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To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Homeless camping in Portland
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Thank you for much for receiving my testimony.

I am so fed up with the homeless situation in Portland. I feel like it has gone beyond overboard. We no longer take into consideration the rights of the people who are living in Portland and paying property taxes. We no longer take into consideration the rights of people who want to roam the streets safely without fear of being accosted. We no longer take into the consideration the rights of those who are disable who need to be able to access the sidewalk safely. We no longer take into consideration the rights of those who have children who need to be able to use sidewalks safely. We no longer take into consideration the cost of theft and crime and vandalism. That cost to insurance companies gets passed on to premium payers But even worse, the cost to those who don't have insurance for their property is suffocating, particularly during a pandemic and a recession.

This has made Portland untenable. My husband has lived in Portland 53 years and we've decided we don't think it's going to change. At this point, unless there's a guarantee it's going to change shortly we are going to pack up and move out of Portland Someone else can pay our \$17,000 in property tax. Someone else can pay our \$12,000 in additional city taxes to house the homeless and solve our urban housing problem.

The problem has taken law-abiding, liberal minded citizens and moved them from empathetic to angry. Why is it OK that someone accosts me while driving down the road. Why is it OK that my daughter cannot stand at the bus stop because some homeless person's shopping cart has exploded in the bus stop. Why is it OK that drug addled people are ranting and raving through the stores. Why is it the responsibility of store and shop owners the higher the real security to keep the patrons safe?

Portland has to do something about this problem immediately. Spend the money that has been received in taxes and levees and hire people to solve the problem. Bureaucratic nonsense is not working.

Jennifer Marshall Marrs