

From: [Candee](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Large Sanctioned Camps
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 3:24:31 PM

I have been advocating for large, sanctioned camps away from the city for over two years now. Portland should never have allowed camping on city sidewalks in the first place. It is what has ruined this city, and even now sanctioned camps may be too late to return Portland to its once glorious self.

Wapato Jail (Bybee Lakes) has proven that the homeless need not be right on top of services. Social services can be -- and should be -- just as mobile as the population it serves. Being far away from Portland drug dealers makes a lot more sense than placing addicts right on top of them as they are in Old Town.

Where there's homeless, there's crime -- significant crime. Drug dealing, theft, assault, vandalism, murder -- tent campers have brought all of this to our city sidewalks and neighborhoods. As a resident of Old Town, I can no longer walk out of my building without grave anxiety coming over me for fear not just of my well being, but of my life. Monday morning, October 24th, at 7:30am six shots rang out just outside my window. I can't even be in my own apartment without fear that a stray bullet will find its way in. At age 79, this is not how I want to live.

Refugee camps house many thousands of people. Are the homeless not in a sense refugees? As long as they prefer drugs and/or alcohol to rehab, loafing to working, then let them live like refugees in places that are far away from those of us who maintain the social order. They cannot be allowed to continue to overtake public rights-of-way and terrorize our neighborhoods. If they refuse to seek help, taxpayers shouldn't have to suffer the consequences of their bad decisions.

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Candee Wilson
411 NW Flanders St. #406
Portland, OR 97209
503-789-0332