

Sandy Doss

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

Dear Council Members, As a resident of an urban neighborhood with a city park just around the corner, I wish to testify the following: 1) City Parks are designated green spaces paid by the taxpayer as places of respite, community gathering, and wildlife sustainability Parks are not shelters! 2) urban parks provide children with green space integral to development and integral during this pandemic The increased dangers presented in our parks is significantly increased through a variety of outcomes of such a proposal 3) Homelessness is caused by a series of factors from mental health, to economic deprivation, to drug addictions, to domestic violence, etc - we must do better to provide REAL shelter, counsel, healthcare, rehab, training, career development - this begins with DIGNITY - people are not given dignity to be allowed to live in a park! 4) Portland Optics - sorry to say but the world revolves around economic prosperity - attracting business, tourism, livability, etc - Portland could not have suffered a greater blow in the eyes of the world, than it has in this past year. Any world class city that puts its most vulnerable citizens in a park to live is not a world class city. Such activity shows the unwillingness and inability to truly address the problem of homelessness in an effective manor! This proposal is almost unthinkable and should it pass - will be wholeheartedly rejected by the local taxpayers and the world!

Testimony is presented without formatting.