



## September 6, 2023 Council Agenda

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City Hall – 1221 SW Fourth Avenue, Portland, OR 97204

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Questions may be directed to [councilclerk@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:councilclerk@portlandoregon.gov)

### Wednesday, September 6, 2023 9:30 am

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**Session Status:** Recessed

**Council in Attendance:** Mayor Ted Wheeler

Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Commissioner Dan Ryan

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez

Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Council convened at 9:42 a.m.

Mayor Wheeler presided.

Commissioner Rubio left at 11:03 a.m.

Commissioner Gonzalez left at 12:20 p.m.

Officers in attendance: Linly Rees, Chief Deputy City Attorney; Keelan McClymont, Council Clerk

Item 747 was pulled from the Consent Agenda and on a Y-5 roll call the balance of the Consent Agenda was adopted.

Council recessed at 11:21 a.m. and reconvened at 11:31.

Council recessed at 12:24 p.m.

### Communications

736

[Request of Nic Cota to address Council regarding biking mode share and Bureau of Transportation commitments](#) (Communication)

**Document number:** 736-2023

**Disposition:** Placed on File

737

[Request of Henry Peth to address Council regarding housing discrimination](#) (Communication)

**Document number:** 737-2023

**Disposition:** Placed on File

738

[Request of Paul Frazier to address Council regarding budgets and traffic violence](#) (Communication)

**Document number:** 738-2023

**Disposition:** Placed on File

739

[Request of Juan Carlos Vildosola Covarrubias to address Council regarding Zenith Energy Land Use Compatibility Statement permitting process](#) (Communication)

**Document number:** 739-2023

**Disposition:** Placed on File

740

[Request of Jeremy Smith to address Council regarding a 32-hour workweek](#) (Communication)

**Document number:** 740-2023

**Disposition:** Placed on File

## Time Certain

741

[Proclaim September 2023 to be National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month](#) (Proclamation)

**Document number:** 741-2023

**Introduced by:** Mayor Ted Wheeler

**Time certain:** 9:45 am

**Time requested:** 20 minutes

**Disposition:** Placed on File

742

[Proclaim September 8-15, 2023 to be 2023 Welcoming Week](#) (Proclamation)

**Document number:** 742-2023

**Introduced by:** Mayor Ted Wheeler; Commissioner Dan Ryan

**Time certain:** 10:05 am

**Time requested:** 20 minutes

**Disposition:** Placed on File

743

[Appoint Michi Slick and Marcelino Alvarez to the Prosper Portland Board for terms to expire September 5, 2026](#)  
(Report)

**Document number:** 743-2023

**Introduced by:** Commissioner Carmen Rubio; Mayor Ted Wheeler

**Bureau:** Prosper Portland

**Time certain:** 10:25 am

**Time requested:** 15 minutes

**Disposition:** Confirmed

Motion to accept the report: Moved by Mapps and seconded by Ryan.

**Votes:** Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

## Consent Agenda

744

[Amend Business License Law Code to require certain tax returns be filed electronically \(amend Code Section 7.02.510\)](#) (Ordinance)

**Introduced by:** Mayor Ted Wheeler

**Bureau:** Management and Finance; Revenue Division

**Disposition:** Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading September 13, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

745

[Update salary grade for City Traffic Engineer classification](#) (Ordinance)

**Introduced by:** Mayor Ted Wheeler

**Bureau:** Management and Finance; Human Resources

**Disposition:** Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading September 13, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

746

[\\*Authorize contract with the lowest responsible bidder for the SE 174th Ave Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Infill Project](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

**Document number:** 191436

**Introduced by:** Commissioner Mingus Mapps

**Bureau:** Transportation

**Disposition:** Passed

**Votes:** Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea  
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea  
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea  
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea  
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

747

[\\*Authorize contract with GardaWorld for Security Services for SmartPark, Portland Downtown Heliport, and Streetcar Facilities not to exceed \\$6,306,319](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

**Document number:** 191441

**Introduced by:** Commissioner Mingus Mapps

**Bureau:** Transportation

**Disposition:** Passed

Agenda item 747 was pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

**Votes:** Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea  
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea  
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Absent  
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea  
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

748

[Accept grant and authorize Intergovernmental Agreement with Metro for \\$845,095 for the per-capita distribution and Business Food Waste Requirement](#) (Ordinance)

**Introduced by:** Commissioner Carmen Rubio

**Bureau:** Planning and Sustainability (BPS)

**Disposition:** Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading September 13, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

749

[Accept and appropriate a grant for \\$352,000 from the U.S. Small Business Administration to research a Legacy Business Preservation Project](#) (Ordinance)

**Document number:** 191437

**Introduced by:** Commissioner Carmen Rubio

**Bureau:** Planning and Sustainability (BPS)

Second reading agenda item 719.

**Disposition:** Passed

**Votes:** Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

750

[Consent to the transfer of a residential solid waste, recycling and composting collection franchise from S&C Licensing, LLC to Recology Clackamas Inc.](#) (Ordinance)

**Document number:** 191438

**Introduced by:** Commissioner Carmen Rubio

**Bureau:** Planning and Sustainability (BPS)

Second reading agenda item 720.

**Disposition:** Passed

**Votes:** Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

## Regular Agenda

751

[\\*Pay settlement of Dexter Pearce's bodily injury lawsuit for \\$25,000 involving the Portland Police Bureau](#)  
(Emergency Ordinance)

**Document number:** 191439

**Introduced by:** Mayor Ted Wheeler

**Bureau:** Management and Finance; Revenue and Financial Services; Risk Management

**Time requested:** 10 minutes

**Disposition:** Passed

**Votes:** Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea  
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea  
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Absent  
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea  
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

752

[\\*Pay settlement of Peso Investments, LLC property damage claim for \\$90,000 involving the Bureaus of Environmental Services and Transportation](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

**Document number:** 191440

**Introduced by:** Mayor Ted Wheeler

**Bureau:** Management and Finance; Revenue and Financial Services; Risk Management

**Time requested:** 15 minutes

**Disposition:** Passed

**Votes:** Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea  
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea  
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Absent  
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea  
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

753

[Authorize application to the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance for the FY 2023 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant for \\$574,225 to assist the Portland-Metropolitan area law enforcement and criminal justice community to prevent and reduce crime and violence](#) (Ordinance)

**Document number:** 191443

**Introduced by:** Mayor Ted Wheeler

**Bureau:** Police

Second reading agenda item 728.

**Disposition:** Passed

**Votes:** Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Absent

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Absent

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

754

[Authorize a competitive solicitation and contract with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder and provide payment for construction of the Lombard Pump Station and Force Main Upgrade Project E10920 for an estimated amount of \\$10,200,000](#) (Ordinance)

**Document number:** 191444

**Introduced by:** Commissioner Mingus Mapps

**Bureau:** Environmental Services

Second reading agenda item 729.

**Disposition:** Passed

**Votes:** Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Absent

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Absent

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

755

[\\*Authorize Intergovernmental Agreement with Metro and accept grant for \\$1,897,908 for the Kelley Point Park Trail Project](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

**Document number:** 191442

**Introduced by:** Commissioner Dan Ryan

**Bureau:** Parks & Recreation

**Time requested:** 15 minutes

**Disposition:** Passed

**Votes:** Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Absent

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

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## Wednesday, September 6, 2023 2:00 pm

**Session Status:** Adjourned

**Council in Attendance:** Mayor Ted Wheeler

Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Commissioner Dan Ryan

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez

Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Mayor Wheeler presided.

Officers in attendance: Naomi Sheffield, Senior Deputy City Attorney; Keelan McClymont, Council Clerk

Council adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

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The following item was CANCELLED: Consider the appeal by the Arnold Creek Neighborhood Association of the Hearings Officer's decision to approve a Conditional Use Review for a 2-story, 52-bed Group Living facility and an Adjustment to the maximum building coverage on a property in the R10 zone (LU 22-106202 CU AD). This item was originally scheduled for 2:00 p.m. time certain.

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## Time Certain

756

[Direct the Office of Government Relations to collaborate with state and local partners in the pursuit of consistent criminal regulation of controlled substances in public and adequate resources for drug treatment](#) (Resolution)

**Document number:** 37632

**Introduced by:** Mayor Ted Wheeler; Commissioner Rene Gonzalez; Commissioner Mingus Mapps; Commissioner Carmen Rubio; Commissioner Dan Ryan

**Bureau:** Government Relations

**Time certain:** 2:00 pm

**Time requested:** 45 minutes (1 of 2)

**Disposition:** Adopted

**Votes:** Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea  
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea  
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea  
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea  
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

757

[\\*Amend Alcohol on Public Property and Public Rights of Way Code to add a provision that bans consumption of controlled substances in public subject to state law limitations \(amend Code Section 14A.50.010\)](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

**Document number:** 191445

**Introduced by:** Mayor Ted Wheeler; Commissioner Rene Gonzalez; Commissioner Mingus Mapps; Commissioner Carmen Rubio; Commissioner Dan Ryan

**Bureau:** Police

**Time certain:** 2:00 pm

**Time requested:** 45 minutes (2 of 2)

**Disposition:** Passed

**Votes:** Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea  
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea  
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea  
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea  
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

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**Thursday, September 7, 2023 2:00 pm**

**Session Status:** No session scheduled

**Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List  
September 6, 2023 - 9:30 a.m.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
Mayor Ted Wheeler	
Keelan McClymont	
Commissioner Rene Gonzalez	
Commissioner Mingus Mapps	
Commissioner Carmen Rubio	
Commissioner Dan Ryan	
Linly Rees	
Nic Cota	736
Paul Frazier	738
Juan Carlos Vildosola Covarrubias	739
Jeremy Smith	740
Sara Hobbs	741
Tyesha McCool Riley	741
Desiree Costello	741
Joel Michels	741
Courtney Gilmore	741
Michi Slick	743
Marcelino Alvarez	743
bRidgeCrAne siMChA—jOHnSoN	743
Wafa Almaktari	742
Trung Tu	751
Marc Poris	751
Juan Chavez	751
Dexter Pearce	751
Dave Ferro	752
Erika Nebel	747
Grant Morehead	747
Kiel Johnson	747
Cathy Tuttle	747
Tony Jordan	747
David Stein	747
Sarah Risser	747
Nicholas Flowers	747
Aaron Kuehn	747

Estelle Morley	747
Matt Zajack	747
Marc Poris	747
Mary Stewart	755
Walter Valenta	755

**Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List  
September 6, 2023 - 2:00 p.m.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
Mayor Ted Wheeler	
Keelan McClymont	
Commissioner Rene Gonzalez	
Commissioner Mingus Mapps	
Commissioner Carmen Rubio	
Commissioner Dan Ryan	
Naomi Sheffield	
Stephanie Howard	756, 757
Shah Smith	756, 757
Sharon Meieran	756, 757
Andrew Wilson	756, 757
Jeff Miller	756, 757
Shea Flaherty Betin	756, 757
Jose Cienfuegos	756, 757
Tony Vezina	756, 757
David Friedericks	756, 757
Adrienne Petta	756, 757
Jessie Burke	756, 757
stuart webster	756, 757
Edie Todd	756, 757
Richard Perkins	756, 757
KEITH WILSON	756, 757
Barbara Jacobsen	756, 757
Nathan Vasquez	756, 757
Jude al-Ghazal Stone	756, 757
Lauren Armony	756, 757
Steve Herring	756, 757
bridgecrane siMChA jOhnSoN	756, 757

## **Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File**

**September 6, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.**

This file was produced through the closed captioning process for the televised city Council broadcast and should not be considered a verbatim transcript. The official vote counts, motions, and names of speakers are included in the official minutes.

**Speaker:** Good morning, everyone. Welcome to Portland city hall. We have a pre gavel item. Commissioner Rubio.

**Speaker:** Thank you, mayor Wheeler. I appreciate everyone making the time this morning to recognize the tremendous work and contributions of an exceptional civil servant. Our interim director of Portland housing bureau, molly rogers, who is moving on from the city at the end of this week and stepping up to lead the Portland housing bureau. Who has who has stepped up to lead the Portland housing bureau on an interim basis last summer. And as many of you know, molly has accepted the position of director of housing services for Washington county. Molly, can you step up here, please, to the dais. So thankfully, our region will be able to benefit from her leadership and her expertise as and while we are incredibly excited for her and grateful for her time here, it's also a big loss to the city. Three of us on council have had the pleasure of serving as a housing commissioner during molly's time in the bureau, so i'll keep my remarks brief so that others can share. But but you should know that molly joined the bureau in 2019 as the bureau deputy director, where she worked alongside staff to help implement Portland's first affordable housing bond and voters trusted us with \$258 million to build affordable housing. And all of this was under molly's leadership and she has helped Portland live up to that promise. And with the last of those funds

allocated early, earlier this year, the bond is set to exceed that promised number of units by 43. And this is due to molly's leadership, and that is truly exceptional work. So thank you, molly, for that. Also numerous accomplishments. She's overseeing the implementation of Portland's 211 million allocation of the metro affordable housing bond, which is also on its way to exceeding its goals. She's also close financing deals to move many of those units into construction. Then she's overseeing the recap portion of the inclusionary housing program, which is very helpful in moving that program forward. She's helped us achieve our joint city county goal of creating 2000 new units of permanent supportive housing and she's also created, supported the co-creation of the new cully tif districts and the launch of exploratory work for future tif districts and advanced the affordable housing goals of the Broadway corridor and also has been instrumental in helping the north northeast housing strategy along with other key staff and all of these projects are huge lifts and there are hundreds of other smaller projects and decisions that get made each and every year. And there are far too many to mention. And the last few years have been incredibly challenging time in our city, and molly has really stepped up to deliver clear results. She demonstrated tenacity, professionalism and has been exceptionally effective in her time here. And I want to lift that up and that she has also led the bureau during a difficult time, not only in our city, but also transition in council and also in preparing for our next government form of government, and has kept a steady course that I know bureau employees and my office came to really depend on. And I know that she will bring all of those qualities to her next position. So molly, on behalf of our city, this council, our employees, I want to share a very heartfelt thank you for your dedication to expanding access to affordable housing citywide and your tremendous leadership and your work delivering to our community to our community on our commitments. So I wish you

all the best in your next chapter, and I want to give you some flowers on behalf of all of us.

**Speaker:** And then I know my colleagues have other things to say as well.

**Speaker:** Commissioner Mapps oh, thank you very much.

**Speaker:** And from here, we'll do the handoff first. Oh. Thank you, mr. Mayor.

Thank you, commissioner Rubio. Molly, I just want to join this council and the rest of the city for thanking you for your leadership and your service to our city. I also want to congratulate you on a job well done, and I'm awfully sad personally to see you move on from the city. But I wish you good luck in your next endeavors. And one of the things that we all know is true is that housing is a regional, if not statewide, challenge. And we need to continue to work together. So I'm glad that this city has a friend in Washington county, should you ever need this council, we will be there for you. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Commissioner Mapps. Commissioner Ryan. Sure.

**Speaker:** Good morning, molly. I know you well enough to know that this is a surprise that you're here right now with all these people. Yeah I can only so I know this must be highly uncomfortable for you, so let me just milk it a little bit more, because you deserve it. You're an amazing public servant. We were in a bind, and you were coming back from a much deserved holiday. And and we are reaching you and your stops in between international destinations. Would you consider being the interim bureau director and then you got home jet lagged and all 12 hours later and said, yes. And you never missed a beat. And I really appreciate how the tone shifted where we were able to hold the room in a different way. We were able to bring in different points of view. Democracy imagine that. And people actually were listening to each other and I really, really admired your ability to quietly, persistently lead and move the housing bureau to a much better place than it was

when you found it. For that, i'll always be grateful. Thank you so much, molly and best to you and Washington county. And I'm glad it's just really close by. Thank you so much.

**Speaker:** Well, i'll jump in as well. Thank you. Thank you. Not only as mayor. Thank you. Is as a resident of this community. You've done a fantastic job. You're emblematic of the great leaders we have amongst our 7000 employees. They don't get recognized, used often for the hard work they do. In fact, they're often chastised for being public servants. This is a difficult time to be a public servant and you stepped right into one of the most controversy able roles at one of the most challenging times in our city's history, when we desperately needed strong leadership around affordable housing. And as commissioner Rubio pointed out, case after case after case after case, you innovated, you were creative. You were thoughtful. You leveraged resources, you worked well with other bureaus. You worked well with other jurisdictions. And I believe you maximized the value of that position. An and I'm really grateful to you. You are the kind of public servant that we all aspire to be. Now first I have to say I was really off when I heard you were leaving. And then I thought about it and I came to the same conclusion that commissioner Mapps and commissioner Ryan came to, which is this is to everybody's benefit that you are going to Washington county. We cannot solve our affordable housing crisis here in Portland alone. We need to work as a region. In fact, all of our tools are regional with a metro bond and the other work that's going on in the legislature. So we need strong leaders all across the region. And having somebody that we know that we trust that we can count on in Washington county and you knowing that you can count on us and work with us and collaborate and leverage what resources we have here, I think it's a win win. So personally, I'm sorry to see you go professionally. I think it's awesome and I wish you all of the very best



in the years ahead. I know you've got a long runway ahead of you, so thank you for your service to the city of Portland.

**Speaker:** Thank you, commissioner Gonzalez, molly, thanks for enduring all my tedious questions about inclusionary zoning and market rate housing for those who don't pay attention closely.

**Speaker:** The city it's stepping up to the director's role is often high risk. It's sometimes you're putting your career at stake and the safe money is often in the assistant positions. So thank you for being willing to step up for the city of Portland when the city needed you. And good luck on what's next. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Do you want to say anything? You don't have to.

**Speaker:** I do feel very humbled and on the spot for sure. And I just wanted to express, though, my first deepest appreciation, mayor Wheeler, of working us with us on the initial framework of the bond. It set the stage for us to then we took a moment, but then we got to go lightning speed after that, commissioner Ryan, thank you for the opportunity to be the initial interim director under your leadership, you know, was not sure how it was all going to go, but I was thrilled that you had our back every step of the way. And we really felt that at the leadership level. And of course, commissioner Rubio, who I can't tell you how much we've really moved in the last eight months, it's been incredible ambitious housing policy and moving everything forward and just seeing how your level of leadership to respond to the urgent and emerging needs and laying the groundwork for the next set of pieces that we need to do with the new director here. So I just can't I just can't speak more about I just want to echo just let you know it's really the staff of php that are leading every day and stepping up and everyone has done an incredible amount of work and leadership over the last for this past year. I know, I

know. They have your support. Just would want to just make sure that they hear from you in this next phase because they are moving the needle on housing. So thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, molly. Thank you, commissioner ruby. All right.

**Speaker:** Good morning, everybody. This is the Wednesday, September 6th, 2023. Morning session of the Portland City Council. Keelan good morning. Please call the roll. Good morning.

**Speaker:** Gonzales here, maps here. Rubio here. Ryan I am here.

**Speaker:** I'm not on the zoom, obviously, we're having a technical difficulty here.

**Speaker:** Wheeler here and now we'll hear from legal counsel and the rules of order and decorum.

**Speaker:** Good morning.

**Speaker:** Good morning. Welcome to the Portland City Council to testify before council in person or virtually. You must sign up in advance on the council agenda at [Portland dot gov slash council slash agenda](http://Portland.gov/council/agenda) for information on engaging with City Council can be found on the council clerk's web page. The presiding officer preserves order and decorum during council meetings. The presiding officer determines the length of testimony. Individuals generally have three minutes to testify unless otherwise stated, a timer will indicate when your time is done. Disruptive conduct such as shouting, refusing to conclude your testimony when your time is up or interrupting others testimony or council deliberations will not be allowed. If you cause a disruption, a warning will be given further disruption will result in ejection from the meeting. Anyone who fails to leave once ejected, is subject to arrest for trespass. Additionally, council may take a short recess and reconvene virtually your testimony today should address the matter being considered when testifying. Please state your name for the record. Your

address is not necessary. Disclose if you are a lobbyist. If you're a represent an organization, please identify it for testifiers. Joining virtually. Please unmute yourself once the council clerk calls your name. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. First up is communications. First individual, please.

**Speaker:** Item 736 request of nick cota to address council regarding biking mode share and bureau of transportation committee minutes. Nick was going to join in person. Nick, are you here?

**Speaker:** Where are you? Okay. Come on down. He's just upstairs. He'll be here in a second. Did you get all set up? Dan yeah, I think it's happening.

**Speaker:** Have a comment. There we go. Thanks.

**Speaker:** Come on up, nick. Just sit in any of these seats? About six inches from the microphones, about the right distance. If you could just say your name for the record. Thank thank you. Thanks for being here.

**Speaker:** Yeah, thanks for your patience.

**Speaker:** Not a problem.

**Speaker:** Got up into the nosebleeds. Thanks again, dear city commissioners and mayor, thanks for letting us be here today. My name is nick cota. I'm the chair of bike loud pdx grassroots organization that focuses on supporting biking in Portland and looks to empower Portlanders to bike for that next trip. However hard we work as volunteers and how much we listen, we hear the same reasons over and over again about why the majority of Portlanders who are interested but concerned don't bike and that safety. And to be honest with you, even for a confident rider, as myself, I'm finding it harder and harder to convince Portlanders with the worsening conditions of our streets. As of today, we've had a record breaking 47 Portlanders killed on our roads in 2023. We're on target to surpass 2022, which is already the deadliest year on Portland's roads and at least 30 years. For comparison, even as of

today, we've had 26 gun related homicides in Portland. There were also 42 traffic fatalities at the end of 2016, when City Council adopted vision zero. Back then, a radical commitment to change how we see road safety. However radical we still find ourselves in the midst of an epidemic that has gone on way too long to ignore. We need, we deserve and demand that the City Council takes a holistic look at how we can all respond to this epidemic of traffic violence that impacts all Portlanders. I'm here today on behalf of bike loud and countless others to demand for things not at all an exclusive list of solutions. All these solutions have been outlined in more detail in a press release and a statement sent to all of your offices. First and foremost, our streets are failing us. We demand the city to respond to every crash with commitment to implement physical protection that protects our lives, number ones. No more paint. Physical protection. Each and every time. Second, Portland needs to fund programs that support the goals of vision zero instead of forcing pbob to cut those very programs and project projects that prioritize an equitable distribution of safety improvements, we demand fast tracking new revenue resources and not limiting them as you did last month, nor you have on the agenda to spend \$6 million on a parking garage. Security that was stripped from critical roadway safety projects. Third, we've heard the dilemma about procuring traffic cameras, but little to no insight has been provided to what is holding back cameras promise. Nearly five years ago, we demand that all of you use your positions as leaders to elevate this critical piece of de-policing traffic stops to state and federal agencies who can remove barriers to procuring these cameras every day. They're not out there is the day we risk another life. Lastly, it's not a secret. Our vehicles are getting larger and more dangerous. While there's no way to completely limit the size of vehicles permitted on Portland streets, we know the city can discourage their use with registration fees, parking permits tied to vehicle size, use your roles as

leaders to elevate this concern with federal regulators who can make these changes. I was going to address each of you specifically, but I'm going to be running out of time. Ultimately, I just want to say that the most inequitable action is your lack of action, allowing this harm to continue. Thanks for your time. 47 are dead. May they rest in peace. Thank you. Chief Lovell.

**Speaker:** What's next. What's the next individual piece?

**Speaker:** 737 request of Henry Path to address council regarding housing discrimination. Henry are you here? Henry. Henry was going to join in person. Henry Path.

