

From: [Trisha Patterson](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony on items 899-903
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 8:45:53 PM

Hi there,

Thank you for taking testimony on items 899-903, concerning the Mayor's and Comm. Ryan's housing resolutions. As a board member for the local housing advocacy nonprofit Portland: Neighbors Welcome, I wanted to express my support for these resolutions, as well as the comments made by groups like Street Roots, 3000 Challenge, and HereTogether.

This plan has many elements that are encouraging, and I commend this Council for tackling this issue head on. One element I, and others, are concerned about and have questions about is the phasing of criminalizing homelessness by banning unsanctioned camping. Are these measures tied to housing production? That is, if the units aren't being built, will unsanctioned camping still be banned? Aligning these two timelines, or eliminating the unsanctioned camping ban altogether, is something I am advocating for. Another element I'm concerned about is mass shelter. In a practical sense, how will the City site 500-person camps over 18 months, when currently it seems impossible to site more than one 60-person safe rest village? This is another reason why aligning construction of units with phasing out unsanctioned camping is critical.

Overall, having compassion for our unhoused neighbors and those living in precarious housing situations must be kept at the forefront of these discussions.

I appreciate your time and attention to this. I truly believe this is a step in the right direction. Constructing 20,000 units starting in 2023 is huge! While there are elements that must be handled with compassion, this plan is promising.

Thank you for taking testimony!

-Trisha Patterson
Board member, Portland: Neighbors Welcome

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