

From: [Andrea Robertson](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Camping ban
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:52:48 AM

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a resident of NW Portland and I am writing to express my support of enforcing the ban of public camping on our city streets. The current state of Portland's streets and sidewalks is untenable. Sadly, even the most compassionate and tolerant residents have reached their breaking point on this issue and it needs to be addressed - immediately.

I am the mother of two middle schoolers. Naturally, as they grow older they desire more independence, but I find myself uneasy allowing them to exert that independence. I can't be confident that they won't find themselves in an uncomfortable or possibly dangerous situation should I allow them to walk down to Wallace Park or the local mini mart. At one point, we had someone parked and sleeping on our street in front of our house for nearly four days. My neighbors and I couldn't allow our kids to ride their bikes on the street.

My husband and I run regular through the NW industrial area and we find ourselves dodging campsites teaming with litter. It's simply depressing to see our beautiful city in such disarray.

I have reported a couple of different "permanent" campsites to PDX Reporter on a semi-regular basis. Each time, I take a photo of the tent and report the location, The next day I drive by, and nothing has changed. I have multiple neighbors and friends who have either decided to move from Portland, or are seriously debating doing so. My elderly father reads the news and is reticent to visit.

None of us can continue to live like this - neither the residents, nor the homeless. We need action now.

Andrea