

I'm James Ofsink and I'm speaking on behalf of Portland's Resistance. We are one of the most organized resistance movements in the country and work hard to bring thousands of Portlanders into more active engagement with national and local issues. Hundreds of people have attended our civic meetings and candidate forums, thousands have marched with us in the streets, and each month tens of thousands of people interact with us online.

We advocate for a progressive slate of policies starting with turning around our criminal justice system. It is disingenuous to ride the winds of public opinion and rail against violent white supremacists in far-off cities while keeping employees like Capt. Mark Kruger in a position of authority at the Portland Police Bureau.

We can't claim to be a sanctuary city on the one hand and promote the supposed security of communities of color while still racistly over-policing those same communities. Whether it's crossing the street, driving a car, or finding an inconspicuous place to sleep our city punishes people for the color of their skin. Black Oregonians are almost twice as likely to be incarcerated as African Americans in Washington and more than 5 times as likely to be incarcerated than white Oregonians. And it's not just incarceration. It's every single level of our criminal justice system: from stops, to citations, to arrest, to mass incarceration. Every one of those interactions which are disproportionately levied against people of color invalidates the sanctuary we profess. Every one of those interactions is pretext for a deportation or an opportunity lost to find a job or secure housing. So turns the wheel of intergenerational inequality.

And this is not some problem that Donald Trump or Jeff Sessions' created. We built this with decades of overt and covert systemic racism. But for exactly that reason we don't need to wait to end it.

You, the five of you, acting together today, or next week, or this month can radically change the arc of justice in our city. Decriminalize the nuisance stops that are the first entry point into police harassing communities of color and people suffering from poverty or addiction. Here are 5 changes each of you should go on the record, starting today, as supporting: End sweeps of houseless encampments. Stop imprisoning addicts. Shutter the racist gang database. Ban military grade weapons and Publish police stop data.. These are all within your power to do.

At Portland's Resistance, we believe that resisting the heinous ideas of Donald Trump is important. We must say no to racism, to bigotry, and to hate. But even more powerful than opposing the terrible and anti-American rhetoric of our Embarrassment in Chief is to say YES to the proactive policies that will build an inspirational alternative for other cities. While the federal government is driven into the ground it is up to us. Up to *you*, and the people of Portland, to demonstrate that we can be a beacon of light and build an inclusive society that is better because of our differences and truly works for the least well off amongst us.

3

Parsons, Susan

From: James Ofsink <james@pdxresistance.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2017 11:26 PM
To: Parsons, Susan
Cc: Samantha Lopez
Subject: Re: Getting on the city council agenda = August 30

Thank you Samantha for coordinating.

Susan, if 8/30/2017 @ 9:30am is still available I would be grateful if you could sign me up.

Many thanks!
-James Ofsink

On Tue, Jun 27, 2017 at 8:56 AM, Parsons, Susan <Susan.Parsons@portlandoregon.gov> wrote:

Hi Samantha,

Sorry, it does need to be an individual who signs up. However, supporters can stand or raise their hands in support while the individual speaks.

Regards,
Susan

Susan Parsons
Assistant Council Clerk
City of Portland
susan.parsons@portlandoregon.gov
[503.823.4085](tel:503.823.4085)

-----Original Message-----

From: Samantha Lopez [mailto:samantha@pdxresistance.org]
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 6:23 PM
To: Parsons, Susan <Susan.Parsons@portlandoregon.gov>
Cc: james@pdxresistance.org
Subject: Re: Getting on the city council agenda

Thanks, Susan! Are we able to request on behalf of an organization? I thought it had to be an individual but the group would rather request as Portland's Resistance if that's possible.

Samantha

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jun 26, 2017, at 6:34 PM, Parsons, Susan <Susan.Parsons@portlandoregon.gov> wrote:

>

> Samantha, thank you for your email. Individuals must request their own Communication, so I'll ask James to contact me directly.

>

> James,

> We are full August 16 & 23. Are you available August 30? The time is 9:30 am.

>

> Susan

> Susan Parsons
> Assistant Council Clerk
> City of Portland
> susan.parsons@portlandoregon.gov
> [503.823.4085](tel:503.823.4085)
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Samantha Lopez [mailto:samantha@pdxresistance.org]
> Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 1:51 PM
> To: Parsons, Susan <Susan.Parsons@portlandoregon.gov>
> Subject: Getting on the city council agenda
>
> Hi!
>
> We spoke a couple of weeks ago about getting on an August agenda and I promised to email when I confirmed date with folks wanting to present. I'm hoping there are still days available in August.
>
> If I remember correctly, the information you need is below. Let me know if I missed something.
>
> Requestor: James Ofsink
> Email: james@pdxresistance.org
> Phone: [503-208-4082](tel:503-208-4082)
> Date requested: August 16th or 23rd
> Topic: address council regarding injustice in Portland, including in the policing of communities of color, peaceful protesters, houseless communities, etc.
>
>
> Thanks so much for your help!
>
> Samantha
>
>
>
> Sent from my iPhone

950

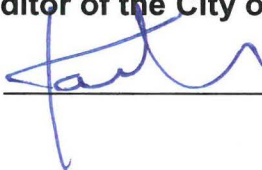
Request of James Ofsink to address Council regarding injustice in
Portland (Communication)

AUG 30 2017

PLACED ON FILE

Filed AUG 22 2017

MARY HULL CABALLERO
Auditor of the City of Portland

By  Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Eudaly		
Wheeler		