

Richard Wozniak

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

While I am not a citizen of Portland any longer I worked there for many years and paid income tax to the city and state during my working years. One reason I never felt too bad about that is that I've also enjoyed using the parks, and still do. The idea of allowing homeless people to live in city parks for up to six months is a terrible one. It takes one of the few public resources that can be used by everyone, especially kids, and essentially converts it to private use. It's particularly ironic that Portland is doing this, because the city has tirelessly worked to push individuals and families into smaller and more tightly packed housing (so called "densification") with the promise that the city's abundant parks meant everyone didn't have to have their own backyard. With this legislation you will be breaking that promise you made, and it becomes more clear that there is no plan to provide decent quality of life to middle class property owners by actually providing things that make living in smaller spaces enjoyable. This proposal should be defeated.

Testimony is presented without formatting.