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984-2022

Communication

Request of Kat Ulrich to address Council regarding public safety on NW Naito Pkwy

Placed on File

A brief description of Communication: Public safety on NW Naito Pkwy

Agenda Items

984 Communications in [November 30, 2022 Council Agenda](#)

Placed on File

Requested Agenda Type

Communications

Date and Time Information

Requested Council Date

November 30, 2022

Neighbors for Safe Smart Shelters

Portland City Council 11/30/22

www.n4safe.com



Who We Are

Presenting today: Adam Bult, Frank Blackston, Alberto Santaballa, Kat Ulrich, Tom Ulrich

We are members of a coalition: “Neighbors for Safe Smart Shelters”.

We comprise 800+ and counting residents and businesses in the Pearl District/NW Naito Riverfront who have signed a petition to oppose the proposed Safe Rest Village (SRV) on NW Naito.

We support shelters, but we are the same residents who have been grappling with the ongoing failures of Oregon Harbor of Hope Homeless Shelter (HOH) soon after its first year in operation.

These shelter programs do not have realistic security and safety protocols for the neighborhood.

Unsurprisingly, we do not support placing another no/low barrier SRV in our neighborhood.

DEQ Issues

This is a contaminated site—it is hardly humane to put the unsheltered on contaminated land.

Regardless how the DEQ process finishes, there may be certain deed restrictions and remedial action requirements that cannot be overlooked.

The proposed NW Naito site sits on land that is the subject of a complex set of environmental restrictions for toxic land.

NAME	DATE	TIME
West Mullins	12/11	8/11
Langley West	12/11	9/11
Alina Voss	12/11	9/11

RECORD OF DECISION
SELECTED REMEDIAL ACTION
FOR SOIL
AT THE
UNION STATION-PARCEL A NORTH SITE
PORTLAND, OREGON

DEQ Issues

NS4's initial research suggests that the June, 1998 Record of Decision (ROD) appears to have been ignored.

The Oregon Harbor of Hope received approval for its Remedial Action Plan (RAP) in one day.

It was the subject of a lawsuit between the owner of the proposed NW Naito (Winkler Dev. Corp.) site in 2019.

This RAP did not meet the requirements of the 1998 ROD.

DEQ Issues

It remains unknown what has happened behind the scenes to accomplish the City's objectives with this latest parcel.

Tragically, a key participant in this negotiation/transaction passed away last week and those conversations leading up to the execution of the lease must be made public.

This is but one snippet of the backroom deals leading up to this site that the City and DEQ are asking its residents to gulp down.

No Transparency

As will be previewed by other speakers, the City has not been forthcoming with this process.

N4S has had to hire separate sets of lawyers to uncover information that should be readily available.

A Public Records Request is currently pending.

As with everything else regarding this SRV, NS4 expects more questions than answers will come from the information its requested of City Hall, the Portland Housing Bureau and the Joint Office of Homeless Services.

Ross A. Day

LICENSED IN OREGON
AND WASHINGTON



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November 21, 2022

via electronic mail (commissionerryanoffice@portlandoregon.gov),
(Molly.Rogers@portlandoregon.gov) and (johs@multco.us) and certified first-class mail, return-
receipt requested

Commissioner Dan Ryan
Portland City Hall
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Portland, Oregon 97204

Joint Office of Homeless Services
721 SW Oak Street, Suite 100
Portland, Oregon 97205

Portland Housing Bureau
Molly Rogers, Interim Director
1900 SW 4th Avenue, #7007
Portland, Oregon 97201

RE: *Public Records Request
Litigation Hold*

Commissioner Ryan, Ms. Rogers, and JOHS:

My name is Ross Day, I represent a group of citizens who are concerned about the location of one or more Safe Rest Villages (herein "SRVs") within the city of Portland. This letter contains (a) a public records request pursuant to ORS 192.311 *et. seq.* and (b) a litigation hold demand regarding all evidence relating to the SRVs.

