

Aaron Matney

#277829 | March 16, 2021

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

Hello, I am writing to oppose certain options that are a part of the S2HC project, specifically using Portland Parks and Recreation facilities as quasi-homeless encampments. Overall, this topic an excellent use of the cities time as it is the largest issue affecting the entirety of Portland and our subregion. Houselessness has become the defining issue for Portland and we need to make positive changes to alleviate this by dealing with the houseless humanely while restoring the city. I take issue with the notion of using Portland Parks and Recreation facilities as quasi homeless encampments. I do not believe that delegating sections of our Parks and Recreation sites that we pay for with our tax dollars is the best choice the city can make. Surely there is other land the city can utilize to set up such structures? I find the notion that each city park having haphazard encampments with little to no services and large amounts of trash and human waste to be inhumane and unwise of the city. We have truly wonderful parks and recreation sites in this city. As a taxpayer, I want to enjoy our parks for the very reason they are parks; for their nature, their recreation! Using our parks and recreation sites is simply not the answer. Very best, Aaron Matney

Testimony is presented without formatting.