

From: wkburns@wwestsky.net
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Homelessness
Date: Saturday, October 29, 2022 9:25:26 AM

To Whom it Concerns:

I live in Washington State but have been a visitor to Portland since 1960's. I used to come into Portland weekly to shop and dine, but since 2020 I have been pretty disgusted with the decline of Portland and all the homelessness lining the streets and the trash left behind by homelessness is ugly and disgusting. Since you have defunded the police, I have been very leery about my safety if I do come into Portland and so I rarely come into Portland anymore and I find that really sad because I used to just love coming into the city to shop, go to Powell's books, and hang out in the Pearl district. I don't even go to see my Naturopathic doctor on Porter Ave. anymore. Homelessness lining the streets is dangerous and absolutely not safe. From my observance most of the homelessness I have witnessed is directly related to people controlled by substance abuse. If things are allowed to continue as is--our cities will be taken over completely by homelessness and violence, forcing the city/state into bankruptcy. The taxpayer should not have to support these people who have made the wrong choices in life and have most definitely become a burden on society. The political powers in charge of things in Portland have created this mess by defunding the police, allowing lawlessness, and passing laws that allow people to stand on the street corner using and selling drugs which I have witnessed for myself. Portland is not the beautiful city it used to be and it's a mess!

Wanda Fournier

PO Box 2657 Longview, WA 98632