

**From:** [Mary Powell](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Ban on street camping  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 25, 2022 11:20:01 AM

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To the Mayor and City Council,

I respectfully urge you to support a ban on street camping and the required enforcement resources. As a lifelong resident of Portland, it has been devastating to see our city descend overnight into a place where the streets are not safe for residents and visitors. The menace of those who fill our streets with drug use, discarded needles, threatening behavior and strewn garbage everywhere has been a direct hit to businesses, property values and the mental health of tax paying residents. I understand the need for empathy for those on the street, but they must be taken care of in a safe environment based on their level of need whether it is addiction, mental health, or economic insecurity.

The situation requires bold and swift action to prevent this becoming a bigger problem than already exists. I urge you to address the concerns of the residents of our city who wish to remain here but fear it may not be a place to live in the future. The economic security of Portland is threatened by street camping and we need to give residents a reason to stay. Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Powell  
Pearl Neighborhood Resident