

Janie Tong

#267740 | March 15, 2021

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

I am asking for the removal of 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. Open Spaces are for the temporary use and enjoyment of everyone. By allowing houseless shelters in these Open Spaces, you are taking away these spaces from everyone except for those using the shelters. Would you take your children to play in a park filled with tents? Where will they run and play, between the shelters? By passing this draft, you will be telling Portland residents that they need to go to the suburbs or other cities to enjoy outdoor space. They will and they will move to those cities and you will have even less tax dollars to spend to help the houseless.

Testimony is presented without formatting.