this unfortunate but all too common set of behaviors that place others at risk. There is plenty of land to support the City's housing needs according to a BPS staff report to the PSC. Open Space Zones should therefore be removed from the Shelter to Housing Continuum recommendation. Thank you for your consideration.

Testimony is presented without formatting.