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

This testimony is in strong opposition to the shelter to housing continuum project (S2HC). I am oppose to the inclusion of either temporary or permanent housings in our parks and natural areas and open public spaces. The role of parks play an important role in the lives and livability of Portlanders. Especially, during this time of Covid-19 with the density increase and the lack of many with no access to outdoor areas where they live. Parks and natural areas are extremely important. This provision would remove these open spaces from their intended use by everyone, especially on children. The negative impact on parks and natural areas include degradation, water pollution, habitat, fire and public safety. These areas are inappropriate for group or individual camping or temporary or permanent shelters. The open space zone would be in conflict with chapter 33.286 of the Portland city code. The prospect of temporary or permanent housings should be removed from consideration. This will not solve the homeless issues. The city already cannot handle the campsites that are occurring in open spaces.

Testimony is presented without formatting.