

Jan Hicks

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

I am opposed to sanctioning camping in Portland parks. While I am sympathetic to the needs of the homeless, I do not believe turning our beautiful green spaces dedicated for all in the community into a singular use is a fair way to go. For example, Gabriel park is used by many apartment dwellers and homeowners for skate boarding, tennis, baseball, dog parking, hiking the trails and picknicking. Some community members have very little or no yard so this space provides access to nearby “ free” recreation for those who are particularly struggling during this pandemic. It would be a real shame to take this resource away from so many.

Testimony is presented without formatting.