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

We run a preschool directly across from one park and down the street from another. This seems like a horribly dangerous idea and a way to pass the buck for citizens to deal with the issue rather than elected officials using the money allocated for homeless services to build rehab and permanent shelters. We utilize the parks nearly every day for the 16 children in our school and already have to be vigilant for garbage and feces. Allowing camping of up to 6 months will make the parks unusable by anyone other than the house less as I doubly the city will be installing port a potties or garbage services, since the I 5 camps are already in existence and have garbage, fecal matter and needles and other drug paraphernalia strewn about. The safety and usuability of the parks for the community as a whole should be the priority and the council should find better resources to use to address the homeless issue.

Testimony is presented without formatting.