

Marcela Puente

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

This requires a thoughtful response from our community. The homeless situation is ruining this once wonderful city. This idea will work fine just like the encampments along our streets and along the Springwater corridor and along our highways.. . The disappeared St Francis Park on SE 12th and Stark was a homeless haven of needles, feces and people openly defecating, urinating, walking nude and creating piles of garbage for others to clean. The park became a hindrance and a nuisance and was not used as a park for families much less children. That park was closed and replaced by low income housing now called the St Francis Park Apartments. The area is still littered with homeless camps in the apartment courtyard and around the St Francis Church. I say hell no. Our homeless situation deserves a thoughtful solution. The homeless themselves deserve a thoughtful solution. Opening our parks and public spaces is a band-aid not a solution. Shame on Joanne Hardesty for her thoughtless and flippant response to this issue.

Testimony is presented without formatting.