

Dave Hillman

#279191 | March 29, 2021

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

I previously submitted written testimony regarding my position pertaining to camping in our public parks. This time I need to remind you about three issues regarding the topic that I had not addressed previously as it pertains to Mt Tabor Park specifically. (1) You have left open the idea that camping might be allowed on paved parking lots. In Mt Tabor Park there are only TWO VERY SMALL paved parking areas that have a total of about 20 parking spaces, including those designated for handicapped. The park is truly already underserved for parking due to its unique geological shape, and taking away those VERY FEW spaces becomes detrimental to visitors who need them, especially those with mobility problems. (2) All of our parks have been designated as "non-smoking" and I have yet to see any of the homeless/houseless who are not smoking. Do we now abandon our non-smoking policy to allow smoking inside our parks? (3) Mt Tabor Park is closed to traffic at 10:00 PM and to visitors at midnight. How do we now tell visitors they cannot be in the park at night while at the same time allowing camping inside the park all night? It is truly best to just be smart and say that placing homeless/houseless people in our parks will not be a very practical and or reasonable solution.

Testimony is presented without formatting.