

**From:** [Don Blair](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for Agenda Items 899-903  
**Date:** Monday, October 24, 2022 4:27:49 PM

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Portland City Councilors,

My family and I have been Oregon residents since 1999 and Portland residents since 2008. We have always loved this city and have invested in it, through our tax dollars as well as extensive philanthropic support of its cultural and charitable institutions. However, the deterioration of the city over the last few years has been extremely painful to see and has caused us to question whether we should stay. I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed action to eliminate illegal camping in Portland. It's past time to end this dangerous, and inhumane practice. People are suffering and neighborhoods are unsafe. Please support the proposed resolutions (899-903) to save lives, restore safety and clean up our city. This step is long overdue.

Passing these resolutions is only the first step. We cannot wait to act. This plan currently lacks the timelines, deadlines and benchmarks that reflect the urgency and severity of this humanitarian and public safety crisis. Without accountability and action, this plan is nothing more than empty promises. You must enforce existing laws NOW and act NOW to establish new capabilities. The city has the money to get this plan started and should not waste resources on the Joint Office of Homeless Services. Let's use these city tax dollars to start implementing the plan. County and Metro politicians should not have a veto over city policies. Let's get going!

Sincerely,  
Don Blair