

Toni Sargent

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

I do not think a proposed homeless camp at Gabriel Park is a proper choice for the homeless. I have several reasons to oppose the idea: 1. There is a skate park for youngsters to use on a daily basis. This skate park is a great way for people of all ages to be outside and safe. 2. There is a dog park for all to bring their pets to run, play and be outside. 3. There are paths for all ages to walk and get fresh air. 4. The park has been a great area for the community to meet, and enjoy the outdoors. Many children play in this area. A homeless tent camp would be very disturbing for the people who enjoy the park. The disturbance would be drug use, defecating, urinating, swearing, nudity, and other behaviors that could be harmful. How many homeless have been vaccinated? Another issue! So, a suggestion would be to reopen the mental health facility in Salem and house the homeless in a building with running water, showers, toilets, beds and roofs over their heads. Do not turn Gabriel Park into a tent city. Let the community have their park. They pay the taxes to use it. A concerned citizen, Toni Sargent

Testimony is presented without formatting.