

# Ona Golonka

**#278447 | March 17, 2021**

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

Instead of allowing temporary shelters in parks and open spaces, please instead use vacant or underutilized commercial or mixed use lots, such as underutilized parking lots. Considering how disorganized the city is with its sanitation and trash collection services (various agencies playing a game of "it's not my responsibility"), I don't have faith that the city and its agencies can enforce a 180 day rule. I'm tired of seeing parks, trails and open spaces littered with trash and the soil compacted around roots of trees and other vegetation (which eventually weakens those trees). A lot of resources (labor, time, money) was spent on restoring parks and natural open spaces (like Johnson Creek) in the past, only to have those places negatively impacted by camps in those areas. Open spaces and parks shouldn't be used as temporary areas of shelter. It's extremely difficult to unring a bell.

Testimony is presented without formatting.