

# Elise Cotterill

**#278997 | March 25, 2021**

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

My son is in first grade at Sunnyside Environmental School, the site of a growing encampment, which extends along the perimeter of the school and in and around the adjacent Sunnyside Park - our neighborhood park. The drug use, untreated mental illness, public urination, dedication, trash, and unhinged behavior occurring there are well documented. Schools are now keeping exterior doors open to facilitate ventilation due to COVID, and campers have already entered to school while kids were there. Due to the unsafe environment there, we felt forced to petition to transfer our son to different schools. I do not support allowing camping in neighborhood parks. At minimum there should be an enforced zero tolerance policy for camps (including in cars), drug use and sales, alcohol use, and food distribution within 1000 feet of any school or playground.

Testimony is presented without formatting.