

# Todd Seidel

**#278189 | March 16, 2021**

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

Hello - I am writing to express my disagreement with the recommended draft of the Shelter to Housing Continuum Project. Our parks are intended to be a safe place for families to gather and enjoy the outdoors. Incorporating temporary shelters into these spaces could create a risk for children and families who want to gather and play in our public parks. Homelessness is a very complex and challenging issue. We need to find permanent solutions to help our homeless population find safe, long term housing. Opening up our parks to temporary shelters is not a permanent solution. These temporary solutions are having a negative impact on small business owners as well as the on the safety and quality of life for many residents. There is a risk that this will result in a reduction in tax revenue due to lower property values. fewer businesses and lower revenues for shops and restaurants. Without tax revenue funds will not be available to find permanent solutions to our homelessness problem. Please focus your time and resources on permanent solutions, not poorly considered short term solutions that will have long term negative impact.

Testimony is presented without formatting.