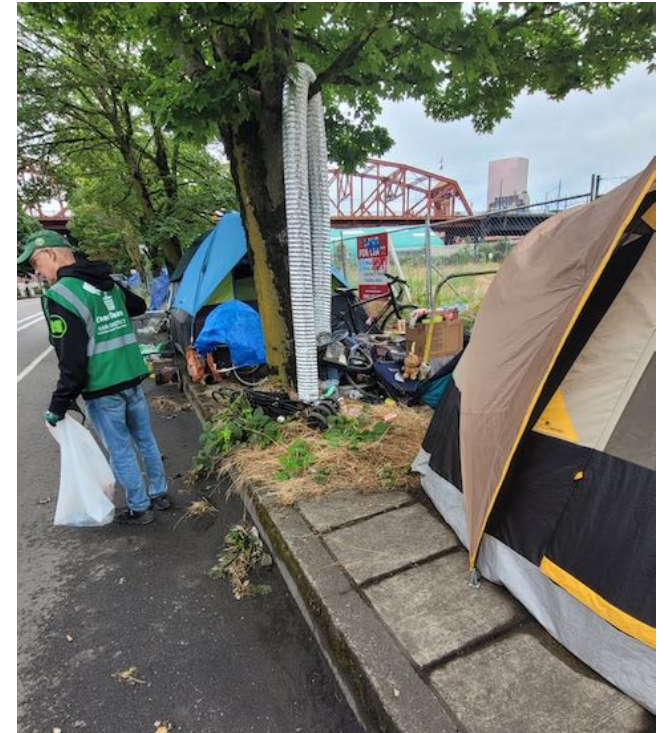
For purposes of this letter, "Safe Rest Villages" refers to alternative shelters that serve as improved points of entry for Portlanders on the continuum from living on the streets to finding stability in permanent housing. They range from a safe park program for people living in RVs or alternative, outdoor structures. All Safe Rest Villages include case management with wraparound

Neighborhood Partnership

We are doing our part:

- The neighborhood got behind Harbor of Hope.
- We support, invest in, and engage with shelters as volunteers.
- We regularly clean up needles, human waste, and garbage.

Unfortunately we have found any partnership with the City to be non-existent.



Failed Partnership from City/County

Once Harbor of Hope was established, none of the aspects of the signed Good Neighbor Agreement were enforced.

Our neighborhood was abandoned to deal with daily negative impacts of the existing shelter.

Now the City wants to place *another* no/low barrier shelter in our neighborhood under a similar program.

The City is *doubling down on a failed approach* that sacrifices neighborhood safety, security and livability.



Failed Partnership from City/County

City services are not equipped to deal with the negative impacts of a shelter.

- They are overwhelmed and ineffective.
- They are reactive, not proactive.

Multiple city and county agencies handle different portions of the program, resulting in an ill-coordinated approach that does not resolve issues.

- The shared accountability model does not work.

Even Pearl District Neighborhood Association is keenly aware the SRV will have a negative impact on the neighborhood.

- They issued a resolution to oppose the SRV unless these concerns are addressed.



The City Ignores our Requests on the SRV

No prior input or consultation from community before SRV public announcement.

Resident feedback based on our lived experience by a shelter has been ignored.

Despite numerous resident requests there has been no meeting with Commissioner Ryan.

Instead, the SRV team points to “Stakeholder” Meetings as neighborhood consultation. This is not true:

- The meetings are mostly with county and city agencies and with only a few hand-picked residents.
- Meetings are marked as “private” and minutes are not shared with us.
- Many meetings have been cancelled last minute due to “no new information”.

N4S has sent 600+ petitions to the Mayor and Dan Ryan’s office. We have yet to hear back.

* additional ~200 currently being prepared to be sent.

This is a Pattern

It is not just Harbor of Hope that is having these issues with spillover encampments and increased crime.

North Portland has Arbor Lodge Shelter.

Old Town had a village adjacent to Bud Clark Commons that closed due to safety concerns.



The Homeless Crisis Has Changed

To quote Homer Williams, founder and Board Chair of Harbor of Hope in a recent letter:

“But let’s be honest, this is not the same homeless problem we started with in 2015 or when we signed our agreement. **A new sub-culture of major drug use & addiction, theft & robbery, bodily harm & physical assault, sex trafficking & prostitution, shootings & even a death are the norm across our downtown. Tents are not only for the homeless, but storage for drugs, weapons, and act as brothels & drug dens.** Sweeps only aggravate the situation, we lose track of the campers, new campers replace them, and we start all over again...we call it “Whack-a-mole.”

