

From: [Kristen Downs](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Written Testimony for Wednesday 10/16, 2pm City Council Mtg. Re: Resolutions 899-903
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 1:16:01 PM

My name is Kristen Downs, and I am a community advocate and mother of four teenage children.

I'm fed up with needles on our kids' baseball fields, and tents, dilapidated RVs, and garbage lining our streets. My car has been broken into, and personal belongings stolen off our porch. Our four kids have seen people shoot up, light bongos, and indecently expose themselves downtown. This month a man was arrested selling drugs to students near our school, Cleveland High. My family is unsafe, and as taxpaying citizens of Portland we have rights too!

It's past time to end dangerous, inhumane, and illegal camping in public areas. People are suffering and delays only increase drug addiction and violence.

I urge you to support proposed resolutions 899-903 to save lives, restore safety and clean up our city. Please stop wasting \$45M a year on the failed county-run Joint Office of Homeless Services and use these city tax dollars to start implementing this plan now. County and Metro politicians should not have a veto over city policies, Portland deserves its fair share of the \$250M a year homeless services tax that we as a family contribute to!

Thank you for your service to our community.