

# Dave Houghton

**#278750 | March 23, 2021**

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

I recognize that the Council is wrestling with a persistent and complex issue, but I ask that Portland's parks, recreational areas and their facilities be excluded as shelter locations except in the event of a natural disaster or emergency such as an earthquake. Less than a year ago the City passed Measure 26-213, which was intended to provide diverse communities the opportunity to connect with nature and access parks and recreational services as well as to preserve and restore natural areas. Providing shelter locations in the parks for up to 180 days directly conflicts with this intent. The parks have a long history as being a green space refuge as well as providing generations of Portlanders with recreational opportunities. Please let them continue to do so without disruption. Thank you.

Testimony is presented without formatting.