

# Kiera O'Hara

**#278788 | March 23, 2021**

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

I regularly write to legislators and others in support of progressive causes. I feel pressed to say that because my position against using Open Spaces for temporary shelters might suggest to some that I, and others who feel as I do out here on the East Side, are standing in the way of humane treatment of homeless people. But that is not true. But we do want it known that East Side Portlanders are keenly aware of the City's habit of focusing on our neighborhoods when searching for sites. We support humane action on homelessness as most Portlanders do. But we want a clearly defined policy that excludes creating "temporary sites" in Open Spaces. Temporary shelters are best sited where they can become permanent. Vote as though it was your own neighborhood parks and parking lots which were being considered.

Testimony is presented without formatting.