November 2, 2022

Mayor Wheeler and City Commissioners,

I am a fourth generation Portlander and Oregonian. I have always had pride in my city and state. I have had the privilege to travel around the country and I have held Portland and Oregon in my heart...until recently. The last few years have seen my city deteriorate. I am appalled and embarrassed as I drive around and see the graffiti, the garbage, and the houseless camps everywhere. I want to be able to walk the city with comfort, drive and admire the city with pride, and encourage friends from afar to come visit. These are things I cannot do now.

I have been a lifelong public servant and have worked to better the lives of others. I have compassion for my fellow human beings, but what I observe is unacceptable. The problems are so far out of control that there are no easy or quick solutions, but what we have been doing is not making a difference in the situation. I support Mayor Wheeler's Resolutions 899,900,901,902,903. Something drastic must be done. It will take years to undo what we have allowed to happen. Let's start and then get better.

It saddens me to see my children and grandchildren, fifth and sixth generation Portlanders, move out of the city to find a safe, peaceful and clean community to live and take pride in.

Respectfully,

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