Safety and Security Issues

Unsanctioned camps which are continually allowed to exist throughout Old Town, near the Steel Bridge, and near HOH result in an endless flow of transients onto our properties due to our geographical proximity to the camps.

There are numerous safety and security incidents reported by residents of two condo buildings on NW Naito (Footnotes):

- 26 incidents at the McCormick Pier Condos
- 22 at Waterfront Pearl Condos

These incidents range from harassment, attempted burglary, theft, trespass to assault.



Assault



Footnotes

Supplemental Information

Our Presentation is Based On

- Research of the literature and data gathered over this past year
- Lived and shared experiences living near a shelter (Harbor of Hope, “HOH”)
- News Media Articles and Interviews
- Conversations with homeless persons and interviews
- Tours of shelters
- Input from an expert in the field, Alan Evans, CEO of Helping Hands who operates Bybee Lakes
- Information from the City

What We Support

High barrier shelters with enforceable rules, required treatments, and safety and security protocols such as Bybee Lakes placed outside of residential neighborhoods

Compassion with Accountability

Verifiable pre and post re-entry to housing data



McCormick Pier Condo Incident Reports

All reported to Portland Police Department

- ATTEMPTED CARJACKING WHILE IN CAR- January 2022: A houseless man approached me (a single woman) in the car port after I entered my car and attempted to open my driver side door. He began to bang on my window, fortunately my dog was in the car and began barking loudly which scared him off and I drove away.
- THEFT- February 2022: My propane tank was stolen from my barbecue on my porch.
- ATTEMPTED HOME BREAK-IN- March 2022: Someone tried to break into my unit by guessing my electronic door code, then jumped onto my patio and tried to open the glass doors. I called the police and shouted that they were on their way and let my dog bark loudly. After a few minutes they finally stopped trying to get in and ran off.
- TRESPASSING AND SLEEPING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY- July 2022: a man was found on private property next to the Greenway path sleeping next to a pile of personal effects and drugs.
- TRESPASSER WITH WEAPON- July 2022: A man who was doing drugs in various locations on the property had a sharp object and would not leave the property.
- PUBLIC URINATION AND DEFECATION: An unidentified male was observed urinating and defecating in front of my vehicle parked on the property under the large carport.
- NAKED MAN: I went to take my trash out and there was a completely naked man standing at the bottom of the stairs.
- TRESPASSING IN PRIVATE POOL: Homeless person using the hot tub as a bath and washing their clothes in it.
- THEFT: In March someone stole my propane canister from my small gas grill. I have a gate on my patio, so they broke into the gate to steal it.
- TRESPASSING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY- August 2022: Two weeks ago, a woman wandering the communal patio at 6:30am let herself into a neighbor's gated patio and rummaged through their belongings.
- THEFT AND THREATENING BEHAVIOR- December 2021: a woman carrying 3 Duraflame logs asked me for a cigarette in the parking garage. I told her I didn't smoke and told her to return the logs. She said they were hers and menacingly swung one at me in a threatening manner.
- DAMAGE TO PROPERTY: I saw a male person picking up the light off the bollard on the Greenway and smashed it into the side; then he moved to the top of the Greenway and removed the trash bag from the container and threw it into the Willamette. Several lights along the Greenway were damaged that evening.
- TRESPASS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY AND ATTEMPTED ASSAULT- April 2022: a man carrying a broom handle came around the corner between H and I buildings toward the communal patio. I told him this was private property. He had jeans hanging down past his butt, underwear showing, was very dirty and disheveled and naked from the waist up. He yelled that I was a "Karen" and "go fuck yourself". He started to swing the broom stick at me. Two young male residents heard the yelling and came down to assist me. They made sure he left the property and called security.

