

**From:** [Tim Bergler](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Items 899-903 - Support Mayor's Plan to end unsanctioned camping  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:23:37 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
**Importance:** High

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City Council.

I support the Mayor's plan to end unsanctioned camping in Portland. Allowing open camping on our streets and greenspaces is dangerous, inhumane and extremely inefficient. We need to scale shelters and consolidate services to get people off of our sidewalks and out of the mud. We need to enforce the most basic rules of a functioning society that have been ignored the past 8 years including Zoning laws, building codes, drug laws and health codes.

Portland should have an equal role on JOHS and should have an equal voice in determining how these hundreds of millions of SHS dollars are spent.

Portland should focus first on ending dangerous unsanctioned camps, consolidate basic services like sanitation and end the crisis of unsheltered on our streets. We need to treat the unsheltered as the crisis that it is with all resources available. Once this has been stabilized we should redirect our focus to permanent housing.

Portland needs to recognize that allowing unsanctioned camps to stay in place indefinitely has had an extremely negative impact on the livability for ALL residences of this city. We need to recognize the impact to the 99% of us that are not homeless as well as the 1% that are homeless. The very loud homeless advocates and NGOs in this city have hijacked the public discourse – they do not represent the interests of this city as a whole. We need to act with urgency to scale shelters and end unsanctioned camping immediately.

Thank you.



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