

debra unverdruss

#277805 | March 16, 2021

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

I am writing to state my opposition to the proposed zone code changes as stated in S2HC. Having worked within the welfare system for over 25 years, I do understand how anyone can find themselves in a dire situation such as homelessness due to a change in circumstance. Unfortunately this crisis in Portland has been a long time in the making without enough effort in solving the crisis which has lead to even more people living on the streets or in their cars or RVs. Public parks and golf courses being used for at least 6 months is a short sighted solution to a crisis requiring a long term solution. Public parks are just that- for the use of the public as places to relax, walk, and enjoy a small piece of nature not otherwise available to many people who live in the neighborhoods. The public parks were never meant to be used campgrounds! You only have to look around the Portland area where encampments have been set up and see the blight that is destroying our beautiful city. Why should we allow our public spaces to be just one more area where this blight can occur? Please vote NO on this ordinance and find a different solution to this issue.

Testimony is presented without formatting.