**Speaker:** All right, well, if he shows up, we'll. We'll take him at the end. 738, please.

**Speaker:** Request of Paul Frazier to address council regarding budgets and traffic violence. Welcome thank you.

**Speaker:** Good morning, Mr. Mayor. Councilors, my name is Paul Frazier. He him? I have lived in Portland for ten years in the metro area for 21. I testified before you today as an employee resident and parent of two. My youngest child is six months old, so please give me grace if I miss policy change or update. This morning, you may have seen 100 people outside protesting wearing red. They're now joining us here today. This represents a diverse cross-section of Portlanders bike loud pdx 350 pdx families for safe streets and more. And why there's a diverse group of people and views we come together that we want safety. We want safety from cars from dangerous drivers, from oil change, oil trains. We want to feel safe in our city and we demand action from you. Now, I know these are hard times and I challenge you all to do more. Do we want to be an average city or do we want to be a great city? Do you want your time on council to go down where people are talking about you internationally, like a city like Paris, like Amsterdam? Or do we just want to be another city? That is your choice. 47 people have died this year. The reason I'm here

in front of you is I was motivated after a librarian was killed while waiting for a bus. As we are in a traffic safety emergency. This is bigger than commissioner Mapps. I appreciate leading pbot. All of you need to be out there. All of you need to be demanding action. We need physical protection. The little bike wands don't do anything. I rode by one that was laying on the street this morning and there's a video. It's graphic to watch. It was taken down. Someone got hit in a protected bike lane. You're not protected from some cars with plastic. So we need safety. We need to recognize, guys, the pent up demand that people want to do to bike, to walk, walk, to ride the bus. And we need to build infrastructure that matters, not send spending. \$6 million on a parking garage. I don't understand why we need parking garage security. I thought we paid for a police force. They now have a second plane. They have more new police cars. Can they drive up the parking garage and provide security? Why are we paying \$6 million to protect a parking garage? Also the funding for that is because, mr. Mayor, you pushed forward not raising parking fees, which was agreed on by policy that we should raise those parking fees because parking is at the cornerstone of our transportation crisis and climate crisis, because if you get rid of parking, you can increase other demands. So i'll end with a story which is Sunday parkways. I hope some of you have gone this year. I'd love to hear if you have and if you haven't, why not? You see people having so much fun. When I bike with my daughter there, it's amazing. Why? Because it's the only time of the year where we actually have a true protected bike network where you can bike and you don't have to worry about a cut through driver cutting off your daughter and you imagine even if we had that every day, how many more people could bike, could walk, could take the bus if they truly felt safe. So my final question is what are you all going to do about it now? And to set us up for the future ten years from now? Thank you. Item number 735 739.

**Speaker:** Next individual request of one.

**Speaker:** Carlos vildosola covarrubias to address council regarding zenith energy land use compatibility statement permitting process. Welcome thanks.

**Speaker:** Hello. My name is Juan and I live in Cathedral Park, one of the many communities in the blast zone of the oil trains that run through Portland. And I also like the bike loud folks. I'm here today fighting for public safety on our streets and our neighborhoods and I also want a city that's built for people, not for cars. Today I'm here because I learned that the city of Portland, Portland's approval of Zenith Lux, was a backroom deal. The approval of Senate Lux was a betrayal to us all, driven by corporate interests. The evidence is undeniable. I have nearly 1000 printed petition signatures here to deliver to you all from residents across Portland, urging you to cancel that dirty deal with Zenith. The city originally made the correct choice, and the night scene its first Lux application in August of 2021. And then you were influenced by corporate lobbyists and secretly orchestrated a second Lux approval with the company in the summer of 2022. There are public records that prove this, despite calls from 20 local groups to withdraw or modify the Lux, the city refused to reconsider. You have claimed consistency, yet internal communications prove a special process for Zenith. Political officials work in secrecy, collaborating with the company, even amidst ongoing litigation in the loud oil trains that keep me up at night, pose a clear danger to public health risk. Trucks include toxic chemicals released during the loading and transportation of fossil fuels and train derailment that can cause deadly explosions and leave behind residues containing heavy, heavy metals. Since Portland terminal is especially vulnerable to these hazards, given its location as determined by the Multnomah County office of sustainability and the city of Portland bureau of emergency management want a seismic risk study of 2021, which said that in the event of an earthquake, the resulting

environmental disaster would be on par with the 2010 bp deepwater horizon blowout in the gulf of mexico and the 2011 fukushima nuclear meltdown in japan. Even considering renewable fuels, raises skepticism. Um, electrification and decarbonization are true solutions, not mere rebranding. We shouldn't trade one risk for another. The neighbors of north Portland do not consent to bear their risk that the tank farms and oil trains pose for our communities. As for this, it's crazy to me. It's crazy to me that the people that have a say in the matter are completely shielded from the problem. Why would someone who's not affected by our afflictions like you all are have our best interests at heart? Why would you care about us? That's why you feel comfortable letting zenith and other oil companies get away with it. Because no matter what happens to the neighbors of north Portland, you will be safe and you will have plenty. So then what is the accountability of the City Council? Climate disasters are happening everywhere already. The upcoming climate strike will empower communities that seek to be freed from the fossil fuel industry. We grow continuously frustrated with the people in power and that leads us to think that we shouldn't act through intermed's theories, but instead act directly to change the world around us. Past individual item 743 requests.

**Speaker:** Excuse me.

**Speaker:** Excuse me, folks. Folks. No, no people. This is communications. This is when citizens get to speak who have signed up to speak as per the rules that were read at the beginning. Next individual, please. 740.

**Speaker:** We're listening.

**Speaker:** You're listening. Put your phone.

**Speaker:** Excuse me. If you don't stop interrupting, I'm going to clear the chamber. This is the opportunity for people who have signed up to speak to speak. You don't



get to shout over them. Next individual 740 request of jeremy smith to address council regarding a 32 hour workweek.

**Speaker:** Welcome.

**Speaker:** Thank you, jeremy, for being here.

**Speaker:** Good morning, mayor Wheeler. Commissioner Mapps. Commissioner Rubio. Commission gonzales and commissioner Ryan. My name is jeremy smith and I'm a resident of downtown Portland. I'm also a project manager for Portland state university's capital projects and construction department. Although I'm here today speaking in my own capacity only as a citizen of Portland, I've attended numerous City Council meetings, either in person or online, so it's a pleasure to be here today to speak to you. I'm here to advocate for an idea that I think will contribute to the long term sustainable success of our city. The 32 hour workweek, the 32 hour workweek is chanted by many as two radical of an idea to ever be implemented. We need to keep in mind that there was a time that the weekend as we know it now was also called radical in 1938, the fair labor standards act created the 40 hour workweek for 85 years, the American workweek has not changed. I think Portland is just the city to lead the nation in implementing the crucial next step in the labor rights movement. A 32 hour workweek would be for the same pay, same benefits and same output. Employers that have switched to a 32 hour workweek have seen increased engagement, higher quality work and increased productivity. As additionally, they've been able to attract better talent and retain them for longer. They've seen reduced stress and burnout, which can lead to fewer days taken as sick days and lower health care costs. There's also the added benefit of reduced overhead costs, fewer days in the office means less money spent on utility and office supplies. A 32 hour workweek allows workers one day to complete errands and chores, one day for rest and one day for whatever the hell we please.

An extra day off promotes general health and leads to better sleep, more exercise and stronger interpersonal connections. As the additional free time opens up copious opportunities to volunteer in our community and give back to the city the extra time off would also promote demand in sectors like tourism, entertainment and personal development, leading to economic diversification and resilience. It's one of the cheapest ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. 20% less commutes mean 20% less emissions before even considering the reductions, associate with less congestion and degradation of our transit infrastructure like was not meant to toil away for the rich. The 32 hour workweek, if implemented, would make Portland one of the most attractive cities in our nation to millennials and gen z, who are becoming increasingly disillusioned with capitalism. I believe the 32 hour workweek is not just a dream, but a viable, beneficial reality that we can achieve together. By embracing change, we can create a happier, healthier and more productive. Portland. Thank you for your time and I hope to hear your thoughts on implementing a 32 hour workweek in our city.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Appreciate your testimony today. Who. Did

**Speaker:** Did nick, did nick cota show up?

**Speaker:** Nick?

**Speaker:** I think nick was first.

**Speaker:** Oh, nick was who? Who was it who did not?

**Speaker:** Let's see. Henry path.

**Speaker:** Henry, are you henry path? Okay, great. Thank you for everybody on the communications. Have any items been pulled off the consent agenda?

**Speaker:** One item 747 747 has been pulled.

**Speaker:** Please call the roll on the remainder of the consent agenda.

**Speaker:** Gonzalez. Hi maps. Hi, Rubio hi, Ryan. Wheeler hi.

**Speaker:** Consent agenda is adopted time certain. 741 proclaims September 20th, 23 to be national suicide prevention awareness month.

**Speaker:** Colleagues, our first time certain item today is a proclamation recognizing September as national suicide prevention awareness month.

**Speaker:** I'll now pass this to commissioner Mapps to introduce our invited testimony. Commissioner Mapps.

**Speaker:** Thank you very much, mr. Mayor. Colleagues, I'd like to invite sarah hobbs up to give some invited testimony. Me on the item before us. We're about to hear the proclamation on national suicide. Come on, sarah, you can come up. Have a seat. Um, where is the moment?

**Speaker:** So I'm kind of winging it a little bit.

**Speaker:** Sure.

**Speaker:** And, sarah, it would be, if I may. Let me put this into context for everybody, especially those watching at home and in the gallery. We're about to hear a proclamation on national suicide prevention awareness month as those who have been around city hall for a while know, sarah has been a tireless advocate on behalf of mental health services and specific early suicide prevention services here in Portland for many, many years. Indeed, I think if you were to write the history of this proclamation, sarah would have to be one of the founding mothers or founding authors of the proclamation that we have before us today. I had the great privilege of working with her closely last year to bring this resource before council, and I'm delighted to see that this year it has become an institutionalized tradition. I want to thank mr. Mayor and thank h.r. For making this part of how we do business here in Portland. I'd like to invite sarah to offer can we do three minutes? Sarah just providing some context as to why this is important and with that, i'll hand the floor over to you. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you for the record, my name is sarah hobbs and I am a volunteer field advocate with the Oregon state chapter of the American foundation for suicide prevention.

**Speaker:** I've read the proclamation and it very clearly states the problem, and it states the fact that that suicide does affect everyone. One of the things, though, that my organization works on that was not mentioned in the proclamation is that services for our suicide prevention afsp go by the organization. Initials is the largest non-government mental funder of suicide prevention research research. We have trainings which I give you all some materials to talk about the training. One of our biggest areas is support services for suicide loss survivors as research has shown, due to issues of complex grief, suicide, those survivors themselves are at a 15% higher chance of dying due to suicide. And I left for you all a number of pieces of literature. This is one at and it lists on it the services fsp offers, but it is also also a poster I often say suicide prevention does not have to be scary. It can be something as simple if you have not heard from your friend, pick up the phone and say, hey, I haven't heard from you. I'm going to go do coffee or whatever. You know, they may like. I knew one time my friend was suicidal every day for three weeks I called and left a voice message, hey, thinking of you never once was a call returned, but after she got out of mental health treatment, she told me that there was phone calls made. Made the difference. The organizations, my motto is be the voice. Today and doing what you are doing here today in praying for the proclamation from human resources. Your are helping me be the voice for the city because I'm going to take this and say I've got four commissioners honors and a mayor and a city human resource department that is now speaking up. We need help. So yeah, be the voice even the little guys speaking up. So thank you. Thank you, sir. Thank you, sarah.

**Speaker:** That was amazing.

**Speaker:** And with that, mr. Brough, hand the program back to you.

**Speaker:** Very well, sarah, thank you as always for your advocacy. Now I'd like to welcome our staff presenters this morning. Taisha mccoool riley a mental health program specialist, and courtney gilmore, a city strong health and well-being program manager. Welcome thank you for being here. Good morning. Good morning. And I'm sorry, maybe my talking points weren't 100% complete, so feel free just to introduce yourselves as you come to the microphone. Thank you.

**Speaker:** I am taisha mccoool riley, mental health program specialist housed in the office of community and civic life. And i'll pass it over to you.

**Speaker:** Good morning. My name is desiree costello. She her pronouns. I am a coordinator and medical assistant on the occupation health and well-being team and a trained mental health first aid responder. Good morning.

**Speaker:** I'm joel michaels. I'm the city's occupational health and well-being program manager and the city's nurse practitioner.

**Speaker:** I'll go first. I'm here today to add my voice to the importance of preventing suicide through awareness and taking action to help someone that is contemplating ending their life. I have both profession and personal experience with suicide suicide touched me personally after I lost my beloved grandmother to suicide when I was 12 years old. I know firsthand how painful and devastating it is for that person's family and friends. From my work here at the city, I also know how disturbing suicide is for the coworkers of somebody who dies by suicide. I know from my work as a health care provider that seemingly simple actions like asking the question are you thinking about suicide? Were to bring life saving attention and support to someone who is in crisis and I also know from a professional perspective that while preventing suicide is of the utmost importance, when someone reaches that level of crisis, there are often opportunities leading up to

that point where addressing mental health and wellbeing sooner could have prevented the person from reaching the crisis level. Suicide is a late sign of mental illness, which is a treatable condition that need not reach the advanced stage of suicide. Often there are risk factors and warning signs that indicate someone may be in need of help. No knowing the risk factors like depression or prolonged stress exposure and recognizing the warning signs like changes in someone's appearance, behavior or work attendance can help identify somebody who may be contemplating suicide. In my five years with the city, the focus of our city strong wellness program remains finding ways to support the mental health of city employees, is proactively working to engage in support staff around mental health in an organization this size is a large undertaking. I am grateful that I was able to add courtney gilmore to my team four years ago, along with the recent addition of a temporary position for desiree and together we work closely with tasha mccall riley within the adaptive impact program on our common goal of directing messaging training and resources to support those who need help. I have heard you, mayor Wheeler, and this City Council proclaim that we as a city value the mental health and well being of our citizens, including city staff and your continued support is important and meaningful. I'd like to point out that as we work to implement the charter reform and consider ways to restructure the city, we will have opportunity to center and support the mental health and well-being of city employees so that we are better able to deliver the programs, services and outcomes that our community expects. Please watch for upcoming training opportunities to learn more about suicide prevention. Mental health first aid peer support, de-escalation and improving your own emotional intelligence. Else. I wish that someone could have reached my grandmother when she got to that point when she needed help. Perhaps this is why I've committed my career to helping

others facing their health challenges. Please continue to support our employee focused occupational health and well-being program so that we get the permanent staff and resources we need to do our important work and reach those that need us most. Those with mental health challenges who have progressed to feeling suicidal. Thanks. Thank you, joel.

**Speaker:** As mentioned, I work on the occupational health and well-being team. I relish my work as both an advocate and liaison connecting our employees to the resources for both their physical and mental well-being. To that end, I am here today to share a statement from another employee group, the bureau of environmental services employee support committee was unable to send a representative to speak today, so I thank you for allowing me to share on their behalf with the employee support committee is an all volunteer group of bureau employees who dedicate time to supporting our fellow bureau members through the challenges that come with working for the city of Portland. Public employment has always come with a degree of difficulty. Given the high level of scrutiny we operate under. But we have faced unprecedented challenges over the past few years and the uncertainty and change are far from over. For the current city culture and climate in, we must work within our stressful, emotionally, psychologically, mentally and physically for our employees. And the challenges ahead will tax an already overburdened workforce as the city's policy setting body leadership is complicit in the prevalence of mental health factors our employees face. And it is the responsibility of leadership to invest in person centered, anti-racist, equitable policies, programs and cultural change that will meaningfully improve conditions for city workers. The work of the all volunteer employee support committee, in collaboration with the modestly resourced city's mental health program with taisha and the city's strong well-being program, our important first step in daylighting and

beginning to address the mental health related struggles city workers face. But it is far from sufficient. We encourage you to invest more meaningfully in the healthy, thriving workforce we deserve and will need to meet our goals for a healthy, thriving Portland. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Good morning.

**Speaker:** As I stated earlier, I am the mental health program specialist and I'm the one and only mental health program specialist that services the whole city workforce. I live, breathe, eat, sleep, mental health. I am constant advocating and giving a voice to the voiceless. I am constantly really promoting wellness and how we center the well-being of ourselves, our of our community at large. And so with that, we didn't get a chance earlier. But I did want to actually give an activation warning because if we are to acknowledge our humanness in this space and those who are listening and those who are present, we must acknowledge that this is a sensitive topic and it can cause us to feel and reflect and to think about certain things and we may need to pause for a cause and take care of ourselves, even in this moment. And so I encourage anyone that is feeling activated to take the time that you need to breathe, to ground yourself and to process what it is that you are experiencing in this moment. And so today I sit before you along with my colleagues, acknowledging the everlasting, profound impacts of attempted suicide and completed suicide. As we discussed this sensitive, yet relevant topic that many of us may be able to relate to or have been impacted by. Let us please pause, pause and honor of those who have died by suicide and. Suicide is a topic that must be brought out of the darkness. Yes, in order to save lives as suicide is a leading cause of death among working age adults in the us, with far reaching social, emotional and economic consequences. It is important for employees and others in positions of responsibility and the workplace to put in place measures to promote the good



mental health of their employees and to have a place for supporting employees and their colleagues with mental health challenges, or who may be at risk of suicide. Promoting mental health and wellness in the workplace will not only support suicide prevention, but also increase productivity and well-being among workers and foster a thriving community. We increasing awareness creates space to share stories of recovery resilience meaning making and support to create a more powerful and humanize the realities related to suicide and its impacts. Preventing suicide is often possible, and you are a key player in its prevention. Through action, you can make a difference to someone in their darkest moments. We heard earlier about how a simple phone call, how a simple acknowledgment of a person, how a smile or how a question of how are you, how can I how can I support you? We can all play a role in supporting those experiencing a suicidal crisis or those be bereaved by suicide, by encouraging, understand saying reaching in and sharing experiences. We want to give people the confidence to take action on to prevent suicide requires us to become a beacon of light to those in pain in such a dark place and I will close with two poems. The first one reads pain is not a competition. There are no winners when it comes to suffering. We are all in this together, in this growing and in this recovery. We and the other reads, you are not your illness, not your trauma wounds or hurt. You are not defined by the pain in your mind. You are illness. Second, and human first. Thank you for listening today. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Good morning. My name is courtney gilmore and I am the city strong health and well-being program manager for your for the internal wellness program for all city employees. I will be reading a statement from carol starkey from the water bureau and 2018 parks and recs safety manager barbara arjun and I created created the first aid council where each bureau is represented by training

coordinators and first aid instructors. As far retired in November of 21, 2021, making me the training center administrator for first aid cpr ed program citywide. Tasha michael riley was a special guest at the a first aid council meeting to share her program, mental health first aid training curriculum. Her overview identified how mental health first aid equips employees with skills and tools needed to recognize and respond to a coworker's mental health challenge or their own. Similar to his first aid, cpr ed programs for medical emergencies. These two programs are extremely complementary. During the pandemic, we saw mental health dwindle. Both both personally and collectively. We knew mental health first aid program is something we could leverage using the existing training platform. This was going to become a huge part of how we come back together and move forward in a healthy and supportive way, a way of making mental health a priority in the workplace would be training all employees from managers, supervisors and staff. Our first aid council instruct others have committed to becoming mental health first aid instructors to arm employees with tools, skills and potentially assist or minimally recognize someone in a mental health crisis as we serve as the constituents of the city of Portland and we share in the struggle our field and office crews have public facing roles and represents the city daily and the ever changing environment in the city of Portland, our employees need to know they are support id, and one simple way is by receiving these tools and skills as on a personal note, my daughter began to talking about suicide, about killing herself and the and since may of 2020 and has told me when she does it, it's not my fault just to know. And November of 2021, my best friend committed suicide. She died by suicide. Our kids were born nearly the same time and grew up best friends. My friend's death was horrific and devastating. Her death left me grieving and in so much pain. It was hard for me to hold a thought and overhearing my sister overhearing me telling my

sister, I believe angela is in peace now. My daughter wanted to know why I was trying so hard to save her life. If I believe suicide. So much suicide is so much better than hearing the words as trying to make some sense or find some explanation for her death by suicide. This was mistaken as I was pro suicide and increase her want and need to. In March of 2023. My daughter's best friend attempted death by suicide and had to go away for a while to seek treatment. Me sure. I'm fine. I got this. But i. I think I'm fine working and that balancing my home life is something I have never. Experienced before. For the last three years, I've had to help hold my breath going into my daughter's room each and every morning, a sigh of relief to find her alive. And then an immediate shift to begin homeschooling her via laptop. The best I can. I did not recognize myself while while doing whatever it took to get her through her mental health challenges and crisis. I was starting to have dark thoughts myself. My mental health deteriorated while putting my self care aside to monitor my daughter's mental health upon realizing this, I started my own mental health recovery regimen with the same vim and vigor that I have for my daughter. I meditate twice a day and allowed myself time to do so as a priority. Recognizing recognition of our situation has forced conversation, actions and healing for all of us together. Personally and professionally. I feel we are turning the corner. In part, I give credit to recognizing my daughter's situation and my own daunting thoughts from numerous venues. I avail myself to continue to learn, grow and become more aware of my own mental health status. Day to day, including taking the mental health first aid class. Our employees have experienced significant loss personally. Friends, family members and coworkers. In addition to the loss across our community plus mental and emotional stress associated with everything else going in our lives. Losses include many causes of death, including covid 19. More motor vehicle collisions, success, full suicide. However, whether a friend dies by suicide or

even attempt to take their own life, the loss and personal sacrifice takes it an extreme toll. Again, mental health first aid curriculum would be would go a long way in curbing the impact of daily bouts of stress of our employees. We need and appreciate any support you will give. Thank you. Respectfully, carol starkey, Portland water bureau safety and training coordinator for wellness and ergonomic coordinator and the public outreach and mayor's youth program. Thank you, courtney.

**Speaker:** And does that complete the presentation?

**Speaker:** That's it.

**Speaker:** Great. Thank you very much. I'll take this opportunity to open it up for my colleagues to make some comments before I read the proclamation. An commissioner Mapps.

**Speaker:** Thank you, mr. Mayor. I want to start off by thanking taisha, courtney, desiree and joel for today's presentation. Mr. Mayor, I would also like to thank you for bringing this resolution forward. And sarah, I want to recognize you for your advocacy on behalf of suicide prevention awareness month here in Portland, Oregon. I truly believe that we would not be here today if it weren't for your long career of trying to make Portlanders healthy. And I also want to say this, colleagues. I am proud to join you in proclaiming September to be suicide prevention awareness month. Here in Portland, Oregon, during this month, we reaffirm our commitment to educating our friends, family and neighbors about suicide prevention resources. Now Portland needs suicide prevention awareness month. Now now, more than ever.

**Speaker:** Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. In 2022, for example, 889 Oregon men died from suicide. And in fact, suicide is the leading cause of death for Oregonians between the ages of ten

and 24. But it does not have to be this way. There is help, and you can get help by calling the national suicide prevention lifeline at nine, eight, eight. If you need that resource. I sure hope that you will pick up the phone and reach out for help. And with that, mr. Mayor, i'll turn the floor back to you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, commissioner Mapps. Commissioner gonzales.

**Speaker:** Unfortunately, suicide has had an impact on too many of us. I'm grateful for this proclamation and for our city employees. Speaking up. Support those in need to remind us about the importance of checking in on the mental well-being of those closest to us. Much like the way we checked in on the physical health of our closest friends and loved ones during the darkest days of the pandemic. Let's recommit to doing the same on the mental well-being of our friends, family and neighbors too many of us felt isolated and alienated during the pandemic. Too many of us still feel isolated and alienated today. While it's deeply personal and difficult subject to discuss this, it's incumbent on us to confront this challenge with courage. But the answer doesn't just rest with one person. It's all of us. It's a community. It's truly a team effort to listen and to nurture and bring positive tivity to those in our lives suffering the most and often in silence. So this month, let's remember those we have lost to this incredibly difficult challenge. Let's remember those at risk this month as the days grow shorter, the rain and low light returns. Let's commit to checking in routinely against those closest to us. And let's do all our part to save life, to celebrate it and help those struggling with whatever it may be to understand what truly being a community looks like. Thank you, commissioner gonzales.

