

From: [Deneen Everly](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: End Camping on Public Places, especially near schools, parks and bikeways
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 4:55:02 PM

Hello,

This is my written testimony to join the chorus of voices asking our city leadership to act now.

The Bike trail along Marine Drive used to be a special place in our city and county. It is now filled with camping blight and litter and is unsafe for families with children. This is a resource we should be proud of and protect. It's been far too long that the CoP and Multnomah County have let it get run down and make it a place no one wants to use. Illegal camping, trash, stolen and damaged cars, etc have occurred in this area before the pandemic but got significantly worse during the pandemic.

Please act now. This includes the portion of the bikeway that runs past the Columbia Slough into Kelly Point.

Understanding we need to prioritize please make sure kids have safe access to schools first. Parks in neighborhoods should be prioritized as well. Next the bikeway along the Esplanade/RQ area, Columbia River and Slough should be prioritized for cleanup and camp removal. We've let the situation get so far out of hand that it will take significant resources to do this but acting now, and staying consistent, will help in the long term that it's going to take.

Thank you,

Deneen Everly
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