

Lila Brightbill

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

What Jo Ann Hardesty fails to understand is that many of the homeless living in encampments are drug abusers or have mental health issues. Their encampments should not occupy the same spaces where children play. The homeless deserve housing not tents in parks. If Hardesty really wants to help the homeless, it's time to create mini apartments with bathrooms, showers, kitchens and beds -- not tents. These people need apartment complexes that offer medical care, dental care, mental health treatment, drug rehabilitation, job training, and social services to reconnect them with society. Tents in parks solve nothing. Real housing with real services are what is needed. It's time for the City Council to locate the financial resources to make that happen.

Testimony is presented without formatting.