

From: [Kevin Williams](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Please Ban Camping in Portland
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 4:57:38 PM

Please Ban Camping in Portland as soon as possible.

My wife and I have lived in Goose Hollow near PSU for sixteen years. The last ten have been a revolving door of illegal campsites in our neighborhood. We have had to endure open drug use and drug dealing, large piles of garbage including human waste and used needles, prostitution, fires including a 100 ft spruce tree right next to our home destroyed after an illegal campsite caught fire and ignited the trees, theft of things on our porch and packages, etc. We have dogs and often are unable to walk our dogs in certain areas as they are occupied by illegal campers. The small park near our house is unusable as there are often drug users there and makes us feel unsafe to even walk through.

There currently are about thirty illegal campers on SW 13th between SW Market & SW Montgomery St. There are two Child Daycare Centers (Helen Gordon Child Development & PSU Little Vikings Daycare) in this area. The tents are blocking the sidewalks and spill into the streets. It is totally unacceptable to have illegal campsites this close to Daycare centers.

We regularly report these illegal campsites on the cities "Campsite Reporting" website. It usually takes weeks if not months before they are posted to "clean up" then within a week the campers return or new camping move in.

Until the cities takes a hardline and bans camping throughout the city and require those that chose to camp to use designated areas instead of using shelters the cycle of illegal campsites, cleanup and return of illegal campers will continue.

My wife and I love the city of Portland and want to continue to enjoy all the great things this city has to offer but we must get control of the socially unacceptable behavior of many of the illegal campers.

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