From: Brad Nahill

To: <u>Council Clerk – Testimony</u>

Subject: Testimony on homelessness actions **Date:** Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:18:46 AM

Dear Portland City Council,

I strongly support resolutions one, two, four, and five of the five resolutions on homelessness in Portland. I strongly disagree with resolution three.

- 1. Accelerating affordable housing construction is the key to solving this issue over the long-term and I strong support advancing this resolution.
- 2. Prioritizing work for unhoused people is also a strong way to reduce the number of people on the streets.
- 3. I am horrified that the council is going to criminalize houselessness. Forcing people into large encampments will put people at risk. Commissioner Ryan's disastrous and fruitless efforts to create Safe Rest Villages shows how challenging this will be. There is a huge deficit of mental health professionals in this city, how does the council expect that all these people in crisis will be able to get help?
- 4. Reducing the exposure of houseless people to the criminal justice system is a laudable goal.
- 5. I support this resolution as well.

I hope the council will work towards the four resolutions that address the long-term issue and resist forcing people into camps.

Brad Nahill
Southeast Portland