**Speaker:** Thank you, commissioner Rubio.

**Speaker:** Thank you, mayor, and thank you for bringing this proclamation forward.

**Speaker:** And to taisha and courtney, does a ray joel and sarah and all the other guests that are here today, mental illness and suicide touches everyone and every family as we've heard. And I can assure you, if you don't think that your your folk, your people have been impacted within your own friends and family circle, you're wrong. This conversation in this topic is a hard one to talk about with family and friends, but it's very important. One to have, and especially when it comes to our loved ones and paying attention in. So this is why the help is so important. And as we've heard today in both of your stories and your testimony, human connection dialog and education, they're all vital, vital parts of prevention. And I'm so glad to know that our city encourages people to prioritize, ties their well-being and to practice self-care and to center mental wellness. And I agree, we are already under equipped for today's needs. So I hear that. But just I want to say to each of the staff and the advocates and organizers, thank you for the difference that you're making and for working very hard to change the trend that we're on.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Mr. Rubio. Commissioner Ryan. Yeah

**Speaker:** Thank you, mayor, and thank you, presenters. Sarah hobbs, thank you for your leadership. Thank you so much. Taisha thank you and I really appreciate the moment of silence. We all needed that. Joel. Desiree and courtney, you all just gave such great testimony and we all needed it. It's an understatement to say society is dealing with many heavy issues right now. Global boiling gun violence, record overdoses, the future can feel so uncertain for so many, and that can be really scary. Okay. Everyone can agree on that. But of late, I've been interested specifically in the nexus where suicide meets drug overdose deaths added to my usual list of suicide concerns for children and youth who are not cisgender or mainstream sexual identity. I've been focused on that for decades. And then the uptick of teens and young adults are also seen as spike towards suicide. And

personally, I reflect on my dear cousin don martin's and a friend I assumed I would grow old with rachel mueller, who were both living what appeared to be very successful, even celebrated lives and they took their lives since then. I know now that you really never know what's going on with someone, even when you are close to them. In my own brother, mark, timothy Ryan, who took a longer, slower path via drugs addictions, the truth is, many of us, many of the same mental health issues that increase the risk for suicide, such as depression, anxiety also increase the vulnerability to addiction. Mental health can be terminal and drug and alcohol addiction are also terminal. It's a slow death and it too often ends in suicide. For example, in 2022, Oregon saw 522 suicides. According to the Oregon health authority. The same year saw 1161 people die from drug overdoses. How many of those could be categorized as suicide? It's so important that we as leaders, as coworkers, as family members and as friends learn to give each other grace, love and respect. And to tell the truth. Today, it's important that we embrace our commonalities as mental health and suicide does not discriminate. We all must do our best not to go from isolation to connection. We as leaders must work with the county, the local revenue stream for most services and offer early intervention in mental health, education, access to resources and other community based, wraparound support for our friends and neighbors, maybe even for ourselves. This pain can be temporary. In our connection, we can survive painful episodes. The support and love we share with one another is a lifetime goal.

**Speaker:** Thank you, commissioner Ryan. First of all, I want to thank our testifiers testify. Sarah, as always, thank you for your great leadership up side note I love baby yoda. It was great to have a baby yoda sighting.

**Speaker:** Thank you, joel and desiree taisha courtney.

**Speaker:** Thank you for your leadership. Courtney, thank you for sharing the letter with us. And sharing really explicit detail as well as specific strategies. I think it's really important for people to hear that specifically, we and I know that all of you are very close to this issue, so I know it's hard for you too. So thank you for doing that. Suicide awareness prevention month is necessary because it forces the conversation into the public arena. Let's be honest, we wouldn't be talking about this in public here today, but for suicide awareness prevention month. And this is being replicate all over the country and it's very, very important that that as a society, we acknowledge that we have a problem with suicide. And as my colleagues and as our testifiers indicated today, suicide is the last stage of other far more prevalent issues around depression and abuse is and addiction, poverty and other other afflictions that are widespread in our community and my final comment before I read the proclamation is we learn we need to learn how to be a community again. We need to learn how to be a society again. Social media is not a community. It does not create connections or society is now somebody going to say, well, it could. Yeah, of course it can. But really we need to connect again as individuals and see each other as people not as obstacles to be removed and or people who we disagree with to be steamroll old or insulted or dehumanized. We need to actually be a community where we can agree to disagree, where we can have the competition of ideas is where we can respect each other, care for each other, check in on each other, and ask the basic question that sarah had started us off with, which is, how are you doing? And actually having some meaning behind the question. So sarah, thank you for, for highlighting that particular example. I thought it was really important, so I'm just grateful we're here. This is not an uplifting subject, but it's an extremely important one. I'm glad we're taking this time to reflect now on behalf of the council, the proclamation, and I want to thank



everybody, our city employees, for helping to draft this proclamation. Whereas the city of Portland affirms that national suicide prevention awareness month promotes awareness of the importance of tending to our mental health as it's essential and acknowledges that those living with mental health disabilities are deserving of care. Understanding compassion and pathways to hope. Healing, recovery for fulfillment and inclusivity. And. Whereas, when mental well-being is centered in promoted, the risk of suicidality is decreased and. Whereas, September was first declared as national suicide prevention awareness month in 2008, in the years since then, September has been a time to acknowledge those affected by suicide and raise awareness and connect individuals with suicide ideation to treatment and support services. As needed. Whereas according to the cdc, each year, more than 41,000 individuals die by suicide, leaving behind family, friends, colleagues and community members to navigate the traumatic impacts of their loss. And. Whereas, in 2021, more than 48,000 people died by suicide in the united states, equaling approximately one death every 11 minutes or 12.3 million adults seriously thought about suicide 3.5 million adults made a plan and 1.7 million adults attend attempted suicide provision. Cdc data shows that the number of suicide deaths in 2022 is the highest it ever recorded. And. Whereas suicide is a serious public health problem that can have lasting harmful effects on individuals, families and communities, as there are many factors that contribute to suicide. The goal of suicide prevention is to reduce factors that increase risk and increase factors that promote resilience. And. Whereas, suicide risk has become a more significant concern over the past few years as we navigated a global pandemic adjusted to a so-called new normal, experienced, complex trauma loss and grief, and endured increased isolation, unemployment and many other distressing life events. And. Whereas, the city of Portland emphasizes the importance of all

employees and community taking time to center themselves and do the things necessary to prioritize their mental well being and encouraging staff and community to refuse all ourselves through utilizing tools, education and resources offered enabled us to practice self care as well as center mental wellness. And. Whereas the city of Portland supports suicide prevention awareness as an important social movement to help people with mental health, disability understand that they are not alone in their experience raising suicide prevention awareness can help create understanding, create access to resources is promote awareness, and it's essential to intervening and potentially saving lives. And. Whereas we all need to feel empowered, confident and competent to be the ones to reach out, when somebody we know is in crisis, the suicidal state can be very complex and that makes connecting to someone differ occult. But by increasing awareness s and promoting the need for support court, we can have an impact act if we can connect with someone in crisis, we can help save a life. Now. Therefore, I ted Wheeler, mayor of the city of Portland, Oregon. The city of roses, do hereby proclaim September 2023 to be national suicide prevention awareness month in Portland and encourage all people to join us in increasing our knowledge and providing support to those in need to save lives, not just in the month of September, but every day. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Thank you, sarah.

**Speaker:** Thank you. It's been a long time coming, but it came. Thank you. You basically serve on the same. It just takes everybody reaching out, seeing if something sits a little off. I appreciate what I've read.

**Speaker:** I have a neighbor that I know they're struggling within their hair.

**Speaker:** And when the care of their hair, it's not being addressed.

**Speaker:** The studs had the to be hard, but this is a story you all have been the voice today. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Right back at you, sir. Thank you. We're going to slightly switch up the time certain agenda here, commissioner Rubio has a hard out coming up and she has a relatively short item. So if there's no objections, I'd like to move seven, four three to the next time certain slot, please. This is a report, a point mitchy slick and marceline alvarez to the prosper Portland board for terms to expire September 5th, 2026. Let's see. I'm pleased today to announce my joint recommendation with commissioner Rubio to nominate mitchy slick and marcelino alvarez to new three year terms, serving on the prosper Portland board of commissioners. As you can see in their bios and statements of interests, both mitchy and marcelino are leaders in real estate development and small business, and they have distinct records of public service. My team and I have been have had the privilege of working with mitchy and marcelino regarding affordable housing office conversions, sustainable businesses and driving inclusive economic growth in our city. And now I will turn this over to commissioner Rubio to introduce our appointees, commissioner Rubio thank you, mayor.

**Speaker:** I'm very excited and proud today to nominate with you two new exceptional members to serve on the prosper Portland board of commissioners. This is a critical time to continue strong leadership on the prosper Portland board. And in April, this City Council advanced Portland, a call to action to build a more inclusive, prosperous, competitive and future ready city focused on economic growth while advanced Portland is a citywide strategy that relies on other public private and nonprofit partners. Prosper Portland will play an important leadership role in implementing this five year strategy. We will not achieve racial equity or climate action goals without economic growth. And to be robust and durable and

permanent, that growth must take a racially inclusive and climate climate focused approach. Both the mayor and I believe that these two individuals, mitchie and marcelino, have demonstrated the leadership values, work, experience and volunteer service to guide prosper Portland through a pivotal period of our city's future. And we are thrilled that they are willing to step up for our city. With that, I'd like to invite mitchie and marcelino to say a few words. So welcome mitchie and marcelino.

**Speaker:** Thank you for being here. Okay, good morning.

**Speaker:** Thank you for having me here. I'm honored to be considered for the prosper Portland board. I currently serve as principal of development for Keelan pacific, which is a local regional developer and property owner for our commitment to Portland is unwavering and our continued investments in our projects here are a testament to our belief in what Portland is and what it can be. The opportunity to collaborate with prosper Portland resonates strongly with me. It is my aspiration to help translate the council's advance Portland vision into tangible action, resulting in a more inclusive future for our community. Thank you for your consideration and for considering me to serve on the prosper Portland board. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Hi everyone. Commissioners. Mr. Mayor, I'm marcelino alvarez, ceo of photon marine. We're a climate tech company that's focused on the electrification of small commercial boat fleets. Prior to that, I was a member of the startup community building software and products for innovation teams and before that, what brought me to Portland was a career in advertising. Where I came out here to work at wyden and kennedy. I've been at Portland since 2006 and I've been working with prosper Portland from the pdc era since 2013 on various initiatives from increasing diversity in technology businesses to helping our neighborhood association encourage small businesses to move to the neighborhood and be part

of the community. It is an honor to be considered for the prosper Portland board to contribute to the conversations that are going to help shape the city's future. I really appreciate the consideration and look forward to being part of the dialog and the conversations that will shape the city for years to come. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thanks, marcelino.

**Speaker:** Anybody have any questions? Commissioner Mapps. Nope. Nope very good. Do we have public testimony on this item?

**Speaker:** Oh, I'm sorry. We have one person signed up. All right, rich crane, simca johnson. Welcome thank you.

**Speaker:** Good morning. I'm rich crane, simca, charles johnson, and I'd like to thank you for making the necessary changes right now. If y'all were to take a moment and go to the website pdc dot us slash dash about us, about dash us. Sorry, but I'm grateful that the currently so far the it staff at prosper Portland still keeps the old short website going. If you look at the pictures there now now you'll see they have the same problem as y'all. It's currently five dudes and a woman so I'm glad to see some progress on real diverse city and inclusion. I think. I don't know, maybe in the further remarks we'll talk about what the city charter and the various regulations specify as the minimum and maximum size for the prosper Portland board. But I think that what that group of five pictures means, plus these two awesome younger people joining is hopefully we'll have a board of seven in and we'll have two women and six guys. Then so. Various times different appointments to different boards have kept me extra puzzled. I still don't know how back in in the 20 teens as we put a former prosecuting attorney from michigan on on the independent police review board. But there's been a lot of changes there. And of course, that's transitioning eventually to a different form of police accountability based on what, like 80% of the voters asked for. But whoever vetted

these candidates and searched for them. Thank you. I look forward to a unanimous vote and also, I think while we're doing a good job of having ethnic racial diversity on the board, it's always a little bit schismatic for me to come here where I'm trying to remember for a while we had two women council members and then tomorrow be cross and have a woman power, female power board of county commissioners for some reason making \$40,000 less than y'all for some another time. I'll come back and talk maybe about why the 12 people who will sort of replace y'all really don't need \$130,000 in the way that that goal does not serve for democracy, but it does motivate the heck out of you all to come and run against more, especially those of you who are having your terms cut short by the choices people made to try and reform the charter and hopefully result in a more democratic, progressive, constructive city that does the same goals that prosper. Portland has thanks, y'all. Thank you.

**Speaker:** I need a motion to accept the report. Commissioner Mapps moves. Can I get a second? Second? Commissioner Ryan seconds. Any further discussion on the report? Seeing none, please call the roll.

**Speaker:** Gonzalez Mapps.

**Speaker:** I want to thank these excellent candidates for stepping up to serve on this important committee. Vote I Rubio I want to again thank mitchie and marcelino for being willing to serve during this time of need for the city and help us steward and build our vision for economic recovery for our city and excited to see your influence on the work of the commission.

**Speaker:** I vote i.

**Speaker:** Ryan yes. Michi first of all, thank you so much for stepping up. I've always enjoyed my dialog with you and thank your colleague adam for knowing once again that killian pacific is such a community asset. By leaning in and providing some civic

leadership for us as well. We really need you and marcelino. I haven't had a chance to have many conversations with you, but I'm just thrilled with your bio and excited that you said yes, this is a great slate. Good work. Commissioner Rubio. I vote aye.

**Speaker:** Wheeler super happy with meechie and marcelino.

**Speaker:** Thank you both for stepping up. And kimberly, thanks for your great leadership. I didn't realize you were sitting there. I should have acknowledged you kimberly branam the director of prosper Portland. Thank you for stepping up and being willing to serve your community. I know you're both very, very busy people as it is already, but extremely well qualified for the task at hand. And so I'm personally grateful to you. And I vote I the reports accepted and the appointments are approved. Thank you. Next item, back to 742, please proclaim September eighth through the 15th, 2023 to be 2023.

**Speaker:** Welcoming week colleagues, this is a proclamation.

**Speaker:** Our second proclamation this morning recognizes as Keelan just said, September 8th through 15, as welcoming week 2023. And now i'll pass this over to commissioner Ryan, who's introducing this proclamation and this morning's presenters, commissioner Ryan, good morning again. Yes thank you, mayor, and thank you for joining us today to recognize immigrant and refugee Portlanders as an important part of our beautiful city as commissioner overseeing the office of community and civic life, I'm pleased to join my City Council colleagues at proclaiming September eighth through the 15th of 2023 to be welcoming week.

**Speaker:** This is the third year that civic life has joined communities and municipalities across the nation and recognizing the importance of building safe, inclusive and welcoming spaces for immigrant s and refugees. Portal island's immigrant and refugee communities bring their whole selves to our communities and they make our city stronger and more interesting. They are our family, our

friends and our neighbors. While welcoming week is a celebration, it's also a time to reflect on how far our community still needs to go to stop bias and hate crimes against those that are perceived to be different from us. In the last 14 months alone, there have been at least three attacks on people of asian heritage in Portland city. Core this behavior is absurd and must stop. A welcoming week will not solve these attacks, but it can do is showcase how our city embraces all Portlanders. Regardless of their immigration status, their race, their ethnicity, place of origin, their language, their income, or any other factors. Please come show your support and build community with our immigrant and refugee neighbors by attending some of the many welcoming week events happening between September eighth and 15th. These events include art showcases, cultural and dance performances, resource info sessions. It doesn't list it here, but also some really good food, cultural and dance performances, info sessions. Okay, community discussions. And they're all open to all Portlanders and you can find this complete list on civic life's website. I want to thank civic life's immigrant and refugee program coordinator coordinator wafa al and also advisory bodies program coordinator, ocean. Are they both here? Yeah hi. There you are. Ocean thank you. I also want to extend my gratitude to the many community partners participating in this year's events, including the lutheran community services northwest. The Oregon department of justice, the immigrant story and saw immigrant legal services together. Let's show the world that Portland is a place where everyone is welcome and feels like they belong. I want to turn this over to our our people from civic life, starting with. Who goes first for me. All right, go for it. Take it away.

**Speaker:** Good morning, mr. Mayor. Good morning, commissioners. My name is wafa al mokhtari. I am the immigrant refugee coordinator. I'm here to present more information about welcoming week 20, 20 2023 under the office of community and



civic life. Welcome week was established by the nonprofit welcoming America and the city of Portland is a proud member of welcoming network initiative of welcoming America is a global network of nonprofit organizations. Us government members who are working to create more immigrant friendly environments. National welcoming week is an annual event designed to bring together immigrants, refugees and us born citizens. This week long celebration creates community connections and shows that creating welcoming and inclusive places can build collective prosperity. The benefits of welcoming me that we have seen for the past two years is it supports in building, building a sense of community. It elevates a spirit of unity, increases Portland's commitment as a sanctuary city, strengthens connections between newcomers and long term residents, strengthens community engagement with different city bureaus, and it showcases services program aims that different organizations and initiatives serve our immigrant refugee community. Welcoming week will start by the opening ceremony Friday, September 8th, from 5 to 8 p.m. It will take place at ventura park, southeast. There is about 29 plus organizations non profit and associations who will be presenting their programs and services and will be tabling. There is about 77 represented who will be tabling at the event to serve our community is there's going to be cultural performances like commissioner Ryan said. And there is about five vips who will come and speak the word and show their support to the immigrant refugee community. In one of them is senator jeff merkley. Following the opening week ceremony. We have a whole week of events planned. I can talk about the events all day and I'm very excited for them. I want to highlight one event that is going to happen on Wednesday here at city hall. It's going to be the immigrant story. It's going to be from 4 p.m. To 6 p.m. Where three amazing speakers will come and will speak from the heart about their journey as immigrants and refugees here in

Portland. And then another event that I want to highlight is in collaboration with neighbors west northwest. It's going to be at pioneer square from 4 to 6 p.m. We look forward for welcoming week and community and civic life looks forward into creating a more immigrant friendly environment and thank you so much for your time today. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Okay. I think that's it. All right. Anything else from the two of you?

**Speaker:** That's it. All right.

**Speaker:** Thank you so much.

**Speaker:** Questions I can answer all questions.

**Speaker:** Thank you. I know all definitely have some comments. Commissioner Mapps, thank you, mr. Mayor.

**Speaker:** And thank you, commissioner Ryan, for bringing this item forward. I want to say this and thanks for staff for that excellent presentation on. I am delighted to join this council and declaring September 8th through September 15th, 2023 to be welcoming week here in Portland, Oregon. Now, as we've heard since 2015, Portland has honored our immigrant and refugee friends and neighbors by designating a week in September to be welcoming week. Now welcoming week serves many purposes. For example, the welcoming week is a celebration of Portland's immigrant and refugee communities. In addition, welcoming week is a challenge to every Portlander to do what we can to help our city be a welcoming place to new Portlanders and welcoming week is a reminder that except for native Americans, as we are all immigrants to this land that we love this year, welcoming week resonates deeply because today more than 82 million people around this globe are refugees adrift, not looking for a place to call home. They come from places like syria and venezuela and south sudan and myanmar and the democratic republic of congo and somalia and afghanistan. And ukraine. And this welcoming

week, Portland and braces and welcomes them all. Now this year's welcoming week, as we've heard, includes many different events, including opening ceremonies on September 8th and ninth at ventura park. And we will also have an immigrant and refugee art exhibit right across the street at the Portland building on September 11th. And of course, one of my favorite annual events that's part of this welcoming week is citizenship day, which will take place on September 15th at six cascade campus. Now, I encourage every Portlander to participate in those events and join this council and making Portland a community that welcomes all which is why I am glad to vote I on this resolution. Thank you, mr. Mayor. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Commissioner Mapps.

**Speaker:** Commissioner Rubio.

**Speaker:** Thank you, mayor Wheeler and commissioner Ryan for bringing this important proclamation forward. And thank you for the great presentation and reminder of how important this event is and how connected nationally we are to other people during this same time as a daughter and granddaughter of immigrants, this proclamation is personally meaningful to me. Our immigrant and refugee communities contribute. So much to our city's economy, to our culture, to our leadership and the vibrancy in so many ways often go unseen or unacknowledged. And so this is an opportunity to talk about and show how we all belong here and we all contribute route. So this week and every week, we owe it to each other to continue to be a city that supports, you know, this includes foods. Everyone lifts up and represents everyone who chooses to live here. And so that's why I really, really appreciate the spirit and the sentiment of this week. And so I just want to thank you for your important work. It's so important. It signals us externally. What we're about as a city and what our values are. So thank you so much. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, commissioner Rubio, commissioner Gonzalez.

**Speaker:** Portland's welcoming week is an occasion to wholeheartedly celebrate the immense value of diversity that immigrants bring to our city. It's time to recognize the enriching chapters tree of culture, languages and traditions that contribute to our communities. Vibrancy in the spirit of inclusiveness, inclusivity, we must actively promote a welcoming environment by ensuring access, access to language services and vital resources regardless, regardless of one's background. This means making essential information readily available and fostering a sense of belonging for all residents. Additionally as we commemorate welcome in week, let's emphasize the importance of civic engagement and advocacy, particularly in supporting immigrant rights and working collaboratively with government and organizations to build a stronger and more unified community. We bienvenidos a Portland, and it's also worth shouting out the many organizations missions in our diverse communities, including the division midway alliance and ecumenical ministries of Oregon for the work they do supporting immigrants and refugees in the city of Portland. Please check out all the events this week. As mentioned, previous and on the city of Portland website. Thank you so much.

**Speaker:** Thank you, commissioner. Commissioner Ryan.

**Speaker:** Yes. Mayor do you want me to go ahead and start reading the proclamation?

**Speaker:** Yeah, why don't you go ahead any comments you want to make and the proclamation and then i'll jump in at the end. Got it.

**Speaker:** Rod, thank you for being here. And thank you. This is a really wonderful presentation and I think I was so focused on all the upcoming events. I didn't really focus on the proclamation as much until now, but it's really exciting all that you have planned. It's really engaging. It's very active and inclusive because there's so

many communities that you can bring into this. I just want to tell a brief story I really appreciate commissioner Mapps you saying that everyone is an immigrant at one time, with the exception of our native American community. I think it's so important to put that out there. It's always so silly to see the response and the fear that takes place when new arrivals come. And I was really fortunate in high school, roosevelt high school was a destination for the refugees from vietnam and asia in the late 70, and it forced the school community there to embrace something that was foreign to most of us. And that is people arriving in mass are about over 300 and they did not speak english. And it was such a great teaching and learning experience for all of us. And I just always remember then watching many of them continue to pursue their build their dreams here and having good friends now that are doing great work in the community and fortunate to live in a neighborhood where four of the homes near me are actually people who came during that time from vietnam. That's just one story. There's just so many. And anyone that really cares about this country, the republic for which it stands, knows that it's always been this embracing of new arrivals and immigrants and refugees that makes our country special and different. It's why we always have new emerging economies. It's when people don't get that part. It just puzzles me. But it puzzles me a lot that people don't understand economics 101 in general. So I just am so grateful that I live in a city that sees this as an absolute asset. A must, must focus on this asset. It's one of the best ones we have. So I look forward to being at least at a couple of the celebrations and gatherings coming up over the next couple of weeks. And I really want to thank you so much for all the work that you put into it. So here's our proclamation that we wrote, whereas the city of Portland recognizes immigrants and refugees contribute to a culturally vibrant, prosperous and multicultural community and regardless of where we are born or how we identify, we are

Portlanders and our lives are interdependent by fostering a welcoming environment for all, regardless of immigration status, race, ethnicity, place of origin, English language proficiency, religion, income, gender, sexual orientation, differing abilities, age and other factors. We enhance Portland's health, economic prosperity and well-being for current and future generations and on June 17th, 2020, all city of Portland commissioners voted to approve a resolution, one that created a strict no tolerance policy for racism, discrimination, glisan and bias in the workplace and continues to encourage all city employees and services to operate with a with the values of anti-racism equity, collaboration, communication on fiscal responsibility and transparency and Portland's spirit of unity, safety and belonging begins with us, and we must continue to act like a sanctuary city where everyone feels valued and safe and all Portlanders and Portland institutions must commit to helping immigrant and refugee communities beyond this proclamation and make Portland a welcoming place to all and the city of Portland continues to see our refugee asylum seeker and other immigrant communities continue to grow and Portland is a member of welcoming America, a national nonprofit and a network of local governments and nonprofits around the nation and world to pledge to become a welcoming place for new and long term residents alike. And the city of Portland is once again leading the way by hosting welcoming week for a third year to you.

**Speaker:** Now, therefore, I, Ted Wheeler, mayor of the city of Portland, Oregon. The city of roses, do hereby proclaim September 8th to 15th to be 2023, welcoming week in Portland and do further declare the city of Portland, Oregon to be a community that welcomes all. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you, commissioner Ryan, for bringing this forward. Absolutely.

**Speaker:** Thank you so much.

**Speaker:** Next item, please. Item number 744. Non emergency ordinance.

**Speaker:** Mayor. That's on the consent agenda. I think we're seven.

**Speaker:** Sorry, I didn't. I need to learn to read. Okay. Regular agenda 751, please. Emergency ordinance. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Pay settlement of dexter pierce's bodily injury lawsuit. For \$25,000 involving the Portland police bureau.

**Speaker:** Colleagues, this ordinance resolves a lawsuit brought against the city in April of 2022. Deputy city attorney trung to and senior claims analyst joseph jesse are here to walk us through the ordinance. Welcome.

