

From: [Andrew G. Rowe](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony October 21st City Council Meeting
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 3:14:45 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Mayor Wheeler and City Council Members Hardesty, Rubio, Ryan and Mapps.

I am writing to offer my strong support for the five resolutions that are being discussed today.

I am also writing to urge the accelerated creation of the large congregate emergency shelters as proposed by the Mayor, together with housing supports (hygiene, mental health and addiction recovery, security), to be followed by the banning of camping on our city's streets as soon as we can create the necessary shelter capacity.

This aggressive proposal is urgently needed to address the multiple crises on our streets, while continuing the development of other emergency, transitional shelter and permanent housing capacity. While it may be controversial, we have waited too long to protect the health and welfare of our houseless neighbors, while ensuring the safety of our residents, homeowners, businesses and office workers.

This work must be done in partnership with Multnomah County and the Joint Office of Homeless Services, along with state and federal agencies, who must provide expertise and funding to support these efforts.

I urge the City Council to recognize that the current pace of creating shelter and permanent housing capacity is failing and that emergency actions are required to put the city on the path to recovery.

Thank you.

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