

Michelle Rand

#279325 | March 30, 2021

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

I believe it is a mistake to use city parks - in any way - to house the homeless. One of Portland's positive features is its parks, and housing the homeless in their parking lots (diminishing the usability of the park) or open spaces conflicts with the long-held notion that we should provide green spaces for citizens to relax. Many of these parks are tax payer funded, through bond measures, and this use was never part of their mandate. Furthermore, we have passed nearly \$1 billion in affordable housing bonds in the last several years, culminating in very few units built. This needs to be fixed before we embark on ruining our parks.

Testimony is presented without formatting.