McCormick Pier Condo Incident Reports

All reported to Portland Police Department

- BREAK IN AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY- August 2022: someone broke into my boat, stole the keys to wave runner and dock boxes, and tried to Hotwire the boat and then removed the ignition.
- TRESPASS AND PHYSICAL ASSAULT- August 2022: I was on the dock and a homeless drugged out woman comes walking towards me on the locked dock she had swam over. She was talking crazy stuff about zoo animals roaming around and a silverback gorilla. I tried talking to her and getting her off the locked dock. An altercation ensued and she attacked me. We were literally wrestling on dock she bit me and had me in a choke hold and my keys got caught in between the dock boards and fell in water. I was finally able to get her away from me and got her on the opposite side of gate and called 911. The woman then jumped of the dock into the water and took off before police came. I was locked on the dock, so the police had to go to my condo to get my extra key to get me off the dock.
- TRESPASS AND ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN- July 2022: While inside my unit on the 3rd floor in the middle of the day, I heard strange noises outside on the ground floor below me. I looked off my deck and there was a man who had left the Greenway and entered our property and was trying to gain access to ground floor units. He was shaking locked patio gates and trying to open them, attempting to open doors and windows. When I yelled at the man to leave, he became irate and started pounding on doors and windows of the ground floor units.
- TRESPASS AND DOING DRUGS ON PROPERTY- May 2022: Taking out my cardboard recycling to the bin in the middle of the day, there was a man standing in the corner of the parking structure facing the wall right next to the cardboard bin. He was smoking something from a pipe. I yelled at him that he was trespassing on private property and to leave. He yelled back at me, but his words were unintelligible. I repeated myself and said he needed to leave, and he screamed at me and started to charge at me. I stood my ground and told him to leave again, and he finally turned and left the property.
- TRESPASSING AND ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN- June 2022: Coming home in the middle of the day, I parked my car and started walking inside. I looked back at my car and a transient had wondered over from another part of the parking lot. He was looking in the window of my car and tried to open the door. I walked back to my car and asked him what he was doing. He responded by mumbling unintelligibly. I told him he is on public property and needs to leave.
- VEHICLE THEFT AND LACK OF RETRIEVAL BY PORTLAND POLICE- March 2022: my vehicle was stolen from the parking lot. A police report was immediately taken by a Portland officer. My vehicle has LoJack and once the police entered it into the stolen vehicle database the LoJack beacon was immediately activated. For 5 full days the Portland Police made no effort to recover my vehicle even with the LoJack beacon activated. On the 5th day a Tigard Police officer called me directly and said he saw the LoJack beacon, followed it into a neighborhood near his district, and found my vehicle in a Portland neighborhood just outside of Tigard. When he called Portland Police to recover my vehicle for me, they were uninterested in putting any effort into recovering my vehicle and didn't want to be bothered contacting me as the vehicle owner. The Tigard police officer explained that I was on my own since Portland Police didn't want to help me.
- PHYSICAL ASSAULT- September 2022: a homeless person who entered the property via the Greenway easement engaged in a physical assault of two residents, leaving one resident with a broken nose and the other bloodied and beat up.
- HARASSMENT AND ATTEMPTED TRESPASS- September 2022: a large man was standing outside of a locked pedestrian gate trying to gain access to the property. When a resident attempted to leave the property through that gate the man refused to move, blocking her from opening the door without letting him in. The resident repeatedly told the man to leave but he refused.
- TRESPASSING AND ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN- September 2022: a transient entered the property and went to the doorway of a private condo. The Ring doorbell showed the transient trying to open the door and when they couldn't open it the transient sat down in the doorway. The property owner used the speaker of their Ring doorbell to tell the transient to leave.
- TRESPASSING AND DEFECATING IN PRIVATE POOL- September 2022: an individual trespassed on private property, entering the private swimming pool and defecating in the pool.
- TRESPASSING AND THEFT- August 2022: two individuals were seen entering the property and rummaging through private patios of ground floor units, then running away from the building.
- TRESPASSING AND SLEEPING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY- August 2022: a man was seen sleeping under the deck of a private building and security removed him from the property.
- TRESPASSING AND ATTEMPTED THEFT- August 2022: a man was seen walking through the parking lot at 4:00am looking into car windows. A resident told the man to leave the property.

