

S Matthews

#278263 | March 17, 2021

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

A solid no to the idea of allowing homeless encampments in Parks, Park Properties or Open/Wild Spaces. Planner Engstrom's idea that this is a good notion will allow to manifest the further spread in areas that are already severely impacted by unregulated camping with the trash, burned out cars, open fires and "Mad Max" scenes Eastside Portlanders are all too familiar with. Will there be camps places in Healy Heights Park, Council Crest Park, Gabriel Park, Wallace Park and iconic huge Washington Park?? Somehow I rather doubt it and that like the Residential Infill Project West Hills protections and exclusions from infill and upzoning, these areas somehow will be deemed "not appropriate" for siting camps. Mayor and City Council...please grow in awareness. The eastside of the river and downtown are suffering from the effects of a "do nothing , anything goes" approach to dealing with persons living on the streets. Throw your resources not into new sewer projects and red bus lanes for all those not commuting.....build monitored, regulated camps on public and private pavement....but not in Parks...the only respite for those working stiffs keeping the city/county still flush with tax dollars.

Testimony is presented without formatting.