

From: [McCrea Dunton](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony; Wheeler, Mayor](#)
Subject: Public comment on Proposed Camping Ban
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 8:24:13 PM

As a new Portland resident, I want to live in a community that works for everyone, provides opportunities for growth, and one where we care about each other. There are many things to like about this inclusive and beautiful city, which is why we moved. However, we have serious problems to address in the homeless crisis that persists, and if not resolved, I do not think I'll be able to call Portland home for the long term.

Since relocating I have taken time to observe what is occurring in our streets, understand the history of the decision making in recent past, and look at what is ahead. **This proposed camping ban needs to be fully enforced.** When someone calls city services to report a campsite - our citizens need to expect that campsite to be gone within 48 hours and we need accountability from our city. Sweep the entire city the week after this ban is announced, removing **every** illegal campsite and broken down RV.

I am horrified by what I see everyday on the streets of the city. Two weeks ago, I watched two meth addict parents allow their two small children to run around naked right next to a major city road. I called 911 and waited for 6 minutes on hold only to be told that they are aware of the site and it has already been reported since being set up only hours ago. I watched as service after service came by that day to the tent, but the children still wound up stuck with two meth addict parents huddled next to a road that night. How are we looking out for those children? What kind of stunted life will they have because they aren't in school and making progress in their social and educational development? How is this any kind of progressive city that you all claim to lead? Get the homeless off the streets so that we can use our sidewalks again and walk freely in this city without fear of being attacked by a psychotic person.

You need to increase the size of these proposed camps by 10x. The ~300 homeless capacity proposal is a joke. You need 3,000 - 5,000 capacity in total. Go work with the Expo center. **You need to enforce the laws.** We need massive sweeps of all streets right after this ban is enacted.

Go do your job.

Respectfully,
McCrea Dunton