

**From:** [Jeremy Haug](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Items 899-903  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 26, 2022 4:12:22 PM

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Dear Portland City Council,

I understand that you were doing a hearing today on whether to clear the homeless camps in Portland.

I would ask you to PLEASE END CAMPING NOW! It is not safe for those doing it, it is inhumane and it is illegal. It is a false compassion to just allow people to live anywhere they want and to do whatever they want to themselves on the streets. Many of those people need help to combat addiction or they have mental health issues.

Furthermore, allowing people to camp wherever they want has killed tourism in Portland and also killed businesses wanting to move to Portland (many are moving out including the recent announcement that Sorel will be closing its downtown Portland office).

It is now hard to recruit anyone to move to Portland for a job.

This affects among others all of the small businesses trying to survive downtown.

Please please please clean up our city. We need to have designated camping areas with security and services and only allow people to camp there. We also need to seriously engage with the homeless community and strongly encourage those who are addicted to get help and connect those who suffer from mental health problems to get the care that they need.

We also need to give locals the confidence to come back downtown again.

Please do this quickly and do not "roll out over 18 months" - there will be a long recovery period for Portland so we should be giving everyone the message that this stops now to encourage businesses to move back into downtown and to encourage locals to come back downtown as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jeremy Haug

Jeremy Haug  
+15033134569