

Cecilia Eng

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

While there is need for temporary shelters, I would hope that you would work with existing nonprofits like the churches, JOIN, the Harbor of Hope, the Bybee Lakes project at the former Wapato Jail site to locate shelters and tiny homes away from parks where children are expected to play. I have a number of campers and tents across the street along 17th & Morrison, but I would rather the City invest in regular garbage pickup and sanitary stations for these temporary neighbors where they already exist, rather than move them to the park at 17th and Taylor, which should be for the children to safely play basketball, baseball, tennis, and to use the water park. I know the preliminary plans at Bybee Lakes was to have some tiny homes on their property for transitioning people into permanent homes, so they might welcome assistance with installing these transition homes on their site. I haven't checked into the non-profit out at one of the terminals in NW along Naito Pkwy, but they might also welcome help with transitional shelters as well. With the travel industry in chaos, money could also be spent on purchasing failing hotel/motel properties and renovating those as temporary transitional housing as well. Another opportunity would be to buy the problem homes which have been abandoned to bank ownership and invest in cleaning them up and renovating them as half-way homes or low-income housing. Neighbors would be glad to see the renovation and improvement of these boarded up and trashed homes which are unsightly and dangerous. All of these options would be better than trying to use parks and playgrounds as temporary shelter sites.

Testimony is presented without formatting.