

From: [P. Douglas](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Agenda Items 899-903
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 8:14:53 PM

Dear Commissioners,

We've had enough. The endless whack a mole of sweeping campsites only to have them reappear a week or so later, or to move to another long-suffering neighborhood. PBOT needs to be ticketing and towing illegally parked and illegally licensed cars. Driving unlicensed RVs, vans, cars and trucks means driving uninsured RVs, vans, cars and trucks. It needs to stop now. Not enforcing laws for one group of people over another breeds contempt by the scofflaws and resentment by the law-abiding.

Portland feels extremely unsafe. The untreated mentally ill should not be allowed to roam at will, threatening common citizens. Large camps and chop shops are being fed by drug addicted thieves and other criminals whether it be catalytic converters, stolen bicycles, cars or businesses being shoplifted to death. Gun violence, garbage everywhere, many of our green spaces trashed and degraded (Peninsula Crossing, Four Corners, Springwater Corridor). Bikeways covered with garbage, squatters, human feces. Public Safety should be paramount.

The Joint Office of Homeless Services is a miserable failure. Now we find that they have been massively dispensing tents and tarps (6500 of the former last year) to the homeless, enabling their ability to camp wherever they wish. We should not be promoting camping in public places by giving the homeless the means to do so. We should be building large, **monitored**, emergency shelters to house the homeless. The city and the county have this absurd idea that no one has to leave the streets until there is a turnkey apartment available. This is socially and fiscally untenable. The City Council needs to stop listening to the cacophony of non-profit "Homeless Advocates" and start listening to the voices of the people who follow the rules and pay the bills. We risk alienating the working class and middle class folks who pay the bills... the flight from Portland is already beginning. Portland's City Government needs to stop assuming that people have the patience to wait for things to get better. Because they aren't getting better and we won't.

D. Norseth