Waterfront Pearl Condo Incident Reports

1. On several occasions, I have observed individuals starting fires and shooting up drugs just below the greenway trail next to the river [behind WFP]. Later I saw them enter Harbor of Hope building.
2. I observed an individual brandishing a gun just below the greenway.
3. Our condo building has an ongoing problem with drug addicted homeless people using the private property right below our observation deck to use drugs and leave trash and used needles on our property. They have refused to leave even after multiple requests.
4. I have personally been threatened by a homeless individual on our private property on the greenway.
5. I was walking my dog and a person came out of a tent with a knife harassing me as I walked back to WFP.
6. I was walking my dog and as I approached the dog bag station (south end of Azure building), a woman started cursing and screaming at me while aggressively walking toward me. The woman screamed vulgarities (you mother fkr) and was waving a closed umbrella swinging it as she was approaching me. I quickly walked away and I watched her cross the street and go into HOH.
7. When walking, I have witnessed a man on the back side of WFP rifling through a wallet and aggressively ranting. He got louder and more menacing. He was throwing the contents of the wallet into the river while keeping the money and what looked like credit cards.
8. I have seen numerous drugged out men trespassing on the WFP property, emptying bags of clothing on our property, leaving discarded clothing, carpeting, boxes and needles on our property, using benches on our property to crash while totally drug addled. At other times, I've seen drugged out homeless persons on the embankment behind WFP buildings. Police responded and the individual didn't want to move, so they did nothing. The police left while leaving WFP to deal with it.
9. We have stepped on spent needles by the dog bag station and on the back side of the building.
10. We have been repeatedly verbally assaulted by homeless people strung out on drugs on WFP property.
11. A trespasser got into the WFP water feature - there was no active security to keep this from happening.

Waterfront Pearl Condo Incident Reports

12. A man on a bike was aggressively harassing a woman walking with her dog on the WFP property. She was headed to cross the street to get away from him. He pursued her. The train was passing so she was stuck waiting. He approached her on his bike again. I crossed the street to stand by her. At that point it was unclear what he was about to do. Fortunately, the train passed, we snuck into Cooperativa (food/restaurant) and he rode off.

13. June 2022: Homeless man staggered up to our [car] stopped on 9th and Naito. He yelled nonsensically then smashed his fist onto the driver side window. Fortunately, the window didn't break (his hand may have) and we exited ASAP.

14. September 2022: Homeless man followed [A] inside Chase bank on Lovejoy at the ready teller, demanding money. The guard had gone into the inner bank area and was not present at the time. [A] told the homeless man to get out, then called for the guard. The man then ran out.

15. We no longer walk down Naito Parkway, as it is seriously unsafe. The tents and garbage obstruct the sidewalks, the drug dealing, drug paraphernalia and aggressive homeless addicts threaten us. Portland has slid to an all time low. And no Police presence at all.

16. My daughters and I were walking down Lovejoy Street this summer when a man ran up behind us and tried to karate kick us from the back, side and front with both of his legs. We had to run away from him. A couple of weeks later he was outside my condo kicking the air and attempting to kick other street walkers. He lives near the Harbor of Hope where others are accumulating - not to mention on sidewalks all over the neighborhood.

17. I was walking along McCormick Pier Greenway last Sunday, when I encountered an agitated young man wielding a heavy stick. He approached me, identified me as "Satan" and began screaming. I quietly faced him down and then moved on. He did not follow me, but I must say it was a very disquieting event. Clearly he was suffering a delusional episode. I was thankful that P did not have to experience this.

18. My wife and I own and live in the condo directly across the street from this proposed project. We attended multiple outreach sessions where Homer Williams promised all that attended that his Harbor of Hope would follow strict guidelines to keep the area clean. That stopped almost immediately after it was erected. We can no longer walk safely around the area of Harbor of Hope. Tents, trash, homeless strung out lying on the sidewalk and drug needles spouted like mushrooms and continue to do so. So much for Homer's promise and the city's commitment. My understanding most of the city council current leaders want to perpetuate this ongoing disaster. Just reflect on what happened at the Old Town SRV. What any sane citizen would really want volunteer staff to be assaulted and possibly shot by the very people you are attempting to help?

20. This month returning driving through the Fremont bridge underpass a group of homeless threw garbage liquids that hit our car. They all were laughing as we tried to get away safely.

21. Last month while awaiting a Trimet streetcar downtown I was almost assaulted by a homeless character with a brick. My wife called 911 and was told unless he was using a gun/ knife no response would arrive. The guy saw my wife calling and repeated "Call as much you want the cops are never coming!"

22. Just this week a strung out homeless young man following steps away from a senior woman to our [WFP] lobby door attempting to get in. We pulled the door closed as he shook it, eventually trying every ground floor until reaching the concierge office that denied access. Had he gained access who knows what the outcome could have been for the residents. For all those thinking it's getting better it's not. **Just wait until it affects you personally!**