

From: [Peter Keller CNA Chair](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony/endorsements for the Budget Monitoring Process
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 2:09:43 PM

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners,

You have an opportunity in the coming weeks during this Budget Monitoring Process to make some meaningful decisions to improve public safety on Portland's streets. I strongly urge you to support the following:

- **Fund and staff the Mayor's recommendation** to bring back 80 sworn officers to the ranks immediately through the already established Retire/Rehire program, which returns retired officers solely at the Chief's discretion and puts experienced officers on the street alongside new ones. Portland is obligated to hire 300 additional officers in the next three years, which means we must staff recruiters and background investigators so that we can on-board new hires in a reasonable time.
- **Equip officers with body-worn cameras** — Portland residents and Portland officers agree that it's long overdue to find the money and get it done.
- **Fund the full expansion of Portland Street Response (PSR) citywide** to relieve emergency services from taking calls that are better served by non-emergency staff.
- **Support the technology and staffing needs** for the Bureau of Emergency Communication's (BOEC) services .
- **Increase foot patrols** (for example, PS3 officers or detail police officers) in Old Town and other areas disproportionately impacted by violence and crime.
- **Safe Parking Program:** In place of the loss of the Expo Center's parking lot in North Portland, we recommend that two smaller-scale locations be reserved and established for safe parking in other under-served areas of Portland.
- **Create two Service Coordination Centers** for other under-served areas of Portland (similar to Transition Projects [TPI] in Downtown) who will accept or triage walk-ins at the doors of these facilities.
- **Expand staffing and trash cleanup disposal programs across the City.**

- **Increase shelter bed capacity for areas** in Portland who need it and give the general public a transparent view of those shelters' real-time census capacity."

Thank you for your consideration,

Peter Keller
2021/2022 Chair, Board of Directors
Concordia Neighborhood Association