

kirsten heming

#278089 | March 16, 2021

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

I, along with the so many from our community cherish our open spaces, the public parks and even our golf courses, as places of respite. Not only are open spaces places where families go to walk around or go to play, they form the urban forest and should be protected along with their beauty and magnificent trees. Turning open spaces, even temporary, into paces for shelter would be devastating to these places and negatively impact the surrounding neighborhoods. Open space has value and importance being preserved as a park. I understand there is a houseless crisis, but are there not alternatives that make more sense rather than taking away an asset to the community? - such as parking lots or buildings the City has bought for this issue? Also, golf courses use so many chemicals that it would not be a healthy surface to live on.

Testimony is presented without formatting.