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

I'm really hoping that you will vote to remove the Open Space Zone from S2HC. There is enough vacant and underutilized land available according to the Buildable Lands Inventory to meet the needs of this project. Allowing even temporary (and we all know that 180-day permits that can be renewed over and over again are not "temporary"), turns parks into camp sites resulting in serious negative environmental impacts that will be costly to mitigate. Parks, natural areas, and trails are for the benefit and enjoyment of all and should not be surrendered as a quick fix (with devastating long-term consequences) when other siting options exist. Please 1.) amend language in 33.296.030.G to remove the Open Space Zone from consideration as either temporary or permanent houseless shelters EXCEPT for a declaration of emergency by the City Council due to a catastrophic natural disaster such as an earthquake and 2.) amend language in the new provision 33.296.030.H to add an exception for the Open Space Zone. Additionally, the S2HC should have stronger, more concrete requirements that all shelters have adequate storage facilities, trash collection, sanitation facilities, etc. as well as safety and security measures. Thank you for your consideration.

Testimony is presented without formatting.