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

I'm no longer a resident of Portland. I read with great interest when I heard of the recent proposal to utilize land in local public parks though. While I may not be a resident, I'm still a frequent tourist- and one that helps generate revenue for the city through my travel to use the Portland International Raceway facilities. If the parking facilities at PIR become housing, I am unsure how I can continue to contribute to events at the track, because of what I perceive as risk. ?? Per the City of Portland's own research from 2006 at <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/184066> : I am part of the 52 percent of attendees that don't live in Multnomah County. I contribute to the 2.7 million dollars small business owners receive from tourists like me. I contribute to the 2.6 million dollars that PIR helps generate to the local tax jurisdictions. I contribute to the 5.6 million dollars in various other ancillary costs I incur each time I come to town- whether it's my room bill at the Hotel Deluxe, or just going out for the evening to local breweries like Cascade or Great Notion. I've purchased motorcycles from your Ducati dealer, MotoCorsa in the past as well. Having said that, I come to town because PIR is a well run, safe, and entertaining facility- and I like that my money supports a community instead of a private individual. It costs a lot of money to race, and is inherently a risky thing. I prefer to leave that risk somewhere I can account for it- on the track. Whether I'm racing at the Friday Night Drags, attending an autocross, or spending the weekend in town for an HPDE event, I typically bring a large, expensive portion of my life with me- a truck, race-car, tools, and more. ??With a known facility housing a quantity of unknown people on site, this adds unaccountable risk to my attendance at events and frankly, likely tarnishes the city's presence in the eyes of many people like me. ? ?I don't see a marketing spin where presenting the Rose Cup Races at a homeless shelter draws many people to the event. I believe that its a tough sell to continue presenting (or attending) Indycar races at a facility that's being utilized in this mixed use fashion. If I was a bicyclist, I would be upset to lose the one place I could ride without fear of people walking in front of me, cars cutting around me, and I know I'd consider the facility no longer advantageous for those reasons. ?? I also recognize that the homeless crisis has a great number of variables to account for, and is taking a heavy toll on city residents in crime, social frustration, and tax dollars allocated to it. Further, I know the city can't house people on land they don't own, and there's remarkably little private industry investing in finding a solution they can profit from... so there's remarkably few options to choose from. As the saying goes, we find ourselves between a rock and a hard place.?? I know housing people in this fashion is likely a last resort, and given the option wouldn't be occurring... but I'd caution against considering Portland International Raceway as the

pressure relief valve for this crisis. While yes, it's a city park- it's also a city park that funnels money into the local economy. In the midst of a social, economic and viral crisis, I don't believe removing that funnel profits the city. As I said at the beginning, I know I wouldn't be able to continue contributing to that profit against the potential risk it brings to me. I'd rather not spend the money than pay a deductible to my insurance provider- and there are many other facilities I can race at in the meantime. None of them have the social infrastructure and tourism opportunities the City of Portland brings me, and I would lament the loss of all the culture there.

Testimony is presented without formatting.