

From: [Steve Malany](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Supporting agenda items 899-903
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Dear Council Members,

I strongly encourage the city council to unanimously support the plan to end unsanctioned camping in our city. This plan strikes the right balance between enforcing our laws, and ensuring that the most vulnerable Portlanders have urgent access to housing, and the mental health and addiction services they need to move off the streets.

This plan has finally created a political consensus. We are heartened to see all three candidates for Governor, both candidates for County Chair, and elected leaders from across the region support the plan. The only way to solve a crises of this magnitude is if state, regional, and local leaders stop the finger pointing and work together. We are strongly encouraged to see a new spirit of urgency and collaboration across these jurisdictions.

Portland cannot wait any longer. The time for bold, urgent action is now. It is inhumane to our houseless neighbors to allow the conditions we see on our streets to continue any longer. We encourage the city to work with all stakeholders who want to move us forward together, and tell those who want to continue to be a barrier to change, to move aside.

Steve Malany

President

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