

Irene Chen

#278368 | March 17, 2021

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

I object to having shelters at local parks for 6 months. This is not a solution to the increasing homeless population in downtown, rather doing this will affect tax paying residents that use the parks with their children. Majority of the homeless are mentally troubled, drug users. This makes our neighborhoods unsafe and unsightly with tents, and trash, which in turn attracts more rats. Downtown will then have rodent issues and hygienic problems. This goes against years of efforts to revitalize downtown. It definitely will deter tourists as many visit from out of state, hinder local businesses and residents that want to keep downtown clean and prosperous. I propose that it's best to erect shelters to a vacant, unused area, far away from neighborhoods, businesses.

Testimony is presented without formatting.