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

The proposed zone code changes allowing for public parks and golf courses to be used -- even "temporarily" for 180 days -- as sites for homeless shelters and encampments as part of the SHCP is almost breath taking in its thoughtlessness. It reads like something out of the Onion and seems to me represent a real failure of imagination and an abdication of responsibility. There is no reason to suppose that conditions in the parks wouldn't in those circumstances rapidly disintegrate to the level at least of the Springwater Corridor of several years ago, leaving people reasonably afraid for their safety and health and doing nothing, as far as I can tell, for the homeless themselves. Equity does not demand a real race to the bottom in Portland. I don't see how the proposed changes to the code address the homeless problem any serious way. A disastrous proposal.

Testimony is presented without formatting.