

Mark Sch

#279270 | March 30, 2021

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

Dear Mayor Wheeler and City Commissioners, I respectfully request that you please do NOT change the zoning restrictions to remove the EMERGENCY designation before allowing shelters in open spaces like the public parks. Should there be a valid emergency, then the designation can be made and the appropriate actions be taken. However in the absence of a catastrophic event such as an earthquake or natural disaster, this change opens the door for the incremental loss of even more public use for our beautiful city parks and open spaces. Yes, the needs of homeless need to be addressed, which is where I would strongly support you spending the city's resources to find those solutions.

Testimony is presented without formatting.