

**From:** [Susan Day](#)  
**To:** [Clerk General](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony for Wed. Nov. 10 City Council meeting concerning Fall Budget Process  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 1:21:28 PM

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To Mayor Wheeler and Portland City Council Commissioners,  
I have lived, worked and raised my family in Portland since 1973--- almost 50 years. I have never in that time been so concerned and really heartsick about what has happened to our city. Before the Covid epidemic, I volunteered for the SMART reading program at Woodlawn School for 18 years. When I just read that a person in a car near that school was recently shot, my first thought was of those great kids I have worked with at Woodlawn. Our citizens of color are suffering even more after all the reductions in Police that happened in 2020-21.

It is time to use our budget funds to restore the safety and welfare of our citizens.

To restore the safety of the city, we must fund and support our police. I support Commissioner Mapps proposal to add 300 officers in the next 3 years.

I also support Commissioner Mapps proposal to reduce homelessness by 20% by the end of 2022, as well as to reduce the number of people sleeping in tents by 1,000 by the end of 2022. The saddest sight in Portland is the exploding number of tent groups, many surrounded by trash, where our most vulnerable citizens live. Please use the huge the bond we voted for the relief of this horrendous homeless problem .

I think Commissioner Mapps proposal to provide for cleaning up the mess of graffiti, and trash downtown is absolutely essential to bringing citizens back downtown, and thus supporting the businesses that have floundered so during these past 2 years.

Mayor Wheeler and all City Council, it is time to use common sense when you choose your allocations of the budget. I have been most impressed with the straight forward and realistic proposals of Commissioner Mapps. He is on the right track to restore the safety and livability of our once beautiful city.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Susan G. Day

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