

David Carr

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

Please do not allow temporary or permanent shelters in our parks. Using our parks (that tax payers fund) for any amount of time is a USED bandaid to a much deeper issue when it comes to “helping” that population. It also makes those parks dangerous to use and enjoy for everyone else, especially children. Needles, garbage, fires, drugs, theft, broken glass, etc., will accompany those tents as evidence has shown 100% around Portland. The worst part is, you all believe you’re actually helping them as you shuffle them around town. Let’s be real, the ones in tents are the same ones that won’t or can’t get into housing unless there are zero rules or consequences for their actions. The city is literally being dubbed “dump town” because our elected officials are clearly incapable of finding a balanced solution for all residents. Those of us who pay an enormous amount of taxes to live in this city are fed up. People are no longer wanting to come here (except homeless folks because literally everything they need is free) and that is the first sign of a dying city that it’s life long residents will never forgive. My suggestion: set up temporary shelters on the properties of those making these poor decisions so they can figure out first why this idea is unacceptable.

Testimony is presented without formatting.