

From: [Tom Fawell](#)
To: [Clerk General](#)
Cc: [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [DA@mcda.us](#)
Subject: Written Testimony for Council re: BMP budget (Meeting of 11/10/2021)
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 8:05:45 AM

Dear City Council:

I am troubled by the dramatic increase in crime (violent & property) that we have had in Portland. The focus by the Mayor and City Council on virtue signaling (Texas boycott) and non-productive measures (traffic barrels, park rangers, gifting of taxpayer funds to unproven non-profits, etc) have shown the lack of understanding of the terrible scourge of lawlessness that has exploded in Portland.

The anti-police rhetoric espoused by some members of the Council and the lack of willingness to work collaboratively with our law enforcement leaders to improve public safety has led us to the point where many residents are afraid to leave their homes and tourists and visitors are unwilling to visit our formerly beautiful city.

Additionally, the inability to address the homeless crisis with pragmatic solutions has led to our neighborhoods being negatively impacted by trash, drug needles, blocked sidewalks, human feces and allowed dangerous, intoxicated, mentally ill individuals to wander our streets. This is not compassion. *Street camping is inhumane to both the unhoused and the housed.* The City Council needs to make it end.

We are below minimum police staffing levels for a city our size. Our 911 response time are unacceptable. More

officers are needed to respond to violent crises and emergency situations

More officers are needed for community policing. We need officers to be in touch with the neighborhoods and people they serve.

Please direct the unexpected windfall of funds to restoring public safety via *pragmatic* actions by using the funds toward the goal of:

1) Adding a minimum of 300 officers to the PPB

2) Eliminating street camping

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Thomas Fawell
Portland, OR