From: Cynthia A. Binning
To: Council Clerk – Testimony

**Subject:** Council Testimony 10-26-22 Agenda Items 899-903

**Date:** Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:37:09 PM

## Good afternoon:

I grew up in the Portland area, it used to be a great city. After moving away from Portland, I couldn't believe the changes upon my return. The city that was once clean and safe had become filthy and dangerous and it's steadily getting worse. I work in the downtown area, every day I see people using drugs, human feces on the sidewalks and streets, with trash and camps everywhere – not to mention the people in desperate need of mental health assistance.

Last week, I was forced to park on the street because our lot was full. Upon leaving, there was a man sitting in a planter next to my car screaming and stabbing a tarp full of items with a butcher knife. A couple of days later this man screamed at me on the street for using the crosswalk. There are many areas downtown that are filthy and unsafe, these issues need to be addressed. The people that live and work downtown deserve much better — many of my coworkers are afraid to leave the building for their lunch break and won't come into the office if there isn't secured parking.

Thank you,

## **Cynthia Binning**

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