

Written testimony for 10/26/222 city council meeting

Dear Portland City Council Commissioners,

I am writing to express support for ending self-sited, unsanctioned encampments in Portland. I support a plan to consolidate sanctioned sites, with the sites providing some services on-site and otherwise helping to connect homeless Portlanders to state and county services.

The current policy of unregulated camping is a failure. The Oregonian recently reported that homeless individuals have been victims in 18% of this year's homicides which is even worse than last year which was 11%. The Oregon Health Authority reported that 14% of Oregon's fatal and unintentional drug overdoses were among homeless persons in 2020. The Oregonian reported that of the 207 deaths of homeless people that occurred from January through June of this year, 35% were in Multhomah County, even though county residents account for 19% of Oregon's population. The status quo is dire and is serving the well-being of no one. Therefore, I support the proposal for change and hope our county becomes an earnest and generous partner.

Sincerely,

Joan Holup 4224 NE 32nd Place Portland, OR 97211

https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASESCONDITIONS/COMMUNICABLEDISEASE/CDSUMMARYNEWSLETTER/Documents/2022/ohd7102.pdf



Over 90 homicides in Portland in 2021: The record year closed with one o...

people of color, especially Black people.

https://www.oregonlive.com/portland/2022/08/disproportionate-share-of-oregon-homeless-deaths-occur-in-multnomah-county.html