

**From:** [Karen G. Schmidlin](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Impact of Street Camping Testimony  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 26, 2022 7:11:09 AM

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Hello City Councilors,

Please enter this into the testimony regarding the impact of street Camping.

End Street Camping now. Sidewalks are for walking, not camping. If we have to pay to park on the street or get towed, why are people allowed to camp and not get removed?

I have been an employee of Pendleton Woolen Mills for over 30 years. Our headquarters is located on NW Broadway and Davis.

Over the last 2 years, I have seen the worst decline in our neighborhood in history. You cannot blame this on housing shortages, or covid. This is a result of failed leadership and bad law. The Law that made drug possession legal has been a big contribution to this. Sure, many people are happy that they can legally recreate on drugs now, but the human cost of the result of this is way too high. While the city council cannot change that law, you can uphold others. We are forced to see the results of this every day we go to work. Local businesses are suffering because people are afraid to go out on the streets to get a coffee or lunch because they have to worry about being accosted by people on drugs. This has happened to people I work with. You don't know what to expect from these people. People are strung out on drugs, or passed out, laying on the sidewalks in their own filth.

Our building has had to increase security measures numerous times because dangerous people get in. They break windows and doors, loot, and scare people. We have lost valuable employees because of this. It has cost the company money. That's not just company profits, that's money that would be going to pay our wages.

We have a mayor, a city council and district attorney who do not support the police. Rioting, looting and burning was allowed and not prosecuted. This is shameful. Without law and order, we have no society.

We have heard of millions and millions of dollars spent on this, but no results. The public can see that you are spending our tax dollars and getting no results. You're not doing your job. In the working world, when you don't do your job, you lose it. So do your job.

When I visit other parts of the country it is now embarrassing to say that I'm from Portland. People ask if it's as bad as they see on tv. Nobody wants to visit here.

There are plenty of cities across this nation that don't have this problem. Go find out what they are doing and do your job. We the people, who love this once beautiful and thriving city are tired of all talk and money spending, and no results. We the people are fed up with this.

Very Sincerely,

Karen Schmidlin