

# Kathleen Hayes

**#279298 | March 30, 2021**

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

Let me begin by saying we do not have all the answers on how to solve this sad and complex problem of houselessness, but as tax-paying citizens we do know what we do NOT want. We do not want our parks used as shelters for the houseless for two reasons (at least): 1) We have seen the damage done to our community by those living in tents on our streets and sidewalks. The garbage and filth are not only unsightly but dangerous. Even portions of the bike paths have become unusable. How would it be different in our parks? Case in point: Laurelhurst. 2) We voted to increase our taxes to keep our parks beautiful. We did not vote to use this tax money so parks could be converted to campgrounds which inevitably results in "landfills." Parks were never constructed for campgrounds---even recreational camping. To allow this to happen would be disastrous to our community and very costly.

Testimony is presented without formatting.