To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Pat Hoglund and I live in NE Portland near Wilshire Park. I have lived here since 1994.

In July 2021, my son was leaving for work at 6:30 a.m. Across the street from our home, there was an older pickup truck with two men sitting in it. The lights were off but the vehicle was running. As my son got into his vehicle to leave for work they rolled the window down and my son assumed they wanted to ask a question. He pulled alongside of them, rolled his window down and the driver in the pickup truck pointed a shotgun at him. My son had the wherewithal to speed away. In a frightened and panicked voice he called me and told me what happened. I ran out of the house and called 911. I gave a description of the vehicle, where it was headed (while I was on the phone it was idling in front of another house down the block) and told the dispatcher what just happened. She informed me that because the Portland Police was understaffed, they would not be able to respond. In subsequent days I saw the pickup truck parked along NE 33rd Ave near Marine Drive.

Not only was the news from the dispatcher disheartening, frustrating and maddening, it speaks to the need of more police officers. It also reinforces that the homeless problem is out of hand.

I implore you to end illegal camping and increase our police force immediately. As a lifelong Democrat, I, along with countless neighbors, will cast our vote against anyone who fails to act on the homeless problem. It is a direct result of increased crime in our neighborhoods.

It scares me to think what would have happened to my son had he not had the good sense to speed away when the shotgun was pointed at him.

Respectfully,

Pat Hoglund 4625 NE 35th Ave. Portland, OR 97211
