

Linda Robinson

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

Outdoor shelters are NOT a humane way to house the homeless people in our City, not even temporary outdoor shelters organized by agencies and social service nonprofits. I urge you to use them sparingly. If you must set them up, keep them small and consider siting them alongside an indoor shelter so those living outdoors have access to the facilities available in the structure -- facilities like toilets, showers, washing machine, garbage service, meal preparation, and the like. This would also provide a place where the outside dwellers could warm up when needed. It will also be important to provide enough set back that the camps don't easily spill over onto the sidewalk, the street, or the adjacent property. It would also be good to set a time frame to review (and revise, if necessary) the process for shelter site selection and management.

Testimony is presented without formatting.