

From: htfrogatz@gmail.com
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Written Testimony for 10/26 Meeting Agenda 899-903
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 7:26:55 AM

Hello,

My name is Henry, and I would have loved to join this session in person, but I will be working today. I signed up to speak on agenda issues 899-903, and I hope the City Council takes the voices of lower-income Portland residents into consideration when deciding on implementing today's City Council Meeting.

I primarily have one question for the City Council today: Why is Portland not focusing on Housing First policies when addressing homelessness?

It confuses me that these Housing First policies are a proven solution to homelessness - not just proven via research and data but real world places like Houston, TX and Helsinki - yet the City Council does not seem interested in implementing them. These proven Housing First programs are more effective and cheaper than Portland's past and current strategy of criminalizing homelessness. Housing First policies also treat our unhoused community members with dignity and acknowledge how important stable housing is to building a stable life.

As long as Portland continues to dump massive amounts of money into unproven methods of addressing poverty and homelessness - while Housing First solutions are known to work - it is my perspective that Portland's government is investing in creating homelessness. Please stop wasting our city's public funds by investing in policies known not to work, and please begin to put Portland on track towards solving the housing crisis.

I say a loud No to concentration camps in Portland, Oregon. We do not need mega-camps, Portlanders need affordable housing.

Best,
Henry Rogatz