**Speaker:** You're needed.

**Speaker:** I apologize about that. Good morning, mr. Mayor. Commissioners my name is trung to my last name is spelled t u. I am a senior deputy city attorney with the city attorney's office. This settlement resolves the claims brought by mr. Dexter pierce. Mr. Pierce was protesting in downtown Portland on July 4th, 2020, had declared a riot and ordered protesters to disperse. Mr. Pierce alleges that while he was complying with police orders to disperse and was actively walking away, he was shot in the back of his calf with a 40 millimeter impact munition. Mr. Pierce did not see who had shot him, but asserts that he was shot by a police officer from thereby violating his first amendment and fourth amendment rights in addition to the city. Mr. Pierce, named for four of pbs's officers and an incident commander as individual defendants, the city attorney's office and risk management recommend that the City Council approve of this settlement. That concludes my remarks, but I'm happy to answer any of your questions.

**Speaker:** Uh, commissioner Gonzalez.

**Speaker:** Sorry.

**Speaker:** No, that's okay. Very good. Any further discussion on this item? Do we have public testimony?

**Speaker:** We have three people signed up.

**Speaker:** Very good.

**Speaker:** First up, we have mark paris online.

**Speaker:** Hello? Can you hear me? Yep great. Good morning, mayor.

Commissioners. My name is mark paurus. I use he him pronouns and I'm with the group Portland copwatch. Thanks for putting this settlement on the regular agenda to save us the trouble of pulling it from consent. We understand the parties have reached a settlement and we've got no objections to the city paying out \$25,000 for more harm caused by the Portland police bureau during the protests of 2020. This settlement raises the total, according to our records, paid out by the city, for protests between 2018 and 2020 to at least \$1,400,909. As we've pointed out before, street roots reported on additional settlements that apparently never came to council for votes and also presented data showing the city has spent more than \$1.75 million on its own legal fees for cases in 2020 alone. We hope mr. Pierce has recovered physically from being shot in the calf with a 40 millimeter rubber bullet and that he has retained full use of his achilles tendon. As you heard this particular act of police brutality occurred during a protest for black lives on July fourth, 2020. From court records, we understand that mr. Pierce was complying with the police orders to disperse. He had his back facing the officers and was actively walking away without warning. Mr. Pierce was shot in the back of his calf with an impact munition. He was barely able to walk for the next couple of days due to the swelling and bruising on his calf and he required physical therapy due to scar tissue in the area which exacerbated his achilles tendon issues. The lawsuit names four mobile field force officers and the incident commander, craig dobson. Since mr. Pierce was unable to prove which officer shot him, remember he was walking away from the officers. The city attorney attempted to have this suit dismissed. The judge rejected



the city's opinion, saying that even if you can't say which officer shot you, you still deserve to be compensated for injuries and distress caused by the city employees from the independent monitor lcs report that the us d.o.j. Settlement agreement required the city to pay for. You learned that mf officers received just a limited amount of crowd training. The people who shot mr. Pierce in the calf were regular police officers. With just enough training to respond to so-called public order incidents, but not enough to count themselves as specialists, as you know, the rapid response team resigned en masse in 2021 when officer corey budworth was indicted for fourth degree assault of a member of the media. The report recommended that the bureau create a new professionalized crowd control unit with tighter policies, better training, and more rigorous oversight than what had. While we don't necessarily agree that tpb needs a new unit, if it does come to pass, then we strongly support lcc's recommendation that it must be rigorously scrutinized by executives, oversee and by Portland's new oversight agency and transparently introduced to the public. The introduction should include the individual officers by name as well as the proposed recitation of the tactics and weapons the unit uses and an honest q&a discussion allowing plenty of time for community feedback. In this case, mr. Pierce was unable to name the specific officer who harmed him and no such officer stepped up to claim responsibility. Me in general, how can we possibly have community policing if the community doesn't even know who the police officers are? Thanks. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have one chavez morning. Good morning.

**Speaker:** My name is juan chavez.

**Speaker:** I use he him pronouns. I'm an attorney at the Oregon justice resource center and i, along with franz burgmeier, had the pleasure of representing mr. Dexter pierce on July 4th, 2020. Mr. Pierce, along with thousands of Portlanders of

conscience, went into the streets of Portland to protest the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They also protested the injustices and indignities put upon Black Americans across this country and our own city's police bureau's pattern of doing the same. We let me tell you a little bit about Mr. Pierce, who you'll hear from in a moment. He, like the majority of in the streets that summer, didn't fit the profile pushed out by the media and by the city and by the city's government. He's a family man. He has two young children. He played college basketball. He's an attorney. He's a lifelong Portlander. And as a Black man in America, he knew for his own children's sake that he needed to be protesting the injustices he and others faced. On the night of July 4th, the Portland police engaged in a pattern that many came to recognize as toxic and dangerous. As they spent the night chasing people through the streets and shooting wildly into the crowd. 40 millimeter projectiles as Mr. Pierce was struck with one of these 40 millimeter rounds in the back of his calf. He was complying with orders to disperse. He was walking away from the police. He wasn't threatening anybody. He was exercising his constitutional right to protest this city and its police bureau. Nevertheless, the police shot him. The scar tissue from the round exacerbated an old ACL injury. He's been dealing with this persistent pain ever since and will likely continue to deal with it. His whole life. What we know from this case and from others like it is that the same conditions in this city, in its police bureau that allowed for and condoned the shooting and injuring of a compliant unarmed protester still exists today. We have seen from litigation like this and from audits of the police bureau's actions that trainings were deficient, if not unlawful. Oversight was a trifle unlawful. Violence was endemic. Is the well-founded belief of many Portlanders that that the City Council is afraid to rein in its own police department. And many of the line officers who are out that summer likely believe that too much as this settlement might feel like adequate penance. I

ask that this council go one step further. Mr. Pierce is listening to this right now. He'll listen in on the vote and will testify in a moment. It's my hope that you extend your apology to him for what the bureau did to him as a victim. I think he's entitled to that.

**Speaker:** This isn't a time to say that the police have a hard job or how grateful you are to them is the time to make amends with one of its victims.

**Speaker:** I'd like to thank the city attorney's office for its professionalism throughout this case. And I urge you to vote aye on this settlement. Thank you. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have dexter pierce online. Welcome.

**Speaker:** Thank you. My name is dexter pierce, and I'm the plaintiff in this lawsuit. I'm also an attorney. I was born and raised in Portland. I'm here today because I'm disappointed and I'm disgusted by this city, by the Portland police bureau and by members of this council. My first protest was in 2003 when kendra james, a 21 year old black woman, was murdered by the Portland police. I was 13 years old at the time and had never forgotten how the black community and churches came together to protest the senseless injustice, but less than a year later, james perez was murdered for failing to use a turn signal and having the audacity to reach for a seatbelt. I'm disappointed that the names haven't stopped since then. In 2010, the Portland police murdered aaron campbell amidst the mental health crisis and 2017, there was quanis hayes, who was 17 years old and whom the city just settled for \$2 million. And again, just over a year later, patrick kimmons was shot to death by the Portland police. And these are just the names that I remember from growing up and living in Portland. Patrick was my age and we had many of the same friends. You see, these aren't just problems out there across the country. This isn't just about names like george floyd, sandra bland or alton sterling. This is happening

right here in our own backyard in a city that portrays itself as progressive and inclusive. But one that, frankly, is not safe for black people. I'm disgusted that in the largest civil rights movement since the 60s, that Portland has squandered all momentum, that there have been no significant or meaningful policy changes to address the violence and danger that is inherent to policing. And not only have we not taken steps forward this city and members of this very council have already reverted back to the status quo of cop worshiping the use of dog whistles and racially coded language when discussing crime and safety in this city. I'm disappointed that you all lack such creativity and imagination that you cannot even envision a just society that isn't dependent upon police. A society that doesn't accept disproportionate violence against black and brown bodies as collateral damage for white comfort. And while I'm thankful that my name hasn't become a hashtag, I'm disappointed in knowing that you all have done nothing to make the city safer. For my friends, my family, or my children. As my attorney mentioned, I was shot in the back with a 40 millimeter rubber bullet in the back of my leg. My protest against police violence was met with more police violence and a disregard for my constitutional rights. I was unable to walk for days afterwards, and even three years later, I still have significant scar tissue in my right calf and suffer from chronic pain and achilles tendinitis. This settlement may end my case today depending on how you vote, but the city has so much more work to do. And unfortunately, I have zero faith in your ability to do that. That is all I have. Do you have any more public testimony on this item that completes us?

**Speaker:** Colleagues, any questions, call the roll.

**Speaker:** Gonzalez Mapps i. Rubio Ryan Wheeler.

**Speaker:** All right. The ordinance is adopted. 752, please. An emergency ordinance pay settlement of peso investments, llc property damage claim for \$90,000

involving the bureau's of environmental services and transportation colleagues. This ordinance resolves a claim brought against the city in January of 2021. Senior claims analyst dave farrow and deputy city attorney eric schaffner are here to walk us through the ordinance.

**Speaker:** Good morning council and mayor Wheeler, I'm david farrell with city risk management. Item 752 is an ordinance to approve the settlement of peso investments, property damage claim involving pbot and bts. This claim arises out of property damage, peso investments incurred when stormwater backed up into its village manor apartment building on southwest garden home road in December 2020. Peso and its insurer truck insurer exchange allege that the property damage arose out of the city's failure to maintain a culvert that conveyed stormwater under Multnomah boulevard away from village manor apartments. It's been determined that the stormwater backup at the village manor was caused by an accumulation of debris and overgrown vegetation on the property across Multnomah boulevard, owned by abbey industries. It has also been determined that the city has responded to and cleared prior blockages of the culvert on abbey's property. Since 2006 and incomplete written record of the city's communication with abbey industries owners about their responsibility to clear the culvert created a risk that the city may be found to have some ongoing response ability to clear the culvert peso investments and truck insurance provided evidence of expenses related to the restoration of the village manor apartments and their lost rental income. All of the parties engaged in mediation in July. 2022, followed by informal negotiations and agreed upon a global settlement that includes payment from the city of Portland of \$90,000. Inclusive of attorney fees to resolve the claim. This amount is shared equally between pbot and there's no admission of city liability and the settlement allows the city to avoid the cost of defending a lawsuit to resolve the claim and the

risk of a verdict in excess of this amount. Those are my remarks and if you have questions, please let me know.

**Speaker:** Very good. Does that complete your presentation?

**Speaker:** Yes, very good question.

**Speaker:** On the presentation, public testimony, no one signed up. Please call the roll.

**Speaker:** Gonzalez Mapps.

**Speaker:** Hi, Ryan. Hi Wheeler.

**Speaker:** Hi. The ordinance is adopted and why don't we take a break at this point and give our tv folks a chance to rest? We'll take a ten minute break. It's 1120. We will reconvene at 1130. We're in recess. I didn't mean to scare you, Keelan. We are back in session.

**Speaker:** Recording stopped. Recording in progress.

**Speaker:** All right, we're back in session. Thank you, everybody, for your patience. We'll move. We're rearranging some things so that we can keep our quorum intact for emergency items. The first item will do is the pulled item from the consent agenda. Item number 747, please authorize contract with gardaworld for security services for smart park Portland downtown heliport and street car facilities.

**Speaker:** Not to. Exceed \$6,306,319.

**Speaker:** Commissioner Mapps.

**Speaker:** Thank you, mr. Mayor. Colleagues this item comes to us from pbot. This ordinance, uh, today provides for enhanced security services at some of our downtown parking garages and streetcar facility. This this ordinance resonates deeply because secured city in our public spaces is a high priority for Portlanders who live work and play downtown at. And this ordinance resonates because to be blunt, we are coming off a very rough weekend in downtown Portland, which

amongst other things, saw a horrific act of violence. And some of our public spaces, including a throat slash thing at one of our downtown max platforms here our to tell us more about the item that we have before us today, we have two staff members from pbot and including erica nebel, a parking operations manager, and grant moorhead smart park general manager. Welcome. Thank you, commissioner Mapps.

**Speaker:** Good morning, mayor and commissioners. Again, for the record, my name is erica nebel. I'm the parking operations division manager and I'm here with grant moorhead, the interim smart park general manager. Next slide, please. All right. And sorry. Next slide, please. Apologies. Thank you. The item before you authorizes a three year contract with guard world to provide 24 hour security services at all five of our public parking garages, the downtown heliport and streetcar facilities. This is a standard service we've always contracted for. The cost will be paid out both the smart park enterprise fund that is exclusively generated from garage parking revenue and commercial tenant revenue and gt-r for I'm sorry, general transportation revenue for streetcar facilities, park marks mission is to support the economic vitality of downtown by providing affordable off street parking. The security coverage is critical to improving the experience of our customers. Our garages are used by employees returning downtown for work. Customers of our commercial tenants and nearby businesses, hotel guests and folks just visiting downtown to enjoy activities like going to the Saturday market or festivals on the waterfront by improving the experiences at the garage, we hope to reestablish trust with our existing customers, attract more parkers and contribute to the revitalization of downtown and the economic vitality of the businesses that rely on smart park for their customers and employees. Next slide, please. Our previous security contract expired at the end of March this year to ensure

continuity and security services until a new contract is executed. Std we worked with omf to secure minimum coverage at the garages under our previous contract, which was also 24 hours. We had four guards per shift roving between five garages. That's a total of 12 guards during a 24 hour period. It's important to note that two of five garages are at the opposite ends of downtown, making it challenging to provide adequate coverage at each garage as the as the guards were on foot, they spent a lot of time traveling between those garages as this means that we were paying for time not spent providing the intended service at no fault of the contractor to note another challenge is the physical nature of our garages. They're porous. There are several ways in and out of the garages and even at the slowest times of the day, it's nearly impossible to be actively addressing security incidents and have eyes on all vehicle entries, stairwells, elevators and floors with just a handful of guards roving the garages. Next slide, please. The new rfp was released in March and I believe that's supposed to be may I apologize? In always in March. In March. So I apologize. And resulted in five bids. Gardaworld was awarded the contract after a competitive process. Under this new contract at all of our guards are represented by seiu. Our original request was for a minimum of six guards per shift, a total of 18in a 24 hour period. However, we are developing a staffing plan to increase security as needs arise. The additional staffing would allow us to have guards stationed 24 hours at each garage instead of roving between them next slide, please. Oh oh, sorry. Next slide, please. Thank you. In the future, we plan to implement technology improvements like cameras and make structural improvements like gating the stairwells with the aim of making it easier to secure the garages and therefore reduce the overall cost of security services as a public enterprise in the heart of our city, we have a role in contributing to the revitalization of downtown. We are committed to our customers and the partnerships our



program has built with nearby businesses. We recognize that we could act sooner rather than later to start contributing, and as such, we recently made a concerted effort to redistribute and more effectively use limited resources and communicate with our customers. We are distributing fliers daily and installed signs at each entrance of every garage for the benefit of our customers and the general public. That concludes our presentation. Thank you for your time and consideration. We are available to answer questions you or constituents may have.

**Speaker:** Very good colleagues. Any questions at this point? Very good. We have public testimony. Any two minutes each please name for the record. We do not need your address unless you want to give it for some reason.

**Speaker:** Okay. Thank you. First up, we have kyle johnson. Hey, welcome.

**Speaker:** Thank you for your patience.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Council. My name is kyle johnson, and I'm the founder of go by bike, which provides rides and operates the largest bike valet in north America under the tram. I wanted today to provide my expertise on how we can better align Portland's transportation goals with our parking garage assets and urge you to slow down the spending to make room for additional ideas on how to keep people visiting downtown safe. When the tram was originally conceived, it had five a bike parking spots after the secure bike valet went in, the number of people parking their bike at the tram increased by about 20% every year. As Portland's bikes numbers have remained stagnant in surveys, having a safe and convenient place to store your bike is listed as one of the top reasons whether people choose to ride a bike today around 1000 people a day ride to the aerial tram and nearly half of them parking at the bike valet every day. More people ride their bike to the bottom of the tram than any other destination in north America today. I want you to imagine a different Portland. What if instead of investing \$25 million in the 10th and yamhill

parking garage in 2017, we had built protected bike lanes on hawthorne. When we recently rebuilt that street. What if instead of cutting the number of Sunday parkway cars, we used our parking revenue to expand them and subsidize biketown to make it accessible to all Portlanders? What if today, instead of investing over \$6 million in private security to watch cameras, we funded secure bike parking to make it so that everyone riding a bike downtown had a safe, convenient and secure place to park and also watch those cameras. Portland is facing a declining biking rate and increasing traffic violence. This money will do nothing to change that for the same money as you are being asked to spend today, we could run 12 bike valets overnight. Portland would become the bike parking capital of the world. Anyone riding a bike to the central city would have a guaranteed safe spot. I ask you to slow down this process and encourage pbot to seek out more ideas on how to turn these structures into places that create value for Portland and help meet our city's transportation goals. Throwing more money into the same old idea and expecting new results does not work. Thank you very much.

**Speaker:** Thank you.

**Speaker:** Mr. Mayor, can I jump in? And kyle, number one, thank you for your testimony. I very much support your goal for riding safe bike infra structure to Portlanders. That's one of my goals to, however, I also want to point out, and I'm sure you're aware that over the weekend we had someone on someone's throat was slashed at a max station here in downtown Portland, and I am sad to say that incidents less intense than that. But in that category happen far too often. The ordinance before us today is designed to address that problem. So that's why I brought this forward. I appreciate your testimony, and i'll hand the floor back to mr. Mayor.

**Speaker:** Yeah, I do want to just acknowledge one thing. Number one, your bike valet is fantastic. And number two, I did. Could you repeat the statistic? You said it is the number one biking destination in north America. That is phenomenal. And I did not know that. And I'm glad you said that. And I'm going to quote you liberally on it. Thank you. You should.

**Speaker:** It's something that I think we should be very proud of. Yes. And I'm very scared about, you know, throats slashing at transit stops. But I don't know how private security at the parking garage is going to affect that. So that would be my comment to that.

**Speaker:** Thank you. And I'll have more comments at the next.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have kathy tuttle. Welcome.

**Speaker:** Hello, mayor and commissioners. My name is kathy tuttle and this is my first time in your beautiful city hall. It's very exciting. Thanks for being here. It's a beautiful place. And in Portland is a beautiful place. To thank you for taking my testimony. I'm kathy tuttle and I'm speaking about that three year, \$6.3 million security contract for downtown parking garages, including the helipad. And I live downtown. And I'm familiar with the garages and the helipad, but I want to understand more about why the city is putting ever more money into securing relatively vacant buildings, as I'm also asking why parking does not make money for the Portland parking loses money for Portland. Last year, when I rented a downtown apartment, I could also rent a parking space in my building for \$225 a month or for \$2,500 a year. And the garage was fully rented, which proves that this rate of \$2,500 a year for downtown parking is reasonable for parking, though that the city provides loses money. Pbot puts more money into administering residential parking zones than they return Portland charges only \$2 an hour to park in the heart of the pearl district. And now we're on the hook for securing fairly empty

parking lots for \$2 million a year. This strikes me as odd parking is supposed to be revenue positive, not a losing proposition. I want to mostly use my very limited time to tell you about parking in the netherlands. I spent the first half of this year studying car use and parking there and parking generates income in dutch cities, period. And in fact, utrecht, where I was based, residential parking permits cost \$5,000 in us dollars in the center, city and hourly rates are between \$8 and \$10. Further out of the city. Rates go down, of course, but by 2030, the city of utrecht wants to make all curb space paid space use. It will happen on the bright side, this money in parking fees in utrecht funds not just administering the parking program. The parking fees actually pour millions of euros into upgrades and maintenance on the streets, charging for parking makes the city money. I know that charging for parking is a scary political proposition, but now with a big reshuffle of Portland government coming up in 2024, it's exactly the time to make these bold decisions. And so I encourage you to dig deeper into why you're pushing forward this three year contract. I suggest you kind of step back and do a one year contract and then start to be creative about how you're charging for parking, how you're thinking about parking in the downtown. Because our curb space is valuable. And I think that we really need to charge for it to make sense of the city. So thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Appreciate it.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have tony jordan. Oh, uh, hello.

**Speaker:** Hi, tony. Good morning. Um, so I'm here to obviously call some questions on this contract. I hold no illusions that it will not pass this morning, but I do want to call you back to some great testimony. You heard very at the beginning of this hearing from nick cota and paul frazier talking about protecting bike lanes. For \$6.3 million. You could probably buy 1000 bollards. We could probably protect 10 to 20 miles of bike lanes in the city, including, you know, we talk about horrific incidents,

including 21st avenue, where where someone was flipped three times by a drunk driver last week. You know, that's that's a that's that's a terrifying thing for me, for my family that rides bikes. We don't have a car. This is in addition to the 4 million a year that was cut from pbot budget due to not basically charging market rates for pricing for parking on street. Um, I feel like this is shows our priorities of property over people. This security is really if we're being honest about it about protecting auto theft and break ins to cars and other property damage. We're concerned about break ins to cars but not breaking bones from people who are injured by the people. Honestly who are driving to and from these parking car storage facilities. So when we think about the 47 deaths, we think about jeannie diaz, right. By my house. You know, there's no money to fix cesar chavez. But we have we can scare up an additional I read this as an additional \$4 million on this contract. The old one was 2.3. So I recognize we used to provide security, but we are spending more money. We're making moral choices in how we spend our money and where we can find emergency funds and who we want to charge for the infrastructure and the danger that they cause to our society by making choices to drive a few miles mean, of course, some people are dependent and need to drive cars, but we can do a lot better in this city and I really just want to call out those those stark contrasts in how we decide to when an emergency is warranted. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, tony.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have david stein online. Hi, david.

**Speaker:** Hello again.

**Speaker:** My name is david stein. I'm a resident of southwest Portland and a member of the city's bicycle advisory committee. And pbot bureau and budget advisory committee. Neither committee was briefed on this ordinance, and this testimony reflects my own views. Pbot has a looming \$32,000,032 million deficit for

the coming fiscal year, and it could be even worse without a rebound in parking revenue and gas taxes, especially if fixing our streets three doesn't pass in may to add \$17 million to the deficit. In my garage right now is a bike pulled street sweeper on loan to bike. Glad it's in Portland and I'm using it in my neighborhood because pbot has cut back on street sweeping over the last decade. Admitted declining budget yet the gravel from winter storms debris from car crashes, trash and leaves are unrelenting. While I'm happy to do my fair share and then some, this contract will incentivize behavior that we don't want and tie pbot hands in future years. Well, we can talk about what the money could be spent on instead. That's not really the question here. It's really about what other pbot programs will get cut even deeper or entirely because this parking revenue will already be allocated encouraging people to drive into downtown to park their vehicles is antithetical to our 2035 comp plan. Climate action plan and the declared climate emergency 2030 bike master plan 2040 freight plan, ped pdx and vision zero. Downtown Portland is well served by trimet and has an ever improving bike bike network. In addition, 47 people have died this year due to people driving in a manner that ended up being unsafe to themselves and or others. We shouldn't be asking people to drive that number even higher. Pbot providing security in mostly empty parking garages. Neither advances racial equity nor improves climate resilience. The two questions that they tell us, they ask for every decision they make. This contract will siphon 10% of parking revenues for the next three years that will be unavailable for whatever core services we want to retain. If this is truly public safety, then allocate the money through or from Portland police bureau as they should be managing that anyway. If pbot does fund this, it should be with a special security fee for parking and garages designated for this purpose. Please deny this contract for the

time being or find a funding source that won't take a tire errand to our city's goals.  
Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, david. Uh next up, we have sarah reeser.

**Speaker:** Welcome.

**Speaker:** Hello. Um, my air Wheeler and commissioners. Thank you very much. I'm so happy to be here. I'm a new resident to Portland and a new resident to the state of Oregon. And and I was so happy to hear about the progressive parking policies that I caught wind of. And this this project. I have so many things to say about it, and I don't have enough time to cover all of them. But I think it is sending a very strong signal to the community that you are placing the security and the safety of vehicles over the security and safety of people. We are in a climate crisis and I do not hear of any forgive me, it may have happened and I'm unaware. I don't know of any emergency ordinance that is addressing ing the very concerning uptick in road fatalities is in the city of Portland. Moreover our I believe strongly that parking should be paid for by the people who are using their motor vehicles. If we're taking money away from pbot and we're taking money away from programs that could help increase the livability and increase the health of the city of Portland, that is a subsidy for people who drive their cars. I, I really believe that if security needs to be improved at a parking garage, that costs should be borne by the people who use the garage, and that costs should be borne by the people who are driving. We're in a climate crisis and we're in a road fatality crisis right now. And we are subsidized easing, driving through this policy, we're encouraging people to drive more. We're encouraging people to bring their cars into the city of Portland. This goes against everything we need for healthy, livable cities. Finally, the most livable cities are the cities where people can walk safely, can bike safely. We don't need more cars. We

don't need to encourage more cars. Please don't subsidize driving next up, we have nicholas flowers.

