

## Opinion on Homelessness,

---

Greeting Mayor Wheeler and Council,

Two years ago before the homeless sweep of the Springwater Corridor I made friends with the homeless community. My Automotive business borders about 500 feet of the corridor near SE 92nd Ave.

When I say "made friends," I really did, we provided water, electricity and a bar-b-que. They let me in. I was known among them, was allowed into any camp. I knew their issues. Six months of almost daily visits, I spoke hope into them, I told them their true identity. Most of them began to cry. I was able to put a long time heroin user into a home with a family. I loved my homeless neighbors. I also had the safest business in town.

I found out almost ALL of those that were out there were drug addicts. I found this out only after I made friends with them.

I saw what the young ladies went through. Having to sell themselves for the next dose. I saw the perpetrators almost with the same MO, men from their early twenties to early forties almost all with black bags and old motor homes and the rape that happens in them.

This is the point I want to make. 95+ percent of these folks were drug users primarily heroin and meth. The other 5 percent shared the other categories.

Of all those I met, I only met two families who didn't appear to be on drugs.

Shelters and affordable housing is like giving pain meds to someone with an infected foot hoping the infection goes away. We must deal with the infection.

1. Correctly identify the problem, I say over 90% are drugs and mental illness.
2. Work with the State of Oregon regarding mental illness concerns
3. Treat drug dealers as criminals, simply because they are. Give Portland a reputation of a bad place to be if you are a drug dealer.
4. If possible, re-appropriate money away from affordable housing and build prisons to incarcerate the dealers, through due process of course.
5. Channel money to drug rehabilitation facilities but only if they are monitored closely.

Saturday, August 25, 2018

6. Audit any individual or organization that receives money from the city for the homeless stating; show us your results.

I'm asking the city reboot, reset and take a fresh new look at the homeless crisis.

Sept 5

Parsons, Susan

---

**From:** Steve Spinnett <stevespinnett@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 4:11 PM  
**To:** Council Clerk – Testimony  
**Subject:** Homeless

Greetings,  
I would like to speak during public testimony August 8th or 15th regarding the homeless and why we need a paradigm shift on our approach to homelessness. I'm the owner of a business that borders the Springwater Corridor. I got to know these folks giving them water, electricity and even provided them a bar b que.  
I had compassion for them.  
The media covered this well.  
However; the the problem is drugs 95% or more of these folks are on the streets because of illicit drug use.  
I have a slogan. "To fix homelessness is to fix the drug epidemic.  
Thank you,  
Steve Spinnett  
Former Mayor of Damascus Oregon

Request of Steve Spinnett to address Council regarding paradigm shift on approach to homelessness (Communication)

SEP 05 2018  
PLACED ON FILE

Filed           AUG 28 2018          

**MARY HULL CABALLERO**  
Auditor of the City of Portland

By *Susan Parsons*  
Deputy

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