

From: [Vivian Le Duong](#)
Cc: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#)
Subject: Testimony for City Ordinance 901
Date: Thursday, November 3, 2022 3:01:21 PM

Dear City Commissioners and Mayor Wheeler,

My name is Vivian Duong, and I am a current graduate student in the dual Masters's program in Public Health and Social Work at PSU-OHSU School of Public Health and PSU Social Work. I currently live Downtown and am aware of the houseless presence as well.

And as a Public Health and Social Work student, I need to emphasize the harm proposed by City Ordinance 901. One of the most frequently emphasized principles that ring heavily in both fields is the need to *listen to communities and honor their needs*. And it is apparent that the houseless community is concerned and opposes this ordinance. There is ample literature, resources, and community organizations that have demonstrated alternatives that do not reinforce harm and criminalization of houselessness.

I am writing to uplift the following tasks to ensure that the city does not condone and participate in the mass traumatization of members of an already traumatized community

- Wheeler and Ryan must be transparent and democratic in this process and all other city processes
- We must fully fund [Move in Multnomah](#) style programs NOW as more permanent housing is built
- The city must create a plan for at least 5000 units of housing for those who are chronically unsheltered. Right now much of the current affordable housing does not assist and no income situations that chronically unsheltered people face. We will not solve houselessness on the streets until we get serious about creating long-term housing that will allow people who have experienced chronic houselessness to go inside, stabilize, and recover from the extended trauma and poverty we have allowed in our City.

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