**Speaker:** Good morning. Good morning. My name is nick flowers and here's my testimony. I believe that the spending of \$6 million on security for parking garages downtown should be reconsidered ordered. That is money that could be directed towards making transportation around Portland safer, especially for pedestrians and those commuting via bicycle. While there is no denying the vehicular violence that has occurred on our streets recently from the pedestrian death on cesar chavez and taylor to the disturbing hit and run on 21st, just days ago, no further incentivizing people to travel as pedestrians or on a bicycle helps Portland by mitigating climate change. Improving the mental and physical health of Portlanders and providing Portlanders with low cost ways of getting around small fixes like placing concrete jersey barriers in known trouble spots, increasing modal filtering and diverting cars on neighborhood greenways and adding steel bollards to sidewalks and bike paths are relatively low. Cost safety improvements that benefit those outside of a car. Traffic fatalities are a leading cause of death in Portland. In my opinion. We should be investing in safety measures in ways to get more people biking instead of the maintenance of car infrastructure. In addition to increased spending on safety projects, secure bike parking at transit stops is another way we could spend this money to make it easier for people to get around town without a car. Thank you for your consideration. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have aaron. Welcome. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Yes. My name is aaron keene and I'm probably going to use the original three minutes because I have some interesting information to share. So I'm not supportive of this contract that's being proposed with gata for the security of the parking garages. I am wearing red because because I care about the safety and the



security of people on our streets. I care about revitalization of downtown and I'm especially concerned about personal security. I think there's a false equivalency that's being set up or a conflict between those of us who are advocating for safe streets, for transportation versus personal security. And I understand that that's a huge issue for people on taking transit. I hear it less about people. Motorist rights, but I'm sure that there are concerns that you're hearing about that. But we're talking about taking money from the pbob budget, the pbob staff, especially eric enable, who spoke, I'm sure are familiar with donald shoup, who's sort of a parking reform guru or god at this point. And he has a three step process that cities can use to revitalize is using their parking policy. You might be surprised to find out that Portland has a fantastic reputation when it comes to parking policy, and that's something that we should continue. And I'm afraid that this contract is actually going to tarnish that. So there the three steps end with a third step, which is to reinvest the parking revenues that are being collected in the area for public services and now I believe that hiring garda to do this is actually going to do the opposite. It's going to decrease public safety in the area. The reasons why garda has a history of irresponsible cully in 2020, they were the subject of a three part investigation by a reporter who worked for the Oregonian, but now works in tampa bay times. She pointed out that after interviewing 90 garda employees there was shown a decade long pattern of dangerous behavior, a lack of concern for public safety and intimidation and firing of whistle blowers, including their very own director of risk management. They had been responsible guarded trucks, had been responsible for killing 19 people, 100 collisions a month. And a person injured every three days. Their global business is even more dangerous as they hire mercenaries in places like afghanistan, yemen, somalia, places that we talked about as refugees coming here. And we and us welcoming them for Portland welcome week. Is that a list of

places that we think Portland belongs on? Are we a war zone or are we a refuge and a sanctuary city and guard leadership is also called into question. The ceo and founder of garda was reported to have said that in a meeting that the that if any of the executives of garda revealed their financial difficulties, he would kill them. And their families. Now, I have some issues with the leadership of Portland, but I don't believe any of you have been accused of threatening to kill the families of your business partners. And I would ask you to question creating a business relationship with somebody who has so in conclusion, let's continue to improve Portland by leading the way with our excellent parking policy, not by giving the limited parking revenue we have to mercenary groups. Thank you. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have estelle morley. Good morning. Good morning.

**Speaker:** Yeah, my name is estelle morley. Hello, commissioners and mayor, thanks for listening today I'm here speaking on behalf of the local chapter of families for safe streets. I'm also an active board member with bike loud pdx. Two years ago I was cycling home in southeast when I was hit by a drunk and distracted driver going over 35 in a 20 mile per hour zone. He drove into my lane and hit me 20ft back onto his sidewalk. If not for community members who kept me conscious, a apb officer who applied a tourniquet to my fractured leg, the emt, first responders who saved my life with cpr performed not once, but twice. And the ohsu trauma staff who stitched me back together and kept me stable. I would be one more bike death statistic in Oregon. Ultimately I was put under 13 times for countless surgeries and I spent 47 days in the hospital before returning home. Infrastructure didn't save me that night. Infrastructure disabled me with sheer absence and disconnection, navigating a notorious intersection, bridging two cities, two counties and a train line just to get to a dedicated, protected bike lane. I was less than 50ft from home. I was less than 50ft from that protected bike lane when I

was hit. Just imagine my grief for just a moment. I should be terrified of riding a bike again. But I'm not. What I'm afraid of is unsafe infrastructure. I'm afraid of irresponsible, dangerous drivers and the absence of genuine protection and accountability. I'm afraid of progress not moving quickly enough to protect vulnerable road users like me or the now 47 others killed in Portland. This year by traffic violence. My fear is not of riding a bike, but of the dangers presented by the outside world to me on my bike. That's how disability works and our infrastructure is dangerous. We need physical protection like installing stronger barriers and automatic enforcers. We need properly allocated funds to maintain and repair damaged city streets and lights. We don't need public dollars dumped into muddy pits like protecting empty parking garages when that money could save actual lives. Instead, infrastructure should be designed to protect me from other people's mistakes. Institutions of justice should hold people to appropriate account for their dangerous mistakes, and politicians claiming to love the city should muster the genuine will and courage to protect it and its citizens by challenging car centrality and the overarching issues of big oil and climate change. Cars are killing. Portlanders drive cars are killing Portlanders infrastructure is killing Portlanders, and the city suggests paying to protect parking garages for cars. That's outrageous. Use of funds. Ultimately, streets with less cars are safer and will bring more people to downtown Portland. Thank you for your time. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have matt zajack online.

**Speaker:** Hello.

**Speaker:** My name is matt zajack.

**Speaker:** I'm a Portland resident encouraging non-motorized travel and reducing the number of motorist vehicles through Portland is important to lessen climate impact and save lives. Car centric cities, particularly disadvantaged the already

marginalized. We need to take money generated from privileged car centric model cities into more pedestrian bike and transit focused infrastructure for moving money from parking garages and parking fees would be the perfect place to start. It's well known that metropolitan downtowns across the us are more empty in large part because of a shift to remote work for previous downtown commuters in fact, the country's top ten metropolitan areas averaged 47.2% of pre-pandemic levels just last week, substantially reducing security forces on car centric infrastructure is already much more empty, is low hanging fruit. Additionally reduced parking garage security poses a much lower risk of harm and human life impact than failing to address the epidemic of traffic fatalities from motorists crashing into pedestrians and bikers. For example, by July of 2023, motorists killed 43 people in Portland after one of the deadliest months on record. There needs to be a shift from the car centric culture to one that prioritizes active and public transit that change will require funding. Let's start this change by reducing money earmarked for privileged car centric budget items and feed them directly into uplifting the humans that are walking, biking and using public transit in the city. Thank you. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have mark paris.

**Speaker:** Yep. Can you hear me?

**Speaker:** Yep. Hi mark.

**Speaker:** Great. Hello again. Mayor and commissioners. My name is mark paris. Use he him pronouns and I'm with Portland copwatch, our main concern with this massive contract for private security has to do with armed and unarmed guards being allowed to use force. The exhibit says the contractor will be required to track all use of force incidents and report them within 24 hours. To the smart park general manager and or streetcar division manager. The use of force includes physical coercion used to effect, influence or persuade an individual to comply with

an officer to include the intentional pointing of a firearm at an individual. For many years, private contractors whose salaries are paid by the city through City Council approval have been using force against members of the public, leaving them little recourse to file complaints. A member of Portland copwatch, who filed a complaint against one such guard, was told that it was a private security matter. So they would not be told the outcome of their complaint. Since then, we've been encouraging the city to require security companies to allow complaints against their guards working for the city to be filed with the ombudsman's office. In theory, this would provide for a more objective and transparent process for Portlanders. The \$6.3 million contract with gardaworld contains other language line items and enough ambiguity to cause alarm. The staffing plan and cost table provides wage billable rate and annual costs for three types of jobs unarmed security, supervisory security and management. There are also position descriptions for bike patrol, security officers and armed security officers. The scope of work states that the contracted guards must have experience in community policing and have experience in security operation for a municipality similar to Portland. In addition, the paperwork says the contractor should have a demonstrated ability to maintain credibility and trust of law enforcement attorneys, others in the criminal justice community and other public safety partners, and the ability to work with and protect confidential and sensitive information. Other criteria include that security officer shall have a demonstrated ability to work safely and constructively with persons who are houseless experiencing mental health crises affected by drugs and or alcohol and or who may be unpredictable, dangerous and or resisting to receiving service. This is a tall order for contracted security. The doj has been trying unsuccessful for years to get the Portland police bureau to provide constitutional policing escalate, especially in situations with people who may be in crisis and

foster trust with the community. And we're asking gardaworld to do this without even the same specialized training pbs's been getting. There's also a fixed cost component to this contract of over \$218,000 for cameras since the contract requires the guards to be dps certified, does that make them? Law enforcement under Oregon law and therefore unable to use those cameras to collect and maintain information about people unless there's a reasonable suspicion of criminal conduct and we're unable to figure out what the \$20,500 monthly cost is for 12 hour fixed surveillance units in the camera locations and cost table. Would that be an additional \$738,000? That appears to be unaccounted for? We suggest sending this contract back for more work, including removing all mention of armed security and providing an explanation of the \$20,500 per month cost for the cameras and when this contract comes back to council, please put it on the regular agenda to give the public a chance to weigh in. Thank you.

**Speaker:** That completes testimony.

**Speaker:** Very good.

**Speaker:** Colleagues, any questions? I'm going to make a few comments. I appreciate everybody's testimony and I have several thoughts that maybe aren't as well. Baked as they should be. But here it goes. There when I go out in the community and I wish people could follow me around and hear and see how the community responds to the issues that we're facing in our community, I hear very, very loudly on two issues in particular here. Number one, I hear about the plight of people who are living on our streets, the homeless crisis and in the next breath, what I hear about is public safety and concerns people have. And when I look at what we are doing as a City Council, you know, this is being very narrowly interpreted by some as a question of are you supporting security in the garage or are you supporting separated bike lanes? You can't have both. I disagree with that. I

just want to put that on the record. I disagree that you cannot have both. I believe we can both have public safety and we can have separate and physically bike lanes and as somebody who cycles a lot, I strongly support that. And I also agree that one of the biggest challenges I dumped in commissioner Mapps lap is the question not of this year's budget, but the question of next year's the year after that, the year after that. The year after that, and ten years from now. Because every year the budget is going to decline until we move on to a different source of revenues for all of our transportation needs. So that to me is a big picture issue. So the question was, is this security for cars? I want to be very clear from my perspective this is not security for cars. I agree it upsets people tremendously when their automobiles are broken into. But that's not what I'm hearing from these garage cars. I'm not hearing that from the people in the downtown area. And I didn't hear it from my own chief of staff who I deployed on several occasions to actually go and look at these facilities in person early in the morning to see what's going on and what's going on is we have a fentanyl problem in the city of Portland and nobody's even mentioned that that is driving a lot of our security concerns, not only in the downtown area, but throughout the community. And people are using the stairwells of our city owned property to deal in to use and fentanyl creates certain psychos cases which lead to a lot of public safety problems in the community. Commissioner Mapps I don't know all the details. I'm not prepared to say that that that was the cause of this particular situation. It was probably more than that. But we've certainly seen enough incidents of that. We are responsible for the safety and the security of the public spaces that are owned by the city of Portland, not just our parking garages. We spend a ton of time talking about our parks, our green spaces, our sidewalks, our underpasses, alleys and other public spaces that we are responsible for maintaining. And I appreciate that some of you said why aren't the police doing

this? Why are you hiring somebody else to do this? The answer is we don't have enough officers to deploy for this purpose. They are focused on higher acuity, criminal activity, which is where they should be focused. And some day maybe we will have enough officers to be able to do this kind of patrol thing. But not today. This is a crisis today, and we need to respond today. And I'm not saying that this is something we're going to do year in and year out. I hope we don't. I hope this is sort of a one and done address the immediate security concerns people are seeing and by the way, it's this is not wealthy business owners putting the thumb on us telling us that they're going to leave. It's their employees. It's telling them that they do not want to work in the downtown core. And so in their leases come up whether they're a starbucks or whether they're a major corporate in the security and safety of employees, is a major issue. We hear it from our own employees all the time. Um, and so I realize that my decision to support this contract will not sit well with a lot of you. I respect that. I understand that we can disagree on this issue. I want you to know I actually agree with your long term vision on around separated bike lanes. We should do more. And I'm sorry, we've kind of gotten off track because we've been dealing with all of these other crises, is that have required us to use our general funds at exactly the time when our tax structure is in question. And when we're seeing a funding, an antiquated funding mechanism that isn't working for us anymore. So I just you don't have to agree with me, but I just want you to know where I am and why I am. And why I'm going to support this.

**Speaker:** Commissioner Mapps thank you, mr. Mayor, for those thoughtful comments.

**Speaker:** I think i'll deliver my remarks now and keep my vote fairly simple. I do want to thank everyone who testified today, and I also want to say I agree with many of the ideas that you shared with us. I also want to make the argument that I



believe that this ordinance before us today has been framed as a false choice. I believe that we can have safe biking infrastructure and safe parking infrastructure for and safe spaces, as you know. Indeed our goal here should be to have safe transportation infrastructure here. And I'm deeply committed to that. That's why our team at pbot is out every day putting in bike lanes, adding medians that make it difficult for cars to do dangerous stuff. We invest tens of millions of dollars in this space every year. Um, I also want to say this. You know, I am this council's infrastructure guy. I got water, I got environmental services, I got pbot. I build a lot of stuff. And I've learned a lot of things in this space. And there are a couple of truisms in this infrastructure space, you know, one is if you build it, they will come, which is another way of saying transportation has an enormous influence on the way a life, the life of a city evolves. But there is also a corollary to that, which is if you neglect it, it will decay. And i'll tell you, I think a lot of the discussions we have in this chamber revolve around the fact that we have neglected our transportation space terribly. You can see it in our potholes. You can see it in the lack of bike lanes that we have out there. Also tell you. So a lot of you probably noticed that last month I closed down a parking garage in downtown Portland. And i'll tell you why I did that. That space had been neglected and I couldn't keep it safe. We had dozens of break ins in that space every month. And i'll also tell you this as many of you probably know and may have noticed in the last week, we have had three stabbings as at our local train stations. And this ordinance is designed to address that. And also share a little bit of something personal here. You know, um, we believe that at least two of those stabbings that happened at our local max stations were racially motivated. And i'll tell you, as a guy of a 14 year old and a 13 year old who I have to stick on a bus and a train to get to school in the morning, I think about that a lot. And I know a lot of other parents think about that. A lot. And i'll tell you colleagues

this ordinance is about that, too. I sure hope that our kids and you can get to work, come downtown, get to school, get home from school and be safe. You know, I hope you can do that when you ride your bike. I hope that you can do that. When you parked your car. I hope that you can do that when you wait for the tram. And that is what this ordinance is about, which is why I intend to vote I on it. And I encourage you to do that too. Thank you. Thank you, commissioner.

**Speaker:** Any further discussion questions, please call the roll Gonzalez vote.

**Speaker:** I Mapps aye. Ryan I really appreciate the testimony today.

**Speaker:** And mayor, your comments were very well received. This is a and equation, an and we will be having more conversations about what was addressed this morning by people who testified. And I hear a lot from the small businesses and arts organizations, fans who have patrons that have stopped coming to their performances. Arts is a major activator of our economy and yes, some of them come by transit. They stopped using that because they don't feel safe. And so their choice is to drive. And when they return to their cars and it's damaged, it impacts their life and they stop going to arts organizations, arts events. So on behalf of everyone that I listened to, just like the mayor, if you followed us around, you would hear constant, constant complaints about such things and so this isn't where we want to be, but it's where our city is at right now. And so I will definitely be supporting this ordinance. I vote I whaler, I vote i.

**Speaker:** The ordinance is adopted. Thank you, everybody. You testified today. Appreciate your being here. We're going to move to 755. Also an emergency ordinance and commissioner Ryan, if they can keep it short, commissioner gonzales has to leave pretty quickly here. Okay. Can you read seven, five, five, please authorize intergovernmental agreement with metro and accept a grant. For \$1,897,908 for the kelly point park trail project.

**Speaker:** And again, since we are accepting funds, I can't imagine there's a huge debate here and brevity counts.

**Speaker:** Commissioner Ryan yes, I will.

**Speaker:** I will cut my remarks quite a bit. We are here to vote on the iga between metro and Portland parks and recreation for the trail project at Kelly Point Park. Why don't we just go ahead and dive in and presenters take it away?

**Speaker:** Sounds good. Thank you. Mayor and commissioners.

**Speaker:** My name is Mary Stewart.

**Speaker:** I'm capital project manager. Within the assets and development division of Portland parks and recreation. With me here today is Ross Swanson, capital program manager with assets and development, and Walter Valenta, board vice president of the 40 mile loop is also here to support the project. And in the seated area over here is board member Jim Schulan. We are here to tell you about an exciting new segment of the Greenway slash 40 mile loop slash Willamette Greenway slash Slew Trail goes by many names, but it is the final gap that connects. It's those regional trails with the trails within the park. It creates a full eight mile trail connection for everybody. This funding came from Metro and we are asking council to authorize the intergovernmental agreement with Metro to accept the grant funding for the project in the amount of 1.8 million, I can stop there. I can keep going.

**Speaker:** I'll just say I'm sorry people didn't stick around to hear this piece of the picture. The great news. Did you have anything else you needed to add? Otherwise, we'll get right to public testimony.

**Speaker:** One of the most important things is that our trail users no longer have to cross Marine Drive. Currently, that is the most dangerous gap. So being able to enter the park from a separated facility, be it's a quarter mile, it's not a huge

amount of construction, but it creates a huge opportunity and a huge benefit for the community. We I can I can totally stop there.

**Speaker:** Well, I'd like given all the testimony about separating bikes from cars, the 40 mile loop is 100% about separating bikes from cars.

**Speaker:** For 40 years we've been developing a backbone of separated trails. And, you know, it's been hard because it's easier to build them alongside the roads. And in east county, they think that's safer because the homeless problem is said they shouldn't build trails separate because they just create people places for people to live. So we are strongly advocating for all of the trails here that form this backbone on that. Then you can build on. And so but because of the money problems and I want to bring up one point which I wasn't really intending to do, but with the interstate bridge replacement project, some of what they're doing is really good at separating out some of the trails that they have to by regulation build. But a lot of what they're building is going to be merging by bike systems with freight side by side. And we have been working with them to show them ways to not do that and have an entirely separate and they are insisting they must. So I know, mayor Wheeler, you have worked with them. They can be very stubborn. Commissioner Mapps you're going to learn if you don't already know how stubborn. But we have specific ideas on how to separate them out. They've been vetted by pbot. We were going to bring them to you next week, but I just feel like it's important to do because there's a way to use their money. No pbot money to build it right from the beginning because why would we build marine drive intersection with bike lanes all the way across through all the trucking things when there's a way to not do that, they're going to spend millions of dollars building it wrong. So so we're going to bring that to you at time is now to get it in the plan now before they get locked in on building it wrong, because that's one of the solutions. And, you know, it's one

thing to unbuild and rebuild separated trails, but let's not build the trails wrong to start out with. And it's their money. So you can afford to have them pay for it. But but we're very excited by the metro money. We want to thank metro and you guys for doing this. We talked about the 40 mile loop being 73% done. The marine drive trail is over 90% done. So we are close to having every piece of that entire stretch, 23 miles completed, all separated from cars and it's something that we could really celebrate.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Thank you. And I appreciate your enthusiasm as well as your creativity on this solution. And I support it. Okay. Thank you, mayor. Testimony on this item.

**Speaker:** No one signed up.

**Speaker:** Very good. This is an emergency ordinance. Please call the roll.

**Speaker:** Gonzalez. Hi. Maps

**Speaker:** I want to thank commissioner Ryan on for bringing this hopeful item forward. I want to thank staff for the presentation. I want to thank you for the heads up about about, uh, ways to make this bridge better. I'm deeply involved in implementing this bridge project. It sounds like we're scheduled to talk next week, so I look forward to that briefing and I pledge to you and everyone listening at home that I'll do everything in my power to make sure that we get the bike lane portion of this bridge correct. I'm very excited about the Kelly Point Park trail project, which is why I vote i. Ryan thank you so much.

**Speaker:** Mary Stuart and Walter, you just nailed it. When this first came to me, I said this is connected to the 40 mile loop. This is a no brainer. And besides, Metro's giving us the funds. So here we are. But I'm glad that you spoke to that so eloquently. I think it was really timely for the last ordinance we had and the testimony I do hope that some of them could tune in to listen to this. I just want to

read a couple comments from Jonathan Blacker, who is the director of Portland Metro Parks and Nature. This grant-funded project will extend the trail running through the park by completing a 1400-foot gap that currently forces trail users onto the road and extending the trail to the 40-mile loop and Marine Drive trails for our shared trails. Work around the region. We know the importance and urgency of connecting segments to ensure trail users as smooth, safe and undisturbed experience. Yes, that's where we're at. Local government works best when it actually collaborates, and this is a great example of it. This is the good government ordinance that we have today on the agenda. I vote, I. Wheeler well, I'm disappointed that people didn't get to hear this.

**Speaker:** We should have done this first this morning, and it probably would have saved us a lot of time and energy. But such is the messiness of democracy. Great work. Thank you for all you've done and all you will do. I vote I in the ordinance is adopted. We have two quick second readings. First item number 753, please authorize application to the US Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance for the FY 2023.

**Speaker:** Edward Burn Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. For \$574,225 to assist the Portland Metropolitan Area Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Community to prevent and reduce crime and violence.

**Speaker:** That was a very long title, wasn't it? This is a second reading of a non-emergency ordinance. We've already heard a presentation as well as opportunities for public testimony. Is there any further business on this item? Seeing none, please call the roll.

**Speaker:** Gonzalez Mapps I Ryan a Wheeler. All right.

**Speaker:** Ordinance is adopted. 754. Also a second reading authorize a competitive solicitation and contract with the lowest responsive and responsive

bidder and provide payment for construction of the lombard pump station and force main upgrade project.

**Speaker:** E109320 for an estimated amount of 10,200,000.

**Speaker:** Please call the roll.

**Speaker:** Gonzalez. Oh, sorry. Mapps. Hi, Ryan. A Wheeler.

**Speaker:** I want to thank commissioner Mapps. I had no idea what this was about, and it was a really good presentation and I learned a lot. And I actually didn't think I would. So it was, it looked like it was going to be very arcane and technical, and it turned out to be really fascinating and important. And so I'm happy to vote on it. And the ordinance is adopted and I believe Keelan that completes our business for this morning. Thank you for your service. We are adjourned.

## **Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File**

**September 6, 2023 – 2:00 p.m.**

This file was produced through the closed captioning process for the televised city Council broadcast and should not be considered a verbatim transcript. The official vote counts, motions, and names of speakers are included in the official minutes.

**Speaker:** This is the Wednesday, September 6th, 2023 afternoon session of the Portland City Council.

**Speaker:** Good afternoon, Keelan. Please call the roll.

**Speaker:** Good afternoon, Gonzales. Here, maps here. Rubio here. Ryan here. Wheeler.

**Speaker:** Here again. Now we'll hear from legal counsel on the rules of order and decorum. Good afternoon.

**Speaker:** Good afternoon. Welcome to the Portland City Council to testify before council in person or virtually. You must sign up in advance on the council agenda at [www.Portland.gov/council/agenda](http://www.Portland.gov/council/agenda) information on engaging with City Council can be found on the council clerk's web page. The presiding officer preserves order and decorum during council meetings. The presiding officer determines the length of testimony individuals generally have three minutes to testify unless otherwise stated, a timer will indicate when your time is done and disruptive conduct such as shouting, refusing to conclude your testimony when your time is up or interrupting others testimony or council deliberations will not be allowed. And if you cause a disruption, a warning will be given further disruption will result in ejection from the meeting. Anyone who fails to leave once ejected, is subject to arrest for trespass. Additionally, council may take a short recess and reconvene virtually your



testimony today should address the matter being considered when testifying state your name for the record. Your address is not necessary. Disclose if you are a lobbyist and if you are representing an organization, please identify it for testifiers joining virtually. Please unmute yourself once the council clerk has called your name. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. We have two items today. They'll be read together for seven, five six. A resolution and 757 an emergency ordinance item 756 direct the office of government relations to collaborate with state and local partners in the pursuit of consistent criminal regulation of controlled substances in public and adequate resources for drug treatment.

