

**From:** [Laurie Payton](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Homeless Crisis in Portland  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 25, 2022 3:42:20 PM

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My name is Laurie and I have lived in Portland for over 44 years. What was once a beautiful city that we could enjoy our neighborhoods and parks, has turned into one that is unsafe. We have allowed the illegal camping to go on for way too long, without providing a safer humane solution. Our once clean city is littered with garbage everywhere, the crime has worsened and it is a public safety crisis. So many people are suffering, and it is inhumane to not make a decision to provide an adequate place for them till they get on their feet. Our first step should be to get people off the streets immediately! We need to get them a safer place that includes the basic needs of water, toilets and garbage. Once this happens, we can clean up our streets and start to provide more services to the people who need our help. We all have compassion for anyone that is living on the streets however, we all deserve better from you. The situation has only got worse because of our inability to act to get people off our streets. People are not happy living here anymore and businesses are suffering also. The city needs to act now!

Sincerely, Laurie Payton  
Sent from my iPhone