From: <u>Christopher Gonzalez</u>
To: <u>Council Clerk – Testimony</u>

Subject: Testimony on the Proposed Camping Ban **Date:** Wednesday, October 26, 2022 6:54:59 PM

I would like to voice my opinion on the proposed camping ban and creation of excessively large encampments. The focus on low cost housing is the key. Large encampments coupled with criminalizing camping will mean many people are coerced to stay in an underserved and overpopulated area. Sexual assault, winter sicknesses, potential for violence, and other risks are things many people on the streets want to avoid. Denver has tried camping bans, among other cities, and used loads of resources without reducing the core problem. All it reduces is the visibility of the problem to those who don't want it to affect them. Use those resources exploring further options for housing, which gives people the stability they need.

Thank you, Chris Gonzalez