

# Courtney Cook

**#279322 | March 30, 2021**

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

Dear Mayor Wheeler and City Commissioners, As a Portland area resident I am firmly against allowing public spaces to be used for homeless shelters/encampments. I fully support efforts to find effective methods to assist the homeless community and improve the livability of our city for all Portlanders. But I want to share my strong concerns that Portland International Raceway and other city parks NOT be included, in any way, in the zoning changing currently under consideration. Please find a path forward to improving the situation WITHOUT putting our racetrack and city parks at risk. The implementation of this would do irreparable damage to our beautiful city and further destroy the few places that remain for the tax paying citizens to congregate and enjoy. It would also create health hazards which would require additional costly resources to attempt to keep under control. This would do little to help what is actually at the root of the problem which is mental illness and drug addiction. This would be a disservice to all residents of Portland and the surrounding areas. Sincerely, Courtney Cook

Testimony is presented without formatting.