

From: [Joel Sigel](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 1:32:36 PM

Portland City Council Members,

I was born in Portland and have called it my home for nearly 30 years; as a youngster, as a PSU student athlete representing the city, and now as an empty nester, living on NW 18th Avenue.

The city has never looked worse.

In any given day we have 4-5 tents pitched on our block, always leaving behind piles of garbage, needles, tarps, Etc. I'm a runner, so I often run passed Couch Park, down NW 19th, passed Thurman Street and one of the largest collection of tents, garbage and junk in NW Portland. It's an absolute eyesore, complete with BBQs & makeshift fire pits! The public health issues alone deserve an immediate response. I see rats, human waste and needles scattered all around the area. These are the conditions right now!

Regarding crime, my car has been vandalized twice; once smashing the rear window, and just three weeks ago, my door was kicked in by a guy, yelling and breaking whatever he could get hands (or feet) on at 3:00am. Vandalism has become a common occurrence, based on the amount of broken window glass I see while walking or running through our neighborhood.

I won't bring up the issue of graffiti, except to say it's everywhere...

I want all the folks who now call the streets and sidewalks of Portland "home", to be removed immediately and given evaluations as to their mental & physical health, given appropriate medical attention, then evaluated for their potential for jobs or in whatever area they can contribute in the future.

I don't believe it's inhumane or unreasonable to ask, that once cleaned up, these men and women give something back to the community. It's also the best way to instill some pride in someone-to do something positive!

Sincerely,

Joel Sigel

Sent from my iPhone