

Ellen Weeks

#278193 | March 16, 2021

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

Re: Open Space Zones Please do not expand camping to be allowed in city parks. City parks for for all residents of Portland to safely enjoy during the day--including those without houses. They just need to go home at night like everyone else. If parks are populated with campers, other citizens will avoid these parks, and they will effectively be only for the campers. Parks are not campgrounds. Campgrounds are an entirely different thing. The houseless situation is a terrible thing in Portland, but allowing our parks to be dominated by individuals who are often in unstable states is not an answer that works for all the people of Portland. Please take care of our parks by honoring what they were intended to be: safe, beautiful and peaceful--a much needed natural haven of escape for all residents of the city of Portland.

Testimony is presented without formatting.