**Speaker:** Item 757 amend alcohol on public property and public rights of way code to add a provision that bans consumption of controlled substances in public subject to law. Limitation options or state law limitations. Excuse me. Thank you, colleagues.

**Speaker:** At a time when government is largely seen as highly divided, our actions today stand in sharp contrast east to that. We're here today as a united council to advocate for the betterment of our community. We, as a testament to that commitment. The two items you've just heard today read today, both a resolution as well as an emergency ordinance, are being brought by all members of the council. The first item, 756, the resolution is intended to guide the city's office of government relations in their efforts to collaborate with our state legislature. Nature to improve public health and safety. In Portland. The second item is 757. It's an emergency ordinance for the amendment of city code to prohibit public consumption of controlled substances. This provision would go into effect upon action by the state or are a legal finding to permit local governments to impose limitations on public consumption. Just by virtue of illustrates how important this

issue is. The last time I saw somebody consuming what I believe to be fentanyl publicly on our streets was less than five minutes ago. Three blocks from city hall. This is a significant issue and I hope that the unified actions of the council here today will certainly inspire our our legislature to take this issue seriously. Commissioner Gonzalez would like to say a few words of introduction before we begin. So, commissioner Gonzalez, I'll hand it over to you to start off with a message to Portlanders.

**Speaker:** As we've heard you, you're exhausted with open air drug use and you're demanding action. And today is that action. These are necessary common sense steps to disrupt debilitating drug use on the streets of Portland that does deep damage to our city's livability, overwhelms our emergency response system and destroys lives. The decriminalize version of hard drugs was never supposed to mean open use as acquiescence to violence, to crime. It was never supposed to be no available ambulances for those suffering a heart attack or stroke. Yet every day in the city of Portland, we face that risk. Nobody understood the impacts of fentanyl and pcpc, meth on our streets. Those drugs are devastating. Families businesses, neighborhoods and our most vulnerable population across the city. What this does not do to criminalize addiction, we though we want those who need help to get help. These are necessary steps on the path to recovery for Portland. But it is one of many that we need to take to confront the crisis on the streets of Portland. Thank you, mayor.

**Speaker:** Thank you, commissioner Gonzalez. Here to present on both items, we have stephanie howard, who is my director of community safety. Good afternoon, stephanie. And we have shaw smith, who is commissioner Gonzalez's chief of staff. Good afternoon. Shaw and we have some invited testimony as well. But we'll turn it over to you, stephanie, to start us off.

**Speaker:** Thank you, mayor. Good afternoon, everyone. I think as as the mayor and the commissioner have have already identified this resolution, really speaks to the unification of council in hearing the community and in doing everything in its power to take action on behalf of the community, as well as to advocate in partnership with other stakeholders who are needed to address the many challenges that we're facing as commissioner Gonzalez and the mayor both pointed out, we're facing debilitating substance use disorder or a lack of treatment, a lack of sobering facilities, a public defender crisis and a jail capacity crisis on the verge of such a thing. And I think the other piece that council brings together in this resolution is its commitment to working with all stakeholders to support and advocate, even if it's not a space where we have a direct role. This resolution is intended, I think, to demonstrate that commitment from council and to guide our our office of government relations and advocating in those spaces where we would really like to be partners and to be collaborative in seeking solutions. And finally, i'll just say before I hand it over to shaw, that the I think the reason motion is intended more than anything to provide these solutions over politics. And so with that, i'll hand it over to shaw to speak to the ordinance.

**Speaker:** Thank you, stephanie. Thank you, mayor. Members of council, the ordinance before us today allows us to address an important gap in our ability to confront the drug crisis on our streets. It would prohibit the open use of hard drugs in the same terms as the original ordinance brought forward by the mayor earlier this year, with one important addition a clause stipulating its immediate enforcement upon appropriate action from the state legislature or a judgment from a court of competent jurisdiction. The proposed changes would add consumption of a controlled substance to the city ordinance, which already prohibits public consumption of alcohol and once, in effect, would allow for a fine of up to \$500 or

up to six months in jail, as determined by the courts. And with that, I will I understand we have invited testimony. Multnomah County commissioner Sharon Meieran will lead us off.

**Speaker:** Thank you for being here. I know you're busy, so we appreciate it. Thank you so much.

**Speaker:** Mayor Wheeler. Commissioner Gonzales and the entire City Council here. I appreciate the opportunity to testify. I'm the Multnomah County commissioner representing district one, which includes a number of neighborhoods, particularly impacted by the fentanyl crisis, including downtown in Old Town Chinatown, the Pearl and others. I see the impacts of fentanyl overdose regularly in the neighborhood that I frequent and I hear about the deaths and overdoses witnessed by my constituents. I'm also an E.R. doctor and I volunteer with Portland Street Medicine. And these give me a unique perspective in terms of the causes and impacts of substance use disorder and where I directly treat patients harmed by opioids and other substances, particularly fentanyl and methamphetamine. While I appreciate the intent of Measure 110, I believe the Oregon Health Authority verged on the criminally negligent in how they allowed the measure to roll out and harm and death have resulted from decriminalization without a plan. Even as efforts are being made to remedy the problems of Measure 110, I won't speak to those today. Take a while. We need to be doing everything in our power locally to mitigate the death and harm being caused by the fentanyl overdose epidemic. I appreciate you here at the city trying to do everything in your power and taking action when your hands are somewhat tied. Sometime as you step in in. And I recognize your options can be limited when the state needs to take action on and when the real power to address the crisis lies in the realm of the county.

**Speaker:** As the local public health authority and the local mental health authority, the county should be declaring the fentanyl crisis a public health emergency.

**Speaker:** This doesn't allow the county access to new funding, but it can relax requirements so that existing funding streams can be more flexible. You can relax regulations. Certain regulations can be adapted to address the crisis potentially around open drug use and it elevates the convening and centering of all the appropriate government and other agencies as bringing them into a room where we can lead, that can lead to holistic problem solving around this shared crisis. I wish that the action the county was known for around the fentanyl crisis was declaring a public health emergency rather than distributing straws and foil. But we have the potential to do things differently now. I don't have the ability as an individual commissioner to bring together, to bring to bear the resources that we need to research and implement the public health declaration. This power lies with the chair, but I want to raise the potential and signal my strong desire to, as always, to partner with all of you to address the crisis in a world in which we too often try to govern by press release. I want to be clear declaring a state of emergency is not a solution in and of itself for the fentanyl crisis, but it is a crucial first step that we are way behind in taking. Thank you. I welcome the opportunity to partner with all of you and would love your help and encouraging the county to declare a public health crisis. Help us help you.

**Speaker:** Thanks, commissioner. We appreciate your being here. Shah, do you want to go ahead and just.

**Speaker:** Yeah. Next next, we have Andrew Wilson from Trimet.

**Speaker:** Welcome. Thanks for being here.

**Speaker:** Well, good afternoon, Mayor and members of the Portland City Council, all for the record, my name is Andrew Wilson. I'm the executive director of safety

and security at trimet. Thank you for this opportunity to testify today in support of this emergency ordinance to establish a springing amendment that would ban the public consumption of controlled substances within the city of Portland. Trimet operates transit service throughout the tri county Portland metro region. Trimet and our union atu 757 continue our call to state and local officials and lawmakers to deliver the policy changes and enforcement necessary to curb what has become an epidemic of rampant public consumption of drugs in our region. We appreciate that the city of Portland is trying to lead the changes, the convergence of behavioral health issues, drug use and addiction and homeless ness in the communities we serve are negatively impacting our riders and our employees. The open drug use is extending onto our transit system despite our expanding security efforts. It is important that public transit is safe, particularly for those who rely on it. Perception often is reality and open drug use on our on and around transit creates a perception that transit is unsafe off, which hurts transit ridership and the vitality of a downtown. Improving safety and security on transit is trimet's top priority and we want to be part of the solution. We have made huge investments in increased our unarmed security and safety team or safety teams. Our current safety and security budget is double what it was in 2020. We have more than doubled our security personnel since the start of 2020 to currently we have 315 people across our various safety and security teams and will be hiring additional staff in the coming year as part of our expansion, we added a safety response team team members connect people on and around our system with social services, including housing, mental health resources and addiction services. While we recognize the importance of a health centered approach to addressing substance use disorders, when people are using drugs on public transit, that's a public health issue. Our state currently has time, place and manner restrictions for alcohol and cannabis use, but not for

hard drugs. At a minimum, there should be equivalent restrictions for public consumption of all controlled substances. Many people in our region now expect to see used needles and fentanyl smoking in public spaces. That is an exception that needs to change, as does the current attitude that there are no consequences for openly using drugs in public spaces. As we appreciate very sincerely that the city of Portland recognize the problems with the current system and we hope that the state will now join us in this effort to create a different approach and allow the city of Portland to make these time, place and manner restrictions. Thank you very sincerely for this work and we look forward to continuing to partner with you and the city of Portland to ensure that our region is safe and welcoming for all. Thank you, sir.

**Speaker:** Commissioner Mapps mr. Mayor, if I could just jump in here. I want to thank our representative from trimet for being here today. My name is mingus. I'm one of your commissioners on council and also the commissioner in charge of pbob and pbob and trimet are partners in helping people get to where they want to go. In fact, we are literal partners in running the Portland streetcar, and I just wanted to follow and frankly, we have discussions about public safety on public transportation systems and frankly, fentanyl use in parking garage cars, busses, streetcars and whatnot. If I recall correctly, I believe that trimet partnered with the university of Washington to conduct a study of the impacts that second hand fentanyl smoke has on on folks who happen to be riding the bus or riding the trains. Do we have any results on that yet? Do we know the impacts of second hand fentanyl smoke on folks who are trying to take public transportation or just be in our hang out at our bus stops or train stops?

**Speaker:** Yeah, this has been a concern for us. We have done some studies. We have partnered with folks at the university of Washington. We don't have those ready to share yet, but we will be talking about that shortly.

**Speaker:** Well, excellent. Let me just put in a request. Once you get that data in, I sure hope that you would share it with this council. Thank you very much. Thank you. Thanks

**Speaker:** Next, we have jeff miller from travel Portland.

**Speaker:** Welcome, jeff. Thank you, mayor Wheeler, commissioners, it's always good to be here.

**Speaker:** I'm president and ceo of travel Portland, the organization that generates travel demand that drives economic impact to Portland. I'm here to testify in support of the resolution, an emergency ordinance before you today as a resident of Portland, I see the critical need to address the open air drug use on our streets. But I'm here to advocate for the visitors, meeting planners and delegates whose only opportunity to communicate their hesitation is about visiting to Portland. Is to decline to book a trip or a convention to our city and they are using that mechanism to communicate their uncertainty about what a Portland tourism experience is. In 2023, Portland hospitality industry is in crisis and it can be linked directly to the conditions on our streets with open drug dealing and usage charge. Here are a few quotes from an airline crew portal which is used for those crews to communicate what with each other about what to do in layover cities. Quote, the hotel is fine. Good rooms, great breakfast, good fitness. Downtown pdx is still a security threat. Unsafe location, homes, drug homes, drugs, filth abounds. The city is in decay. The layover clearly is a huge safety concern. If you leave the hotel while burning drugs and tin foil right outside the hotel doors. Dangerous drug dealers on every corner for way too many homeless in and around the hotel. Unacceptable to



have employees, especially women. Downtown Portland visitors, meeting planners and delegates have a reasonable expectation of safety of visiting a city where they will not be exposed to drug deals and open consumption or erratic behavior from either or both of these scenarios. This this expectation is not currently being met on the streets of Portland. I want to commend the city for taking bold action. Now, my and the citizens of Portland's expectation are that we have collaborative solutions in partnership with the county and state that I'm pleased to be on. The governor's central city task force having the governor's focus and resources is very much appreciated. We need bold action from our county leadership and staff to join the effort with equally bold and visible ways that return our streets to our citizens, us and visitors. It is time to reset priorities and leave the ineffective policies of the past behind the most vulnerable citizens. Cities towns on our street need immediate help, safe places to sleep, mental health and addiction services. But also to be held accountable for their behavior by the numbers. Other cities are recovering from the economic effects of the pandemic much faster than Portland. From a revenue standpoint. Portland central city is 25% behind where it was in 2019, when denver is 24% above 2019. Seattle is 4% above 2019. In san francisco is the only other city with a hill to climb like ours. Portland's hotel recovery is significantly behind our competitive set of cities and as you know, we do quarterly sentiment surveying outside of Portland, visitors visitor sentiment is not improving and we know the reputational damage being done has the potential to last. If we don't see quick action to make our streets safer. A recent new york times headlines include the struggle to save Portland and the hard drug decriminalization disaster focused on measure 110. The reality is that potential visitors, meeting planners and convention delegates see these headlines and having Portland on their list of desirable destinations becomes more and more unlikely. Despite our public relations effort

to tell strong, diverse, positive stories about Portland's people, neighborhoods and attractions, which has resulted in valuable media coverage about all the good things happening in our city. The impact of one or more negative pieces sets us back further than dozens of positive pieces of coverage can bring us forward. This year, we've been able to rely on a robust convention calendar for meetings that were booked prior to 2018. This has indeed brought delegates to town, but few meetings have been without a negative interaction or incident that impacted a delegate or planner directly. Our leisure recovery is a little bit better than flat over last summer and will prove to be an extra challenge next year when we see a drop off in conventions that are delayed because of results of 24 or 25 and 26 being years that were booked during the uncertain time of covid. Most a major, most major American cities are able to meet the responsible visitor expectation of providing a positive visitor experience that is free of exposure to open air drug markets and to active use and drug induced behavior in the streets. As the tourism industry, we ask our state county and city leaders to work urgently toward meaningful, impactful and measurable solutions to the most critical issues facing our city. The most vulnerable members of our community and the overall livability and safety of Portland. Portland can thrive again as the economic center of the state and look forward to the return of healthy and robust tourism industry that is part and parcel of a vibrant, vibrant urban center for extending benefits to all the communities that make up our city. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, jeff. Could I ask you a question? And first of all, thanks for your continued leadership. Thank you. You have indicated that there is a lag in convention bookings. What can you tell us about 2024, 2025, 2026, based on on the reality that these convention ins are typically booked three, 4 or 5 years in advance, what should we expect? What happened in Portland was different than what

happened in other cities is the pandemic came upon us conventions had to cancel, so they booked into a future year to avoid canceling that city and avoid the cost of the cancellation.

**Speaker:** In Portland, most cities rebooked 70% of those conventions. In Portland, we rebooked 30. They said, we're not coming back. Portland is too dangerous. And so we are now booking into 27, 28. So we fall off a bit of a cliff in July of 24. So 24 and 25 are going to be difficult years. And if leisure and business travel do not come back, you as a city and we as an organization will see those revenues drop dramatically. We in the first three months of this year, hotel revenue was up 29. January, February, March, April, May, June, July was up three, and July was down 2% in revenue in the central city, the central city is obviously the driver. We are in a dramatic place. The house is on fire and we need immediate and visible actions from you, which we are doing today from the county which we need to see more of. And certainly the state needs to join in. So we are here to support that. Thank you, jeff.

**Speaker:** Really appreciate it. Uh, commissioner Ryan.

**Speaker:** Yeah, one second, jeff. I think you basically answered the question, but I still want to ask this part of it. So it's three categories conventions, business, and then leisure, right? Three different categories. And is it leisure? That's the same as last year or down from last year?

**Speaker:** We think it's slightly up, but very barely up from last year, but it is nowhere near 2019 because that used to be a big driver in the summer.

**Speaker:** And I mean, who doesn't want to come here in the summer? You should be experiencing 85 and 90% occupancies in the summer, which we did in 2019.

**Speaker:** We are at 63% and the average daily rate is below that. It was last year and probably about I would say \$20 below where it was in 2019. So that delta of

less people, less average daily rate creates a crisis on the revenue line. We have hotels that are struggling severely with the lack of revenue.

**Speaker:** Thank you. That's exactly what I want to hear. Thanks for clarifying. Thanks.

**Speaker:** Next, we have shay flaherty benton from prosper, Portland. Hi, shay.

**Speaker:** Good afternoon, mayor Wheeler. City commissioners. And thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is shay flaherty. Bethany and I serve as a director of economic development at prosper Portland, which is the city's economic development agency, public consumption of fentanyl and other opiates is at the top of mind of many businesses that we work with as well as their employees. I must first acknowledge that the scale of resources needed to have an effective long term and compassionate response to the houseless crisis on our streets is immense, and we must acknowledge that one of the causes of the crisis is a lack of housing supply and production, which we know that the city is hard at work to remedy every day. That being said, there are some common sense actions which we can support without unnecessarily criminalizing addiction. Houselessness and poverty writ large. Today action around the public use of controlled substances is such an action it makes sense to us that governments regulate the public use of drugs. At the very least, it as much as we regulate the public use of alcohol and cannabis speaking more broadly to our work at prosper, Portland, fentanyl has turned into a business retention issue, plain and simple. Consumption and smoking of fentanyl in public spaces continues to be a reason that our central city employers refuse to bring their employees back downtown. It continues to be a major concern when we bring international delegations to our city, when we are pursuing additional investment from employers all across the city. And I think you all heard from some of our testimony last week when we were speaking to izeone about some of those concerns

as well. Many of you know that prosper Portland also manages commercial properties, including those that are part of our affordable commercial tenancing program. So this is affordable commercial spaces for entrepreneurs is one of our tenants is at the 10th in yamhill property and that tenant is actually vacating their space in the coming month due to the amount of secondhand fentanyl smoke outside their storefront at and how that smoke is impacting the health of their employees. He's had to send many folks home and they've had to get additional medical help. Luckily, that business owner, we've worked hard to make sure they're going to remain in Portland. They're just going to move to a different part of the city. But their experience reflects the daily reality of an insidious drug that preys upon those of us that are most vulnerable and in crisis. A drug that is holding our central city hostage. So I just wanted to share that today and thank you all for your work and for the opportunity to testify. My thanks. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Dan, did you have your hand raised?

**Speaker:** Thank you. Thanks.

**Speaker:** Thank you.

**Speaker:** And next, we have jose sin fuego from revitalize Portland. Welcome

**Speaker:** Thank you very much. Really appreciate the opportunity.

**Speaker:** Uh, thanks for being here.

**Speaker:** A little bit about myself as I said, I'm jose cienfuegos. I started off my legal career as a public defender in Washington county in Multnomah County. I did delinquency dependency, see termination of parental rights. I worked with people that drug abuse and substance abuse affected every day in the worst possible ways. I then had the pleasure and honor of working at the Multnomah County district attorney's office. As a prosecutor, I worked with nathan vasquez, whom you're going to hear from there. I was able to run with the drug court there, disc

program. Um, and I was able to work with the Portland police and the Multnomah County sheriff's office and the special investigator units, the opportunity so to speak, for me to be personally connected with drug use and those people that are affected by addiction is quite great. I'm here on behalf of revitalize Portland coalition. It's a group that comprises of 24 commercial real estate organizations and businesses representing over 8000 members across Oregon. Rpc is the collective voice of Portland and the commercial real estate area focused on providing feedback and advising public officials on issues of public safety. Homelessness livable city and economic vitality. More importantly, our members and organizations love this city, as do i, and will ensure that change will occur. Our tenants are telling us that employees want to come back to work, but they can't. They're afraid to. They're afraid to bike, to commute, to work, to walk to the office and be in the neighborhoods around their offices. There are employees. These are employees at some of the top companies in Portland, companies that we are thrilled to attract to come here. But unfortunately, we can't get them to stay who are now considering moving to the suburbs and other cities. We need bold and urgent action such as this. And I want to thank everyone here and I want to thank commissioner Gonzalez, especially for all the hard work you're doing to institute some real change. The time for talk is over. The time for action is now. While we support boots on the ground, that is security personnel downtown, their options are limited. I know this, nathan knows this. People in criminal law know this. They can only do so much. We need legislation such as this and a change in the laws and a fix to the bad law. And the experiment gone wrong in this city to change things, to make sure that the bleed stops in Portland, downtown continues to suffer from high office vacancy rates. 28.4. The metro wide recovery is only at 22, with empty storefronts. The point I guess I want to make here is this there is a story that is

Portland and we have lost the ability to control the narrative. We need it back. Closed storefronts, plywood covered windows, graffiti, trash, debris, tents, people sleeping in doorways and of course, the open use of hard drugs and fentanyl makes it so no one wants to come to work. They don't want to rent or buy in downtown or in Portland. They don't want to buy investment, property, property or invest in Portland. These things need to change. Population growth was at its high mark in 2016. By 2021, it had moved into the negative, falling even further in 2022 as more people moved out of the area. The migration out of Multnomah County resulted in a loss of more than \$1 billion. That's billion with a b. Again, this story needs to change. Despite a bustling summer filled with festivals and concert series, downtown's foot traffic is still only 65% of what it used to be. These are people that we need to have walking around downtown, showing the world that Portland is a great city and a safe city. It's legislation like this that will support absolutely that will hopefully change this. But this is just a step first step in the right direction. As you all know, we've had an uptick in violence and property crimes in the past four weeks. Stabbings on the max of two teenagers. My ex-wife told me I no longer can put my child on max anymore and I agreed with her. That is sad, but I can afford to take my kids around. Other people can't. Of the seven areas of the city, offenses are now down slightly this year from 2022. However total offenses across all of the neighborhoods are still on the rise. This area is home to more than a dozen of Portland's most prominent hotel properties, including the nines, the benson hotel and the soon to open ritz-carlton and in Portland and I'm sure and I know I'm missing many, many others. It's businesses like these that attract most people from outside the state to bring in the revenue that we need to operate this city. More importantly, the tax revenue that the rest of the state receives from the city and the county. We are losing it. We are losing people. But more importantly, we're not

serving our people with the past laws that we've had. We're losing people to addiction and we're losing people to homelessness. We're losing people to mental health crisis and we see this resolution as a great first step. And I want to thank you on behalf of revitalize Portland coalition for the opportunity to come here and tell you that in person. But also thank you for your action and finally doing something about it. Thank you very much. Thank you. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Next, we have tony vezina from ford recovery services. Welcome

**Speaker:** Thanks for being here. Yeah, thanks for having me.

**Speaker:** Mayor Wheeler. And the rest of the commission. Thanks so much for having me today. Hey, my name is tony. I'm the co-founder and executive director of 40 recovery. 40 recovery has been around for about 11 years. We employ about 100 people throughout the tri county area. They're all people in recovery. And we help young adults, adolescents get into recovery. I'm also the chair of the alcohol and drug policy commission, though my remarks today represent only myself. I also sent you guys some supplemental documents that you could read at your leisure for today. Given the short amount of time. I want to thank shaw for having me today and for the conversations we have in general terms, I support what the city is trying to do with the public use ban. You know, our citizens and businesses should be able to operate freely in our city and also people trapped in the despair of addiction should get the help they need. And I think a society that stands by idly while its citizens wallow in despair of addiction is one that's lost its moral compass. However, I do caution the council against a narrow approach that may signal a solid, solid response to constituents, but falls short of addressing a critical health concern. In my opinion, there are limitations to a public use ban and that include two of the most important ones. One would be hiding the problem. You know, just pushing people who are using on the streets, out, out of the streets, out of the view



of the public and maybe the hands of people who can help them. And with the high fatality of fentanyl, I fear that people will go and die in isolation. Secondly I think it creates a limited intervention model. And I think that in recovering from measure 110, we're starting to develop a fragmented intervention approach to different drugs at different times and different circumstances, years. So what I would request is that you broaden the scope of your governmental affairs efforts and align with more sensible efforts to fix the parts of measure 110 that haven't been working. Specifically, the interventions. I think this approach would create a partnership between public safety and health care that ensures those using highly addictive and lethal drugs or intervene and dissuaded from continuing use through referral to treatment, specifically, drug courts I think are really good and treatment courts. I sent you some supplemental documents about that. Despite misinformation, intervention and dissuasion are effective methods to jumpstart recovery. But when they are accompanied by adequate services, I appreciate the resolution and you trying to lever leverage, what position you have to generate more resources for treatment and services. I want to be clear. The last thing that I'm advocating for is a war on drugs or a hard on crime approach. You know, I'm advocating for a smart on drugs and smart on crime system. I think we need a system approach and we can't do this in isolation. I'm not a proponent of putting people in prison for possession, but I am a proponent of intervention. It saved my life and it saved the lives of a lot of other people. But intervention without intention and just simply criminalizing public use and isolation. I do not think will be a sufficient approach to this problem before the passage of measure 110. And according to an Oregon health and science university addiction service gaps report that looked at prevention, treatment and recovery services, we were 49% under capacity statewide. I sent you a brief and a summary in your email to look over. So what I would say is please use

the political leverage that you have to align. Most specifically, I would say with max williams, out of all the efforts I see and the people I've talked to has kind of the smartest lane and we want to keep the funding from measure 110 into recovery services and look for ways to expand services as well. I think some of the metro money could go there. I advocated for it really hard. It didn't seem to work. My advocacy didn't work, but I think now is the time where people understand the scope of the situation. I'm here to answer any questions if you want, but in general terms, thank you so much for having me and really appreciate you calling me to give public testimony. Thanks thanks. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Oh, commissioner gonzales, I did have two quick follow up questions.

