

From: [Jeff Johnson](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Cc: [Leahy, Tim \(Wyden\)](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 899-903 Written Testimony
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 4:11:28 PM

Good afternoon,

As a native Oregonian, lifetime Portlander and significant Portland employer, I wish to voice my strong support for Mayor Wheeler's 5 resolutions which will help continue the process of solving Portland's street camping situation. Our NW Portland industrial facility is surrounded by a growing population of street camps and unoperable RV's.

Our employee's safety and the environmental impacts of these camps are my main concerns. When our employees are driving home from work, they are being aggressively confronted by the individuals living in the camps. The individuals will stand in the center of the street stopping traffic and shout; "This is our street, get the f--- out of here." The campers hold their ground by waving handmade weapons forcing cars to turn around in fear of their own safety. The camps sustain themselves by dismantling appliances and then burning the parts to recover the interior metal for scrapping. The unfortunate result is multiple long piles of toxic trash in the streets of industrial NW Portland which are less than a half mile from the Willamette River. Myself and many Oregonians grew up in the 70's proudly cleaning Portland's streets, waterways and Oregon's beaches through SOLVE. (Stop Oregon Little and Vandalism) With the arrival of the fall rainy season, it's incredibly sad and difficult to watch the toxic waste and plastic trash being flushed down the streets into storm drains connecting to the Willamette River and ultimately entering the Pacific Ocean harming our state's fragile ecosystem.

Mayor Wheeler's resolutions are not the final solution, but a yes vote today is an important step and opportunity we cannot miss to start the process of finding the solution to the street camping situation.

Sincerely,
Jeff Johnson

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