

From: [KATE DICKSON](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Written testimony In support of the 5 resolutions to support a humanitarian strategy for Portland's homeless citizens
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:10:24 PM

Dear City Leaders! It is time to lead and take action NOW.

Now is the time to courageously stand together to support a safe place for Portland's most vulnerable population—our homeless people living on Portland streets. It is inhuman to believe the best we can do for our most in need population is to leave them camping on the streets. It is a MYTH to think that homeless people are safe camping on PDX streets....just look at the violent statistics. You see the police reports.....and that is what is reported....we know there are many violent incidents not reported.

The 5 city resolutions should be unanimously supported as a starting place. There is no time to waste or quibble....do not stall the action. Our homeless citizens need a safe place NOW!

As a long time downtown resident, I have seen some of the most brutal, violent, and inhumane treatment of street campers by other homeless street campers.....it is heartbreaking!

We need to and can do better, Mayor Wheeler and Commissioner Ryan it is time to lead with action.

Commissioner Hardesty....it is beyond time for you to care about the safety of the street campers. They are NOT safe of the streets. Your empathy for the homeless is misplaced thinking they are safer on the streets than in a sanctioned camp, where services can be provided. I challenge you to start caring about the well being of Downtown Portland and all of the downtown residents.

Commissioners Mapps and Rubio.....do not sit on the sidelines....be bold, take leadership. ALL Portland citizens need your efforts to assure Portland is a safe place to live.

Thank You!

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