**Speaker:** Sure. Thank you for bringing attention to drug court. Such an important intervention in the overall criminal justice system. And I the and I'm not sure how familiar you are with some of its struggles in the pandemic and the decrease in referrals. I just want to observe that, you know, if you have pieces to add, but this has been one of the more painful parts for our community. A lot of people that were previously getting addiction services for drug courts aren't getting the referrals over because the circuit courts have come to a you know, really slowed down during the pandemic. And I don't know if you have anything to speak to that on that, but it is a significant I know that the drug courts lost a lot of infrastructure that has been developed since I believe like 1989 is kind of the inception of drug courts in America.

**Speaker:** And there's been a long history of kind of reforming drug policy since then. So I don't know what it's going to take to bring those back to life. I will say that that I am afraid that due to the, you know, high volume of dissent against public safety, we've now gotten to a place where nobody wants to pick up the addiction issue anymore. When public safety was kind of responsive for it. And we know that

the emergency rooms turn people away who are in the highest acuity of the crisis. And I'm a little nervous that we've become apathetic to addiction and it's become normalized. I will say that the drug policy alliance, if you read their website, their goal is the legalization and commercialization of illicit drugs. They were the prime proponent of measure one, and I don't think that's a good idea. I think what we saw with kind of the commercialization of oxycontin would indicate that maybe that's not the route we want to go for a healthy society. So I don't know what it would take, but i, I do know that it has to be a partnership when addressing behavioral health between public safety and health care, because you know, addressing a lot of the issues are a health care based. But the behavior was, you know, seep into the public safety arena. And so there has to be a partnership. We have to work together.

**Speaker:** That's that's very clarifying. Thank you for that. Stephanie, do you have anything to add sort of in how the resolution operates on this point of partnership?

**Speaker:** Yeah. Yeah. I think one of the pieces of the resolution is to advocate for additional resources for alternative sentencing and to support our court partners in making sure that they have the resources to reinstate those kinds of problem solving courts to address these things in a meaningful and holistic way and not just with punishment. So a very front of mind, I think, for council through this resolution. Thank you. Thank you again for your testimony.

**Speaker:** Thank you.

**Speaker:** Next, we have david fredericks, paramedic with Portland fire and rescue. Welcome um, thank you.

**Speaker:** Good afternoon.

**Speaker:** My name is david friedrichs. I'm a firefighter paramedic at station one at five five southwest downtown Portland, right in old town. March station is the

epicenter for the emergency response to Portland's current fentanyl crisis. On a daily basis, we're responding to multiple overdoses of or fentanyl related calls as firefighters, we know and accept the demands of our job. We are eager and prepared to respond to emergencies of all kinds. What is often forgotten is that we are also human. There is a limit to the number of high acuity calls we can handle, no matter how well trained and resilient we are. The following is an example of the numbers of overdose calls. Station one responded to this past weekend between 8 a.m. September 2nd and 8 a.m. September 4th. Sad day, September 2nd, the engine engine one responded to seven overdose calls. Truck one responded to three. Overdose calls, and squad one responded to five overdose calls. And this is just in old town on Sunday, September 3rd, engine one responded to five overdose calls. Truck one responded to nine overdose calls and squad one responded to 11 with my crew. I personally responded to 16 overdose calls during my 48 hour shift station one responded to 40 overdose calls and as a station as a whole, we responded to 76 calls over the weekend of the 16 overdose calls, I responded to the patient was administered narcan. In each case, there are times when civilians and law enforcement also administer narcan and start cpr. Prior to our arrival. However, we often need to dispense additional doses and wait for the patient out, wait for the patient until an ambulance with the patient, until an ambulance can arrive. We are often in the position to have to breathe for the patients using our bag valve mask to keep their brains and oxygen or brains and hearts oxygenated. And until narcan can be reverse out and until narcan can reverse fentanyl suppression of the respiratory system often the patients that we respond to start breathing, start to breathe, wake up and are alert and sufficiently oriented to refuse further, further medical attention in most cases, they walk away from the scene rarely. We have a patient who understands the severity of what occurred and

requests transport to the hospital, all in. In some cases, we treat the same patient several times in the same week and we know through our partners at amr that the same patient has overdosed multiple times in a day in the last two weeks in particular, I've noticed an increase in overdose incidents that initially present with the characteristics of fentanyl overdose. But when narcan is administered, does not revive the patient in the way that a strict fentanyl overdose should the patient must be transported to the hospital and are often placed on a ventilator in order to keep them alive until the drugs have moved through their systems. This leads us in our law enforcement partners to believe that other street drugs are being laced with fentanyl. Unbeknownst to the purchaser. This creates a highly dangerous situation for the user and for the paramedics trying to help. If fentanyl continues to be combined with other drugs in this way, I believe we will see more and more patients being transported to our local hospitals to be treated in. Imagine how quickly our already overrun, overburdened hospital system will be impacted and it will be inevitable. It will inevitably reduce their ability to care for patients agents that are merely sick and injured. Fentanyl users are well versed in knowing when and how to administer narcan to potential overdoses. Narcan is often used before ems arrives and is sometimes given without calling ems, which means that the true number of fentanyl near death overdoses each day in the city are far greater than we know. While narcan is a powerful resource, it is also given our population a false sense of security. It is our job as first responders to care for the members of our community. And we are good at what we have been trained to do. Most of us choose this career for a reason and believe strongly in what we do. That includes helping the addicted, but the high volume of overdose calls is disheartening, and knowing that when that even when we try to help our help is unwanted, wears on all of us. Our most common call has become responding to an

overdose. Every day we see people die, they die. Then they wake up and they walk away like nothing happened. There is no clear solution and no end. We are tired and our families are worried about our mental and physical health. We are not alone. This crisis is taking a toll on law enforcement, armor and health care professionals. The situation is untenable and something must be done. Thank you for your time. Attention an and efforts to resolve this situation.

**Speaker:** Thank you, commissioner Mapps.

**Speaker:** Thank you very much for both for your testimony and for your service to our city. And are and its citizens, as you probably addressed this in your comments. But just to underscore it, can you tell us approximately how many fentanyl overdoses is your fire house responds to in a month? I'd say ballpark. It doesn't have to be precise. Just so we have a sense of scale.

**Speaker:** So i'll take the month of may. Okay. Just because I know that we responded about 300in that one in that one month, about 300.

**Speaker:** So of those 300 overdose cases, how successful were we in being able to connect people with sobering beds or treatment or other services that will help them in this terrible cycle of addiction?

**Speaker:** Unfortunately, fortunately, that's not that's not in our our jurisdiction, our realm.

**Speaker:** Sure. Whose realm is it in?

**Speaker:** What's that?

**Speaker:** Who's responsible city. Is that who does that work? Well that's a good question.

**Speaker:** I don't know, i, I believe that there's community organizations, there's shelters that should have resources that people and when people want to talk to us and ask us one of our first places to go to is old town clinic. Go talk to somebody at

old town clinic. I think that they've got a fairly good record of finding people help, but I wish I knew more.

**Speaker:** Okay. Thank you very much. I appreciate your your being here today and being out on the streets of Portland every day. You guys are amazing.

**Speaker:** Thank you.

**Speaker:** Next, we have adrian pettis from Portland street response. Welcome

**Speaker:** Thank you for being here.

**Speaker:** Thank you for having me. My name is adrian petta. I'm a person in recovery from substance substance use disorder, more specifically, opiate use disorder. I'm also a person who has worked in the field of addiction and recovery for many years now as a prevention specialist, interventionist, national certified peer recovery specialist, alcohol and drug counselor and mental health associate. I currently work as a supervisor for Portland street response. Every day the crews I support respond to low acuity behavioral health crisis where substance use disorder and altered mental status due to active substance use. Frequently co-occur. Our clients face complex challenges that are compounded by poverty, homelessness and trauma. I know firsthand and how stuck and entrenched these patterns can become. So there were many times in my active addiction that I wasn't interested in getting any type of help to change my life of incarcerate and homelessness and just daily misery. I needed someone to show me that a different path was possible. My lived experience motivates me to serve others and provide the service and support that is needed to build a better future for the individuals we serve. This is why the work that we do at Portland street response is so essential because trauma informed crisis intervention has the power to break cycles and save lives. A few years ago, I participated in a study in which opiate users who had been using for over a decade or more were surveyed to assess their understanding

of the different types of recovery paths. What was found in that survey is that the respondents, especially those who were homeless, lacked sufficient knowledge of what options were available to them, what resource uses and supports, if any, were available at all. So these findings underscore for the idea that simply breaking the cycle is insufficient and that meaningful solutions to the opioid crisis in our community depends on our ability to provide, educate, ocean resource recovery options and supports. So that those who are still struggling are given a real opportunity to choose a better situation for themselves to be clear, I'm not here to debate. If an addiction, if addiction is a disease or a personal choice. What I'm saying that the cost of maintaining the status quo is too high and that and so we address the crisis in the community, the most marginalized individuals will pay the most substance use disorder comes with personal consequences regardless of the consequences or legal or not. Substance use disorder is a thief that robs not only the impacted individual, but everyone around them. It robs its users from living their full potential as well as, ironically, making its users rob to support their habits as it robs families and loved ones. It robs the community at large of all the missed talents and opportunities of those who are in its grips and of those we lose too soon. As one organization in and a larger continuum of crisis care. Portland street response's role is not to force anyone out of active substance use, but rather meet individuals where they are and provide information resource source and support that they need to become empowered to make empowered choices in their care and treatment. We take this approach because we're a voluntary program and recent research shows that voluntary service models are effective in terms of promote lasting long term substance use, recovery outcomes and reducing the rebound effect and overdose risk. Thank you. And creating a lasting change in this crisis will require uplifting, uplifting voices of those with lived experience and truly



investing in community based programs that serve those most impacted. Thanks for having me.

**Speaker:** Thank you for being here. Appreciate it.

**Speaker:** And our final invited testimony is jesse burke from the society hotel in old town. Hi, jesse.

**Speaker:** Hi, everyone. Thanks for having me. My name is jesse burke. I own the society hotel and I serve as chair of the old town community association. I work ground floor retail front, facing all day, every day. And I've been at work every day of the pandemic. I've watched firsthand as measure 1 to 10 went into play and the downward spiral it created on our streets. I'm here today to address the need for urgent policy prohibiting open use of controlled substances, specifically fentanyl and methamphetamine in the public realm and in public view. I would like to add the need for additional urgent policy for public intoxication caused by controlled substances. Current policy prohibits smoking tobacco in public parks. It's unlawful to possess even a partially open receptacle containing alcohol or drink. Alcoholic beverages on any street, sidewalk or other public right of way. And marijuana is only allowed on private property away from public view at a minimum, the same rule should apply for meth and fentanyl as exists for tobacco. Marijuana and alcohol. I met with two state representatives recently and we sat at tables in front of my hotel. I have a general rule that I do not let elected officials sit inside when we meet. I believe it's important for them to understand why our doors are locked 24 over seven. I wanted them to see our streets without anything, any protection between them and what is happening outside to gauge how they're doing at their job. They witnessed how scary it is sitting outside, how allowing people to use such dangerous drugs in public is shocking. But public high's particular meth are the most dangerous. Pcp meth is inducing psychosis in users, and we do not know if it

is reversible. I believe there is a direct correlation between in our exploding mental health crisis and meth destroying users frontal lobes while meeting with the state representatives, a fight broke out next to our table in the last ten minutes of our meeting and they asked me if those were the effects of fentanyl. I explained that that is meth. Meth takes makes people erratic, often angry, and sometimes with superhuman strength. Fentanyl is when someone looks like they might be dozing off or dead. Those are the bodies lying across our sidewalks throughout the city and they ask what my customers thought working in hospitality. I have visitors from all over, from some of the most progressive countries in the world and places Portlanders say they wish we were more like, and these visitors cannot believe that we allow this because at the end of the day, while so many people in Portland fear appearing judgmental, judgment is discernment not and these visitors can discern that some things just should not be allowed. I voted for measure 110, as most of us did, but I did not understand that we, the public, would become guinea pigs for this poorly planned experiment. We've spent years developing legislation for the legalization of marijuana, and it was decided 12 weeks would suffice. And rolling out measure 110. When I make policies for my company, I have to think through every possible way it could go wrong. Every possible way. Someone might game the system. And then I have to go a step further and consider who on my staff has to enforce that policy. And is what I'm creating even enforceable? If it's not, then I'm setting my team and our system up for failure. If we hope to create a truly meaningful policy, you must consider what your enforcement teams need to do their job effectively. If we do not, we will fail. And the social contract will break and our ecosystem will fall back out of balance. There's a saying among east coasters, of which I am one that the difference between the west coast and the east coast is the east coast has progressive pragmatism, while the west coast has progressive

idealism. We are a city full of incredibly smart people, and I believe it is possible to raise the bar here and celebrate progressive policies while being pragmatic in how we develop and implement those policy. As I understand you do not have the ability to change state legislation, but I want to thank you for taking this urgent action for the sake of the entire communities health and safety. Thank you. Thank you, mr. Mayor.

**Speaker:** I have a quick commissioner, a couple of quick questions. You bet. Ms. Burke, thank you so much for coming in today. A couple of quick questions. Is that I want to ask first, can you just remind us where your hotel is located in? You don't have to give the exact address, but it's roughly davis one more time, northwest third and davis, right across from da cells.

**Speaker:** Okay.

**Speaker:** Northwest third and davis. So how often do you encounter someone consuming fentanyl or meth on the sidewalk in front of your hotel? Is that like a daily thing or an hourly percent of the time? 100% of the time, 100% of the time. And for those of for folks at home who haven't encountered a lot of people consuming fentanyl or meth, what sort of behaviors do you are associated with that and how do those behaviors impact your business?

**Speaker:** So fentanyl, you'll you'll usually see people with foil. We know all of the drug dealers and their handlers at this point and people usually will have the dealers will have backpacks with foil and they distribute foil after a deal. And you'll see people on any corner, anywhere to sit any ledge where I told a reporter recently the most painful thing to watch is when you know someone's doing it for the first time. And I say this we lost my husband's brother to a fentanyl overdose and I've seen several people use for the first time and it's like watching much like previous testimony. It's like watching someone die and then come back to life later. And you

know that the rest of their life is being altered. And so fentanyl is much like watching people die and they lay until they wake back up. Meth is very different. Um, I tell people the story that we have because when you have commercial operations, you want to have commercial grade furniture. So we put cast iron tables with marble tops outside these tables weigh 150 pounds because you're like, great, no one will move them. And last year I had someone come up and pick up a table with one hand and just smash it down the sidewalk all the way to blanch house and just return. I initially ran out to say, don't do that and then did not continue that conversation. But came back with just a tiny piece of cast iron to give to me. And I think people don't quite understand just how powerful and how dangerous people become under under methamphetamine. It's unbelievable.

**Speaker:** Uh, thank you very much. You paint a vivid portrait. Thanks thank you so, sean, stephanie, does that complete invited testimony?

**Speaker:** Yes. Yes, very good. So we'll move to public testimony. We have 14 people signed up. We'll give three minutes each name for the record. And sean, stephanie, maybe I could ask you to free up those chairs just for the time being. We'll ask you to come back after the public testimony about six inches to the microphone is good. If you're testifying in person, please state your name. We don't need to know your address or anything else beyond that. And if you don't feel comfortable using your name, just your first name is sufficient as well.

**Speaker:** Thank you. First up, our first three testifier is andrew wilson. Eddie todd and stuart webster. Okay. I was called last night. Coming up now. Yeah. Stuart webster. Yes.

**Speaker:** Please welcome. Thanks for being here. Pleasure

**Speaker:** I'd like to start my written testimony by first commenting on the prior testimony that now I am aware of when the people on my street across from my

home for the last seven years have been on fentanyl or meth. Clearly, the young gentleman who threw his bicycle through the ford taurus, that was his domicile in a fit of I don't know what was meth and the zombies that I have on my street is fentanyl. I have seen the aluminum foil. So this is all very clear to me. Getting back to my testimony regarding both this resolution and ordinance before the commission, common sense would tell the reader of either draft document that the aspirational intent is commendable, all rational and fundamentally necessary. The outcome of the passage of either document is what concerns me and my family. The empirical evidence drives us this common sense throughout the city, we see desperation on the street. However, I submit that what is missing from our dialog about this condition is not about the desperation. It is about incentivizing behavior and actions that are using the desperation on our streets to their own ends as cover for their illegal actions. Recruiting the desperate into their illegal activities and conducting their illegal activities within impunity. The notion of a health based approach in addressing homelessness is commendable. I make no judgment nor any criticism with the intent of such an approach. However this approach is blurred and complicated, and the fundamental social contract, the public has with the government effectively a shield between law abiding citizens and those that prey on them. This resolution and ordinance's passage is irrelevant to me. I am here to submit testimony that when government does not do the most basic of services, public safety and cleanliness, citizens will start taking matters in their own hands. This brings further stress on an already stressed out system. This is an emergency and needs to be acted upon as though it is focus. The limited resources of the city and the state to get a handle on this situation. Put the rule of law front and center and let other social political issues sort themselves out. Secondly for example, I read in the paper today that commissioner Ryan's focus has turned to Portland

international raceway's air quality issues. Let me tell you something. This is like wondering if you left the toaster on while you're watching the house go up in flames. This is a pointless social exercise right now. I'm not dismissing it as unimportant, but I am not judging it nor criticizing it. I am simply saying prioritize this. The last six years outside our home, I have documented with some of you on the email thread what has been going on in my street, and I will tell you that it has been actually on the up side compared to some of the neighborhoods that I have seen in this town in. However, given the stress of the outcome of this conversation, i'll leave as submitted testimony if you'd like the record, for those of you that are not on my email thread for the past six years about this condition. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Appreciate your being here.

**Speaker:** Commissioner Mapps just a quick question on number one. Thank you so much for coming in today and my sympathies for the challenges you faced. Earlier, we heard from jesse burke, who owns a business in old town. I'm just curious roughly what neighborhood you live in. You don't have to give us your Portland. So you live in north Portland, kenton and portsmouth.

**Speaker:** Okay.

**Speaker:** That's across the street from tamarack apartments.

**Speaker:** That is home forward property, of which a lot of this activity takes place. So it is not beyond the realm of legal possibility that the city and the state own some liability for this condition.

**Speaker:** Thank you very much. And I think it's powerful to hear that this is a problem that plagues not only old town, but it appears to impact every corner of the city, which is consistent with the my experience as a Portland here, here. Thank you very much for being here today. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Eddie todd. Richard perkins. Oh, eddie. Okay. Oh hi, eddie.

**Speaker:** Um, my name is eddie todd. I guess I'm close. Um I think that passing this emergency ordinance is after year with no inclusion of any rehab or health care funding, or at least that I could read in it. Um, I think it's sloppy. And I think that it doesn't make sense. I think that the county funded 250 jail beds last week and even if you packed all of the drug users downtown, then there'd still be thousands of people out on the streets and to ask us to just trust that these services and health care funding is to come is something that I feel like we've been asked for years now and. It just doesn't make sense. It seems self-serving and it seems like it looks good. Um, I don't know what the follow through would be when we all know that there's not enough service is. And that's what the problem is. There's people on the streets because there's not enough services. There's people using because there's not enough health care and rehab. And this doesn't make it so. There's enough health care and rehab. You're just criminalizing poor people drugs, right after funding 250 jailbirds and then in the write up, it says, you guys are worried about jail bed funding like, I don't it's like scary. And it's it is war on drugs stuff like they criminalize crack, like fentanyl and crack. It's a poor person drug. And then you use it to make people scared of poor people. So they don't talk to them. And you can lock them up and maybe when you get the health care funding, you can forcefully institutionalize them so they can't go outside. And I just I don't know. It's there's lots of ins and outs that I might not get, but I don't think it's fair. And I think it's sloppy and I think that everybody should be careful. I don't know if they get through it. Does just seem a little sloppy from what I can tell. That's what i'll say.

**Speaker:** Thank you for your testimony. Commissioner Mapps edi stick around for a second and I authentically want to thank you for coming in and sharing your perspective here.

**Speaker:** Um, like everyone on this council and I suspect everyone in this room, I've been doing a lot of thinking about how to, to navigate this really difficult space. Um so let me. I'd be interested in your perspective on this, uh, you know, this council and the city of Portland regulates when and where people will drink. You know, you can't take get a beer from a bar and just kind of wander down the street. The same with cannabis. You can go into a cannabis shop, but you're not supposed to go outside on the sidewalk, talk to you and smoke your weed or whatnot. But because of a weird quirk in state law for the city of Portland doesn't have the authority to basically make the same rules around the consumption of fentanyl and meth. And I don't. That seems a little bit counterintuitive to me. And I'm just curious about what you what you think about that.

**Speaker:** I think that that's something that I would it's I think it is about enforcement. It's hard for me to think that you guys would be I don't know, the police would be going up to the kids that are like smoking weed at skate parks and putting handcuffs on them. But I do think that they will be doing that with people downtown when they get a call about somebody that somebody thinks is on drugs and maybe they are or maybe they're having a panic attack because they're traumatized from living outside and they're scared. And I just think that that's like actually like a mindfulness about enforce. Like, I mean, yeah, like it's the same crack. Like they made it, you know, like the sentencing for crack, even though it was the same as cocaine. Like we all saw how that happened. And like the it worked, you know, they did get to put all the black people in jail and we were all scared of them. And then we were like, okay, that was bad. And it just like keeps happening. And I think that if you keep having you need to really like follow through and I understand that there's compromises and there's all these different things coming from all angles. But if you just keep appeasing to whatever voice is the loudest at



like the given week for the council agenda, it's going to it is going to be sloppy and it's dangerous. It's

**Speaker:** Thank you, eddie. I very much appreciate you coming down today to share your perspective. Um, yeah. And please continue to come and be part of this process. Okay. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. I'm dick perkins.

**Speaker:** An excel, an addict, a felon, recovering bank executive, and an 18 year downtown resident. I'm here to support those on our streets with substance use disorder where they have an illness. They need treatment, not prison. I'm here to support more expenditures by the county and city for treatment options, including 24 over seven. Sobering and detox options along with post detox residential treatment from for those on our streets and for those who don't take voluntary advantage of the needed 24 over seven options. I'm advocating for mandatory treatment and changes to measure 110 to make that possible. I am not advocating for a return to the war on drugs, but I know the power of opioid addiction physically and psychologically and I know that from personal experience. This on a on a walk earlier this week, I talked to a woman named hannah, an affable, self-admitted 57 year old. Fentanyl. Fentanyl addict. And I has been homeless a long time, in her words. And she has been addicted to other drugs. But fentanyl has been the best and the worst. She started about a year ago with four pills a day. She now needs to smoke up to 20 just to stay. Well, think of that.

**Speaker:** That is her life's purpose.

**Speaker:** As hannah said, she has overdosed many times. She feels trapped. She has no hope and no future by her own admission, she is waiting on fentanyl to take her. Hannah has a future, but she needs more than detox to get there. But it must start there. She needs peer support, job skills, social skills, dental care. She has lost

her teeth, medical care and clinical behavioral care. She needs a community away from drugs like bybee lakes, and eventually she will need stable housing of her own. The county needs to work with the city, stand up the needed treatment, and get people with substance use disorder. Voluntarily into it when possible and involuntarily. If not, instead of leaving them on the streets to die and the legislature either needs to amend measure 110 to make this possible. And I think they will. In February. I support this new ordinance as one step along the way. Let's give hannah a future. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have keith wilson.

