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

Displacing homeless to the parks only takes away parks from women, children and the elderly as these homeless men (the vast majority of the homeless are MEN (&very few women) present an active threat against those weaker than them. Instead, Providence, Rhode Island has a proven, humane and cost effective solution:

(<https://www.facebook.com/EricJohnsonKOMO/videos/450547018819467/>) see starting at minute 44:00. It protects our society and still shows compassion and civility. MAC program. The first thing they do is enforce their laws. Those that break the laws, drug dealers, those who take drugs or steal or commit other crimes are sent to prison and inside the prison something amazing happens: Medication Assisted Treatment. Opiate blockers to get people permanently off drugs and rehabilitated back into society. We need to study and follow the Providence Rhode Island solution that actually works. "A tough, compassionate system that actually works!"

Testimony is presented without formatting.