

From: [Mr Lobster](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: McFarland, Lonny Testimony
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 6:15:33 PM

I would like to voice my part in this. My family has been suffering with no access to sidewalks to get to public transportation and dealing with constant piles of trash. We are constantly being blocked in our road from RVs parking across from each other not allowing both lanes of traffic to come through. I deal with every morning having to swerve to get around this on my way to work so I can pay my taxes to make this stop and provide for my family. The current services are not helping and just enabling this behavior. The stress my wife and I deal with on this is taking a toll on both of us and has brought us to the edge of divorcing. I have lost my will to take care of my own property at times as I do not want to look like the nice house that has "stuff" for the taking. I see bike riders and beat up cars scoping my property daily so I spent over \$3,000.00 and my hard work to hide my property with secluded fencing so the casers cannot see what I have (yes, I see many casers now that there is camping close). My constant reporting twice a week to get help to clean up has gotten very old and tiresome. I go to work everyday with my stomach in knots about what is going to happen when I am not home. I am pleading for urgency on this so we can all live our lives and get the people the help they need instead of just letting them suffer on a sidewalk/street.

- **END CAMPING NOW:** It's past time to end dangerous, inhumane, and illegal camping in public areas. People are suffering. Neighborhoods are unsafe. Portland is hurting Please support the proposed resolutions (899-903) to save lives, restore safety and to clean up our city. This is a long overdue step.
- **USE CITY FUNDS NOW:** The city has the money to get this plan started. Stop wasting \$45M a year on the failed county-run Joint Office of Homeless Services and use these city tax dollars to start implementing this plan. Do not give County or Metro politicians a veto over city policies. Longer-term, Portland deserves its fair share of the \$250M a year homeless services tax.
- **PORTLAND CANNOT WAIT 18-MONTHS FOR CHANGE:** This plan currently lacks the timelines, deadlines and benchmarks that reflect the urgency and severity of this humanitarian and public safety crisis. Delaying enforcement of existing no camping laws, will only further delay the policy changes required to create safe camping areas w access to services, more emergency shelters, more housing, and cleaner, clear sidewalks. Without accountability and action, this plan is nothing more than just empty words and empty promises.

Thank you for taking time to read this. I really hope action can be prompt.

Lonny