

From: [Ben Whaley](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony from a Buckman resident
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 9:10:50 AM

City council members,

Like many Portlanders, I am profoundly saddened by the state of affairs in this lovely city. By allowing people to live indefinitely in squalor on the street, in cars, and RVs, we are enabling the most vulnerable to perpetuate their addictions and mental illness, while simultaneously deteriorating the quality of life for residents. The attached photo, taken less than a month ago in my neighborhood, depicts an RV that exploded, killing the pets inside, damaging nearby property, while the occupants were absent. Now a new RV is in its place, and another RV has moved in across my street. This is demonstrative of the extreme risk of vehicle dwelling to occupants and neighbors alike. It's past time for the city to take action.

- End camping in all public rights of way NOW
- End vehicle camping and illegal parking on city streets NOW
- Enforce existing city ordinances to create safe streets and sidewalks NOW

We have already spent hundreds of millions of dollars but we do not see any progress. The city should pull all the stops and take immediate action. We cannot take years to build housing and throw more ineffective committees at the issue.

- Ben