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## 762-2021

Communication

**Requested Agenda Type**

Communications

### Request of Lindsey Crawford to address Council regarding safety in Central Eastside

Placed on File

A brief description of Communication: Request of the Central Eastside Industrial Council to speak about safety in the Central Eastside.

### Agenda Items

762 Communications in [October 27, 2021 Council Agenda](#)

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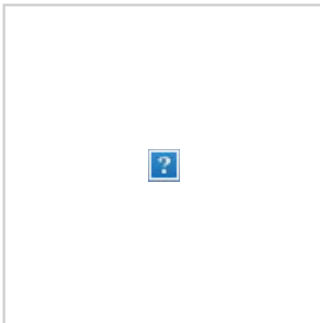
**From:** [Lindsey Crawford](#)  
**To:** [Clerk General](#)  
**Cc:** [Lindsey Crawford](#)  
**Subject:** Written Testimony for Public Record  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 27, 2021 10:31:50 AM  
**Attachments:** [City Council Testimony 10.27.21.pdf](#)

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Hello,

Attached is my written testimony, for public record, presented at this morning's City Council Meeting. Thank you,

**LINDSEY CRAWFORD** | HEAD OF PEOPLE  
Pronouns: She/Her ([What's this?](#))



**Diversity, Equity & Inclusion @ Stumptown**

*Stumptown actively and intentionally works to create a diverse team - different ideas, backgrounds, and identities make us stronger, together. We aspire to build a safe and welcoming space for all; a place where individuals can grow their unique skills, where we are all accountable to shape what we want to see in this community. This pursuit is ongoing - we strive to lead with a progressive approach and continually learn from our shared experiences.*

## **Portland City Council Meeting**

**October 27, 2021**

### **Agenda #762 – Communications; Lindsey Crawford on behalf of the CEIC**

Good morning, Mayor and City Commissioners. Thank you for allowing me to share with you all today. My name is Lindsey Crawford, and I'm joining you from Stumptown Coffee Roasters, where I have served as the Head of HR for 4 years. Our HQ and main roastery is located in the CEID at 100 SE Salmon; additionally, we have a Cold Brew Brewery located at 1311 SE 9th. As you may be aware, we also have 4 cafes within Portland, two in SE and two in Downtown.

On behalf of the Central Eastside Industrial Council and on behalf of the employees of Stumptown, I urge you to take immediate action to make our City safer for our business and our employees while putting in place sustainable, equitable safety systems for the future.

I'd like to share with you all a little more about my experience and the experience of my coworkers at Stumptown to provide context as to the urgency of my task for you all. Stumptown employs 140 individuals in Portland and 110 of those roles are based in the CEID. Stumptown was founded in 1999 and our city is an interwoven part of our identity - even down to our name.

We moved our HQ and Roastery from its original location on SE Division to the CEID one decade ago because it was the perfect place for us to grow and expand in a neighborhood that reflected much of what we care about: a community of creators, a vibrant food and maker scene and quite frankly, a slightly rough-around-the-edges realness that we love about our city. It has depth and soul.

All of what I said still remains, and the Central Eastside is our home. However, our enthusiasm and emotional connection to the neighborhood continues to get dampened due to the very real costs and consequences of the growing safety concerns within the district.

Over the last year in particular, the frequency of concerns has increased at a pace we can't keep up with. Our fleet of delivery vans regularly get vandalized, with gas tanks drilled and catalytic converters sawed off. Employee vehicles have been broken into in broad daylight while parked in our HQ parking lot. Both our HQ and Cold Brew Brewery have been broken into and burgled.

Our employees are scared. These are front-line workers that have already navigated the weight and risks of continuing to come to work through the entirety of the pandemic. Our teams have witnessed the effects of the mental health and addiction crisis impacting our streets and regularly view truly unbelievable scenes right outside our buildings, ranging from individuals walking down the street with machetes to being directly harassed by individuals who are in an altered state and in need of professional services.

These issues have real and direct costs to our business, beyond the emotional distress that our teams experience. We've incurred thousands of dollars of damage to our fleet and buildings. As we look to 2022, we need to enhance our security system and video surveillance, lighting, landscaping, fencing and other security measures which we will spend upwards of \$100,000 to implement.

The situation is making it increasingly difficult to do business in the neighborhood and I am here today to ask for urgent intervention to rechart this course. I urge you to:

- Improve the 911 system while immediately expanding the Portland Street Response
- increase the police behavioral health unit and the service coordination team
- introduce temporary fixes to alleviate the stress on our community while this is being built

Thank you.