

From: [David Brands](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Homeless Plan
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 9:21:49 AM

Oct. 25, 2022

Dear City Council:

I want to express my full support for the Council's 5 point plan to help the homeless situation. There is no need to go in to all the problems that this situation has created. They have been documented and on full display daily for years now. The current plan appears to be able to accomplish at least some of the biggest issues:

1. Stop people from living on the streets in absolutely horrible conditions.
2. Providing them shelter in a safer, more secure environment with some supervision.
3. Creating locations for them that can make it easier for social service agencies to find them, identify who wants help and what help they need and finally to help them.
4. Isolate the small percentage of homeless who have imbedded themselves in the street community to make it easier to commit criminal acts.
5. Hopefully, restoring to the community at large a sense of hope rather than hopelessness. If the community feels safer and more secure they will be much more likely to support further efforts to help the homeless. The idea of some social service agencies and some local politicians that allowing people to live on the streets so the problem is more visible is cruel and self-serving.
6. Kudos to the Mayor for holding the counties and the state accountable and calling them out for help. Deborah Kafoury's continued opposition to reasonable alternatives like this is completely baffling. We cannot wait until there is a dwelling ready for everyone to get people off the streets. It is cruel and unfair to the rest of the community.
7. I know of no one who thinks this is the best or ultimate solution but it is a great step in the correct direction.

I urge you all to vote in favor of this plan and then continue to work on even better long term solutions.

David C. Brands
Portland