From: Andrews, Peter

To: <u>Council Clerk – Testimony</u> **Subject:** Mayor"s Plan - Homelessness

Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 8:49:21 AM

City Commissioners & Mayor-

I am writing in full support of the Mayor and Commissioner Ryan's plan. As a City it is time for a new direction and we must address the issues our we will lose the very City we love. I moved back to Portland nearly 20 years ago. As a 4 generation Portlander I love this place. When I moved home the City launched a new 10 year plan to end Homelessness. Unfortunately since that day we have only continued to exasperate the problems. We have underbuilt our housing stock for decades and clearly did not provided the proper services to our most vulnerable. We allowed our most vulnerable to live on the sidewalk with no accountability. This plan with a goal of 20,000 new housing units and providing real shelter space to address the true emergency on the street is an important statement and shows the urgency of the issue. It is a tragedy that our most vulnerable are now dying on the street at the greatest numbers, living in unsafe, inhumane conditions.

You all have inherited numerous issues and most were not created by you, but as leaders of our community we must do better and we must do something bigger and bolder. I believe in this plan and strongly encourage you to support it. I appreciate how difficult it must be to lead at this point in our City/Country. Thank you for being leaders, for showing up, for believing in a better and more hopeful future for our great City.

Best, Peter

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