

Rachel Goodman

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

Homeless encampments in public parks raise obvious sanitary, public health and safety issues to the general public. Some homeless people are just victims of economic hardship; some are also addicts. Homeless persons should be sheltered in actual housing which is better and safer for them and for the general public. I feel that that allowing tent encampments in public parks is a bandaid solution to save the city money. It could make it impossible for neighborhood residents to use the parks and could easily leave an indelible footprint on what are now beautiful and restful spaces in an urban environment. We are not a third world country. We can do better.

Testimony is presented without formatting.