

From: [Steven Kassakian](#)
To: [Clerk General](#)
Subject: Written Testimony for City Council Mtg. Wednesday Nov 10th
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 2:17:30 PM

Dear City Councilors,

I am writing to encourage you to support the measures being discussed this Wednesday from Commissioner Mapps and Mayor Wheeler with regards to additional funding for safety, homelessness and trash issues. The current state of affairs with regards to public safety are dire. My wife and I are both practicing physicians, we have two elementary aged school children enrolled in PPS and several years ago we moved my elderly mother and my wife's grandfather to Portland to be with us. My wife and I deeply value the community in Portland and want nothing more than to be able to continue to participate and give back to this community that has given us so much. Through our work in healthcare we have had substantial experience working with the underserved and are in no way naive to the challenges and complexity of that work. That said, the safety situation in the city is completely beyond acceptable and needs an appropriate level of response. The current situation has required my wife and I to actively evaluate whether we can continue to live in Portland.

Regards,
Steven Kassakian