

From: [Dorothy](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Sanctioned Campsites Now. PLEASE
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 12:09:40 PM

I for one love the idea of sanctioned camp sites.

We live in outer SE Portland and have been especially hit hard with campers living on the streets. It's so depressing knowing how this has affected our neighborhoods and our neighbors themselves. The filth and scattered garbage is awful!!! The area along Marine drive is especially heartbreaking. The burden our neighborhoods in outer SE Portland are forced to bear is so unfair with so many of the housing pods and services provided in this area alone. So many times we hear our homeless folks need to be close to services, with little regard for our outer SE neighborhoods having to deal with the bulk and ugliness of it all.

We've said all along that the city of Portland should have designated areas for the campers if this is how they prefer to live and many apparently do. Perhaps this would keep theft down if they can't be bringing their stolen cars and bikes in a designated area without proof of ownership. We've seen homeless folks defecating on others properties and parks as well, which to me is a real health hazard and not to mention seeing men urinating wherever they see fit. Last year we found feces at the top of the school slide my granddaughter was about to use, which I notified the school the next morning. Having designated sites with bathrooms would at least provide them and us with more sanitary conditions. We also see folks doing drugs and drug deals in plain site. I'm simply afraid to walk after dark. We need a break!!

We've had our catalytic converter stolen and it cost our insurance company 2 grand to replace with us covering the deductible. I was without my car for 5 days. I had to purchase a catalytic cover to the tune of \$400.00 as well in hopes of preventing it from happening again. We've also had our favored bike stolen and a Thule car topper and bike attachments stolen off my daughters car. I certainly can't substantiate this was all done by homeless people, but whenever we drive by their campsites, they've got plenty of bikes and whatnot and who knows where they came from.

For the life of me, I can't understand why others might disagree with sanctioned camp sites and banning street camping altogether. It's way past time in my opinion. Perhaps it's because some people haven't been burdened with campers in their neighborhoods and don't see or realize the real impact it's had on us, or they don't have the empathy for those of us that are paying taxes and high rents. Our tax on our house here in outer SE Portland is well over 5 grand.

I totally agree and welcome Mayor Ted Wheelers proposals and pray it comes to fruition.

Sincerely, Dorothy Hilbert
73 year old Native Oregonian

Sent from my iPad