

Jeannie Johnson

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

I wish that the city would explore using city or state land that is vacant rather than parks. They could set up bathroom/shower facilities, trash service, and safer cooking options than open fires. I know everyone wants to be downtown, but even people who are paying can't necessarily afford it. They could have mental health and other healthcare workers visit to help those who need it. I think they should be able to have access to food if Oregon Food Bank or churches will make periodic delivery to the camps. We're coming up on spring. We are all paying for the parks, and being able to use them as intended is good for the whole community. Especially after a year of quarantine. There are many empty city owned spaces that could be utilized. They don't need to be downtown, or in the park. Give the houseless the dignity of bathroom facilities, showers and waste disposal. We are paying enough in taxes to help people. Please consider other options.

Testimony is presented without formatting.