

Vernon Jones

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

I wish to state my opposition to the use of public parks and golf courses as approved camping spaces for those who are homeless. Parks are for the recreational use of all people and their families. Camps in such places, as we have seen time and time again, result in mounds of trash, syringes and needles, and feces. The campers are sometimes threatening to the park's recreational users. Our Homeless citizens do deserve a place to live and the sites such as the one on Water Avenue seem like a positive move in that direction. But co-opting our wonderful park system is not the direction this city should be going if we want to be a "city that works".

Testimony is presented without formatting.