

Octavio Gutierrez

#278748 | March 23, 2021

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

I am submitting testimony in opposition to the proposal that would "allow the temporary siting of shelters in parks and open space for no more than 180 day." Public parks must remain as Open Space for all users at all times, and many public parks - including Arbor Lodge Park in my neighborhood - already act as BEECN sites that I believe are best reserved for that purpose at all times - for the benefit of the whole community. Any temporary siting of shelters on BEECN sites adversely affect the ability of our community to respond to an earthquake emergency. Furthermore, many of our North Portland neighborhoods lack adequate open space and tree coverage. Removing the park as a benefit for all of our community members does not serve our community well. Temporary Outdoor Shelters should be limited to commercial zones or other publicly owned property, but not Open Space zones.

Testimony is presented without formatting.