**Speaker:** Thank you for being here.

**Speaker:** Keeley, did you hand out those gap analysis? Okay mr. Mayor, commissioners, thank you so much for this opportunity to speak before you today. My name is keith wilson and I am the chair of shelter Portland and president of titan freight systems. I'm here in support of item number 756 and 757. However for I'm asking you not to wait and hope that our legislature changes the law so that these items can go into effect at some later date. I am asking you to take action to improve public safety and livability in Portland today. Hope is not a course of action. Our community is hurting and we need you to act now. I have compiled a gap analysis that compares the netherlands, portugal and Oregon's drug decriminalization laws and outlines where Portland is not applying our state law as written. The main point it will show is that hard drugs are illegal and that only in Portland and Oregon law enforcement is not confiscating illegal amounts of deadly hard drugs, which has led to an open use crisis. We are experiencing here today. Please know that there is not one mother or father who wouldn't support you and a Portland police officer from taking fentanyl away from their child. With the remaining time, i'll go through the gap analysis with you and highlight a few of the

key points of the 30 that are compared all three of those jurisdictions decriminalized hard drugs 40 years ago from the netherlands 24 portugal, and two years for Oregon. Ballot measure 110 is clear law section 11, item three, it is unlawful for any person knowingly or intentionally to possess controlled substance. It's illegal, not decriminalize and drug use went up after initial passage in all three jurisdictions the netherlands, portugal and Oregon in the previous two, it has gone down. The key difference is, is that our personal use amounts of drugs confiscated and seized by the jurisdiction in the netherlands, they are seized upon site every officer will immediately apprehend and grab the drugs, confiscate the drugs because they're illegal, they're deadly. In portugal, while interviewing an officer, he says, as open drug use and public area was my question, I will confiscate the drugs and issue a citation. When I interviewed the director general of portugal, their top government official, and he said when he wrote the law, he specifically added that in and ensures that the officers confiscate in Oregon, I interviewed 12 police officers, our Portland police officers. And here's the one from Friday conversation with six Portland police officers. I asked if they would confiscate eight hard drugs. The quote from the officer in charge of the six hard drugs are legal under certain amounts. We do not confiscate when I explained that they are still illegal and other decriminalization confiscate, they replied, we will need a training video to direct us to confiscate it is before you today to train your officers to confiscate those drugs, to change the livability and quality of life for everybody. The housed and the unhoused in our city. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Appreciate your being here.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have barbara jacobson. Thank you. Welcome, barbara.

**Speaker:** Hello again, everyone. Thank you for allowing me to be here. Hello again. My name is babs jacobson. I'm a member of the board of the old town chinatown.

Good morning. Good afternoon. Thank you for listening to my story. My story is I live in old town and assist living 24 over seven. I can go out any time, day or night and I see somebody using sleep walking or rolling around in the street naked, wanting to die. I cannot walk my dog. He is my service animal because I'm scared he might step on something and he'll get sick. I have been poisoned now since the last time I was here. Three more times with second hand smoke. I fear going to concerts which I love. The venues I go to shows all the time and I can't even go. I'm scared to go to shows now because I went to a show and got poisoned. I'm scared to walk down the street. I get it blowing in my face, you know, it's it needs to be changed. I'm glad I supported this change. I have talked to the officers. They are doing a lot of work. I know that I'm very proud of them. Very proud of you guys. Are trying to do this. And just please help us. We're suffering along with the addicts. We they're dying out there and then the meth. I've never seen this before, ever. They just go crazy over one hit. They're rolling around naked and trying to get hit by trimet busses and just causing havoc and running up on people and hitting them for no reason, you know? So I'm asking everyone here. I support this 100. Please please help. I get this to stop. We deserve our city back. Thank you for your time.

**Speaker:** Thank you for being here. We appreciate it.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have peter ebert. Peter ebert. Okay, uh, nathan vasquez.

Welcome

**Speaker:** Thank you for being here.

**Speaker:** Good afternoon, mayor Wheeler. Members of the commission. My name is nathan vasquez, and I am speaking here today as a 20 year resident of Portland. And I've during those 20 years, I've had the honor of working as a deputy district attorney in our community. And one of the distinct pleasures and honors in that job is that I got to work in very vibrant art treatment courts and community courts that

used to be an amazing part of the criminal justice system because we got an opportunity to see how we could connect everyday folks that were suffering from addiction issues with treatment and fortunately, I'm here to tell you that under measure 110, that's gone. Now we have created a system where we must incubate people until they commit very serious crimes before we start actually, then rolling them into some form of a treatment court where we can then connect them with services before we had an everyday opportunity to have that intervention. What I'm asking is that today, yes, this is a great first step and I fully support that, but I am asking us to continue to collaborate to work forward, to get back those treatment courts, to push for those courts that we used to have in Multnomah County. We were in fact a leader in the nation when these first came out, you know, about over 20 years ago when Mike Schunk put those into place, people used to come from all around to see what we did, to see how this community was helping us the most vulnerable folks. And now we've become a place where, sadly, we're an example of what not to do. And so what I'm asking is that today is the first step that we work together for certainly greater. We appreciate you, commissioner, coming in and talking to us today about the county and their need to step up as well. And it really has to come through the efforts not just of this commission, which, again, I greatly appreciate the effort today. But then those other steps of bringing in not just the county, but our criminal justice system, certainly our private sector, there are many opportunities when we look at this problem. Certainly we voluntarily getting people into treatment is great. And that may work for some. But what we need to focus on is finding all the different potential avenues to get those individuals into treatment, whether that's through treatment courts, voluntary services, outreach workers, all of that. But right now, measure 110 is preventing us from doing that in the criminal justice system. And what I'm simply here asking today is one is to tell

you, I support your work on this. And I appreciate it. And two is to continue to reach out and push for those low level treatment courts, which can have that every day intervention that we desperately need here in this community. Thank you for your time today.

**Speaker:** Thank you, commissioner Mapps, a quick question number one, thank you so much for testifying today.

**Speaker:** Um, I I'm not an expert in treatment courts. Um, how do we get from here to there? Who needs to approve treatment courts? Who funds them? So on and so forth.

**Speaker:** That's a great question. And there's been different funding sources through time. Sometimes we've obtained federal grants that have helped fund those courts at times, actually, the city has helped fund those. There has been efforts in the past where we have seen the city fund those, but also definitely the state provides a great deal of funding and the county, those are all kind of the different revenue streams that could potentially do that. What it takes is, is strong leadership from a central hub. It takes that from really the criminal justice system, from the elected da, and then strong leadership from all of you here. And so it can come from from the city. It can come from the county. And I would really urge that that the commissioners I'm certainly not here saying you should take that burden on all yourself. What I'm saying is it needs to be that collaborative effort. Okay.

**Speaker:** Thank you very much. And i'll just add, you know, and i'll touch on this in my comments on the vote, the ordinance before us today will not solve our city's fentanyl crisis. However, I do hope that this is the beginning of the end of our fentanyl crisis as we begin to piece together strategies that help people who are struggling with that terrible drug get the help they need. So I think this is an

important first step. I think there are other important steps that we need to embrace and explore and I look forward to learning more about treatment courts as a possible strategy for moving forward. Thank you very much. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have jude al-ghazal stone online. Welcome

**Speaker:** Hi. Thank you. My name is jude stone and I'm here today on behalf of the American civil liberties union or aclu of Oregon, to oppose the council's directive to restore criminal regulation of controlled substances in public. We have over 27,000 members statewide, and the aclu of Oregon is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization committed to defending and advancing civil liberties and civil rights. We represent Oregonians from many communities and backgrounds, including those who have lived experiences with substance use issues. And we strongly agree with your stated value that addiction is a health centered issue requiring health centered solutions. However, your proposed directive, which urges the office of government relations to work towards recriminalize public substance use directly contradicts the stated value. Your directive will resume the decades long cycle of ineffective, expensive and punitive policies that have resulted in the current substance use crisis in Portland and across the country. Instead of repeating failed policies, the city of Portland should support policies that are aligned with the following solutions oriented approaches. Treat substance use problems as a health care issue not only in name, but also in the kinds of policies you advocate for. Recognize that criminalization and punitive coercion are ineffective, costly and inhumane and support. Measure 110, which was overwhelmingly supported by Oregon voters and give it the time and resources and funding that it needs to be successfully implemented. Unlike decades of failed coercive policies, measure 110 services should be voluntary fee free, culturally and linguistically specific, and cover

the full spectrum of care. Finally, ensure that communities most impacted by punitive substance use policies are primarily black indigenous, other communities of color, low income communities and people struggling with addiction in can lead the way to be centered in both policy decision making and measure 110 service delivery. We're paying close attention to the regressive efforts to undermine measure 110 by addressing the public health crisis of substance use through punitive or coerced approaches, because those efforts will simply continue. The crisis of substance abuse and mass incarceration in Oregon and across the us. We're committed to working with you and others in the community to protect the rights of all Portlanders and ensure that everyone, especially our most vulnerable residents, has the resources to heal and thrive. And accordingly, we urge you to reconsider the punitive measures you call for in your directive. Thank you for your time.

**Speaker:** Thank you.

**Speaker:** Commissioner Mapps thank you very much, jude.

**Speaker:** I appreciate you being here today with us. I want to make sure I understand your testimony correctly so the aclu opposes this council's request to the legislature to have to grant us the authority to regulate the consumption of fentanyl in public spaces. Does that mean the aclu also opposes the current laws that are in place that allow council to regulate the consumption of alcohol and cannabis on sidewalks and in public parks? Or is there something different going on here?

**Speaker:** Yeah, I mean, I can't speak to that very specifically. My instinct is no, but okay.

**Speaker:** Why so, so, so your position is you think we should be able to regulate the consumption of. Let's keep it simple. Let's just alcohol on the sidewalk. But we



should not be able to regulate the consumption of fentanyl on the sidewalk. Our position is that we should not be heading back towards criminalizing some use disorders that is our position.

**Speaker:** And so it's less focused, I think, on the minutia of exactly which substance, and it's more along the lines of the voters overwhelmingly supported measure 110 so that we can try this new approach that supports more rehabilitation and less criminalization. And so we are advocating that we do not return to criminalization as a policy.

**Speaker:** So just so I'm clear, so, you know, I got a rule on the books that says, you know, you can't walk into a bar, order a beer, and then, you know, walk out and stroll through through the city.

**Speaker:** Am I criminalizing alcoholism there or am I regulating the consumption of alcohol in the public right of way?

**Speaker:** Well, I do think it comes down like another person who testified, spoke to the enforcement of that, because I do think it's also fair to say that there is some flexible in how certain laws are enforced by law enforcement officers.

**Speaker:** And so I think we can all say that if someone is publicly intoxicated, it does not mean that they're going to be arrested and incarcerated to the same degree that that would happen if it was something that is considered a hard drug or a controlled substance use. I can't speak specifically to our organization's position on that very specific question, but I am happy to ask the rest of our team and I can make sure we email your office after this meeting if you're interested in that. Okay that would be great.

**Speaker:** And actually, here's another thing that I'd love to explore with you a little bit before we break. So there are rules around the public consumption about being intoxicated in public and whatnot, and that applies for both alcohol and fentanyl. So

given the argument that you've laid out today, should we regulate people, someone being drunk and rowdy and in public, but not sort of hold someone accountable for being high on fentanyl in public and say, I don't know, throwing a brick through a window or something like that. So does the drug matter? If we were I'm trying to figure out which laws I'm supposed to enforce here. In other words. Well I think the operative piece of the hypotheticals you've laid out is that throwing a brick through a window is a crime.

**Speaker:** And that is separate from being intoxicated. And so I think that at that point, you know, the law is pretty clear that you can't throw a brick through a window. And so I think that's just kind of a separate issue.

**Speaker:** You is but I thought public intoxication was a law, too. So I enforce the law about throwing a brick through a window, but I don't enforce the law about public intoxication. Is that the aclu's position?

**Speaker:** No, the aclu's position is not that you should have discretion over which laws you enforce. Our position is that we urge the council to reconsider their efforts to get the state legislature to pass laws that will recriminalize these behaviors.

**Speaker:** Well, again, I'm kind of puzzled here because you know, this council has the power and frankly, responsibility to regulate the public consumption of alcohol and cannabis and frankly, tobacco. Again, I'm just kind of curious as to why we would carve out this exception for fentanyl.

**Speaker:** Yeah, I mean, I think that that does speak to your original question, which I'm happy to get more clarity from my team on. I think that the reason we're kind of specifically talking about that today is that, as you heard from both the invited testimony and the public testimony, fentanyl and other controlled substances, so to speak, are really at the forefront of people's minds.

**Speaker:** Okay. I confess I'm still a little bit confused, but I will take you up on your offer for the ACLU to clarify its position on what powers the city of Portland should have over our ability to regulate the consumption of fentanyl on our sidewalks, in our parks and in our parking garages. That would help me very much clarify my thinking in this space. So thank you, Jude.

**Speaker:** Absolutely. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Great. And if there is to be a follow up, I'll add a clarifying question because I agree with your logic. Commissioner Mapps and the other I don't want to give the same speech twice in one day, but I already gave the speech this morning about seeing the bigger picture and the challenge this council has is we have to see the bigger picture. We're often weighing competing interests and we should not assume that because we are bringing this resolution and this ordinance that this council does not strongly support access to treatment. We all do. We've all stated it very clearly on the record, and our budget reflects that. Our desire to create our own shelter sites and create our own contracting network to make sure that people have access to those services. The million dollars we allocated to Bybee Lake, somebody raised that earlier today. We're there. The problem is we also have an obligation to regulate public spaces and we have an obligation around public safety. And my question often is whose civil rights are you supporting? Because we've had plenty of people come into this chamber and say they do not feel safe walking or navigating on the sidewalks for which they have paid through their tax dollars. And in fact, the city just settled a fairly substantial lawsuit on behalf of the disability community because they did not have access to our sidewalks. So I would be very careful when, in talking about civil rights to understand that this body has the responsibility to consider the civil rights of everyone in our community. Thank you for your testimony, though. Next, individual.

**Speaker:** Commissioner Ryan yeah, I really appreciated what you the questioning that you brought up.

**Speaker:** Commissioner Mapps thank you. And mayor, your statement too. And I actually have a question I was going to ask before the mayor went, and that is how how do we protect the civil liberties of the elder who writes to us, who calls us and say they feel trapped in their apartment because they don't feel safe going out onto the sidewalks? How do you protect their civil liberties?

**Speaker:** Yeah, no, I mean, I think that the points that you're raising are certainly valid. And I understand that you have a wide variety of constituents with a lot of different experience that you have to reconcile when deciding these things. So yeah, I certainly don't think it is a cut and dry issue. Um and yeah, I think that I'm happy to, to confer with our legal team. I am not a lawyer and so I can't really get into the minutia of the exact legal mechanisms here. But I can say is that I think oftentimes left out of these conversations is that the freedoms and rights of people who are unhoused or who are experiencing substance use disorders are often forgotten, particularly when it comes to criminalization. And I think for the most part, I think we can all agree that low income people bipoc people are more often criminalized for drug use. And so that's really the angle that we are trying to raise here, is that once we start further criminalizing and going back to laws that criminalize substance use, we are opening a can of worms, so to speak, where we are significantly increasing the risk that these peoples civil rights will be infringed upon through overpolicing and mass incarceration. Things like that. But again, I will definitely consult our legal team specifically to get you a more nuanced answer to that. Thank you. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have jorge sanchez, bautista, welcome. Okay next, lauren armani.

**Speaker:** Thanks for being here, lauren. Yeah, it's been a minute.

**Speaker:** Thank you.

**Speaker:** Hi, commissioners. For the record, my name is lauren armani and I'm here as a program director from sisters of the road to speak in opposition to the proposed amendments of ordinance 14, a. .50.010. Similar to the sentiments stated under today's agenda items. I'm here because incarceration and overdose deaths are devastating my community, as in my friends and my family, are dying and getting locked up. We need systemic solutions that address the root causes of addiction and overdose, not a continuation of the failed war on drugs. History is clear. The only good thing to come from prohibition is nascar. Prohibition is a tool used by the state to control and criminalize the poor. There is no evidence it will decrease substance use behavior. However, there is a mountain of research confirming that it will marginalize substance users into unregulated and unsafe environments. This prohibition specifically targets substance users without sufficient private property to use legally with your relentless use of time, place and manner laws, especially those enacted in the last year to your control over public space, puts both housed and unhoused residents in a vise. It's insufferable to hear such explicit focus on tourism when rents have more than doubled in the last ten years. We can't afford the rents. So yes, some people have to take to tents. We can't. Like you take away our tents and we have nowhere to legally exist, let alone use substances legally out of public view. We can't even have a picnic without the threat of a citation. If we look homeless, prison is prison. So prison is the most expensive form of shelter and disrupts our opportunity to access social services, housing and employment. It your choice to support legislative and legal efforts that support your amendment that will then criminalize substance use will cost us millions in tax dollars before it costs us our very lives. You want to eliminate visible

substance use? Please work to eradicate poverty in our community. Please invest in the health and education of our youth. Ensure that our food is accessible and nutritious. Remediate toxins in our environment. Yes, Portland raceway counts in that give us a place to use safely. Give us a reason to want to be in Portland and be sober. We can't afford your hospitality, leisure or businesses while working towards these completely realistic goals and invest resources into research backed harm reduction measures like safe use sites, clean tools and narcan distribution, drug testing kits and dignified facilities that can support cessation if that's desired as a final note, not all Oregon cities ban open in public consumption of alcohol and do not have these same public health issues. Thank you for your time. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Commissioner Mapps did you have a.

**Speaker:** Actually, I appreciate you being here today or and sorry, as you were talking, I was thinking about your neighbor, jesse burke, who has the society hotel a couple of blocks away from you. And, you know. We have a law on the books that and if I recall correctly, I'm sure the society hotel sells booze. So you can go up there and probably buy a beer. And I have a law on the books that says you can, you know, jesse's customers cannot take that beer and walk out the front door and stroll around and stroll around the neighborhood. And the proposal before us today is really this council asking the state legislature to give us the authority to do something kind of analogous, which is to say if you're going to consume fentanyl, for example, you just don't do it on the sidewalks and the public right of way. And so I'm just trying to figure out, like, why is that any different? Why is what we're trying to do here any different from the current rules and policies that we've had in place for a long time that prevent the society hotel from letting people come in, grab a cocktail and then kind of stroll through the streets.

**Speaker:** Yeah, I understand your frustration and confusion and again, I'm not a legal expert. I'm here representing myself and my organization. I think the clearest difference between someone like buying a cocktail at what could be considered a safe use site, which is a bar or a private business that operates to facilitate safe consumption of alcohol. We do not have that for fentanyl and so that's why we're advocating for safe use sites as we work towards. Yes addressing this crisis right there aren't any safe use sites. And also, so many people, as we've talked about the last, gosh, how many decades have we been talking in Portland about people living in the public right of way and even more so now because people cannot afford the cost of living in Portland, let alone rents. Also just the cost of groceries and other necessary services. So yeah, that's a main difference. There are no places to legally consume these substances outside of your private residence. And yet if someone doesn't have a private residence and doesn't even have a tent to conceal their use, I mean, if you're in downtown, people are trying to shield their use. They're like, I'm going to put a sweatshirt over my head. I'm going to try to find a bag or a tent or a tarp, like something to conceal this because people want to be able to use in the peace of their own space. Right? So and help me think about this.

**Speaker:** You know, if you've been around this afternoon, I think, uh, earlier today, we heard from a firefighter who, uh, whose firehouse is in the neighborhood. I think they dealt with about 300 overdoses. His this month. I believe that if you take a look at the Portland metro area by this point in the calendar year, we've had about 170 just fatalities that are associated with fentanyl. And I think technically, if you if my understanding of state law is currently be up to date, I think fentanyl is actually illegal in Oregon and in Portland. Um, so if this is an illegal substance and it's clearly a dangerous substance, I guess I'm trying to figure out this council's obligation to create spaces for folks to have have spaces to consume this drug. I

mean, I would make the argument that it's just not obvious to me outside of the context of literally undergoing an operation in a hospital that there is such a thing as a safe and responsible use of fentanyl. And so could you unpack for us like why this council should create space, safe spaces for the recreation, personal use of what is, I think, pretty transparently a very dangerous and deadly drug that's has consequences not only for the addict, but for frankly, everybody who has to, you know, share space with the addict.

**Speaker:** Yeah, it's a lot to unpack. I think we can look at it as an unregulated market, an unregulated markets are less safe, right? Like it's safer to go to a bar and order a cocktail than it is to go to the moonshiner in the mountains. Right. And so if we were to regulate and provide safe space for fentanyl like the capacity for people to test the substance as they're using that would that would contribute that would decrease the amount of overdoses we're seeing. I've lost many friends to overdoses over the years. And so this really hits me personally. And what I do know is that you can't just force someone to quit or think that prison is going to get someone to quit. Right. I had a friend who was sober when they went to prison and they got on to suboxone when they were in prison. Prison does not not solve this. And also community courts in Portland have a sterling history of utilizing that court system to then provide free labor for certain enhanced services districts. So I don't necessarily trust the court system in our community to answer answer this as well, or serve as like a primary intervention force. So yeah, having a way to test what you're using, know the dose. If there were regulated like fentanyl pills that people could use and know what they're using, that would be even safer. And this would reduce the amount of overdoses in our community and we have all agreed that this has been safe for alcohol. We have all agreed that regulating cannabis has been for



the benefit of our community. I don't know why we can't attribute that to other substances as well.

**Speaker:** I appreciate the dialog. I think we disagree. You know, you could I could test for fentanyl if it comes up positive, you should probably not use it. It would be my opinion. But I really appreciate the dialog and i'll i'll let us move on. I know it's getting late in the day.

**Speaker:** Yeah. Thank you. Fentanyl is not my substance of choice either. Yeah and I appreciate it as well.

**Speaker:** I do want to jump in on this just because it's so rare, I rarely get to talk to you and every time you're here, we have good discussions and I appreciate you being here and your testimony. I don't want anybody to think we're equating alcohol and fentanyl. They are very, very different substances. Fentanyl is far more addictive than alcohol. Even prescription doctor supervised doses of fentanyl are highly addictive and so the idea that we would provide a space for somebody could go and even attempt a substance that is known to be extremely addictive is not the same thing to me as somebody going to the bar or having a beer just from my perspective. I don't want there to be any anything that equates these two things.

**Speaker:** I appreciate your intervention there, mr. Mayor, and I agree with you.

**Speaker:** I believe fentanyl is roughly 50 times more addictive than heroin, which is why which is partly how how Portland got to where we are today. Yeah.

**Speaker:** No, I appreciate the dialog. I don't think that anything should be seen as apples to apples. Right. I do think that we need to look to more emerging research on addiction and like what actually creates an addiction to a substance or a behavior. And I and perhaps it's because we have like alcohol has been a part of our species for a really long time, longer than fentanyl has. We're still learning

about the substance. And for now, we do all agree that the unregulated use has been devastating and harmful to people in our community. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you for appreciate it very much. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Next up, we have steve herring.

**Speaker:** Welcome. Thank you for being here.

**Speaker:** Good late afternoon.

**Speaker:** My name is steve herring. I'm the ceo of living room theaters here in downtown Portland. And first one to let you know that I'm appearing here in support of the issue, 756, 757. But I think that how we've arrived here today is frustrating. If I go back in time to your previous mayor before you, mayor hale, and we look at the allowance of camping in public spaces, which is how tents suddenly appeared across the city in mass over the last several years. Part of that approval was with rules that were not enforced. So they became meaningless. If you talk to Portland police officers here about many things, jaywalking, you know, you guys have quoted here how many times about how it's illegal to consume cannabis in public. You can't walk down a city street in Portland without smelling someone's smoking weed. It is not enforced. So we can't kid ourselves when we're talking about creating laws or creating bans or doing anything else. If there's no enforcement mechanism. So what I'm here to talk to you today about is I'm hoping you're thinking forward to what do we do next? And in particular, when we're talking about coordinating with the state and, you know, talking to the state about rules regarding measure 110, what are we doing in terms of public commitment? And, you know, commissioner gonzales, you oversee the Portland fire and rescue bureau. My heart goes out to the gentleman who was here and provided testimony earlier. You have a bureau whose title is rescue. So they go out and they fight fires and they rescue people all in the private business world. Everyone knows that one

of the biggest criteria for anyone who has satisfaction in their job is do they know what they're supposed to do and do their superiors give them the tools to actually do it in this case, you heard from someone who said, hey, I go out. Imagine we applied the fire portion to the way that we're applying the rescue portion. So firefighters, you go out, you put out the fire to the point where it's a smoking ember and then some other entity will come along afterwards. We don't know who it is. They'll finish putting out the rest of that fire and then the firefighters go back and three hours later, that same fire has inflamed again. And so they're going back and doing the same thing over and over again. We all know the definition of insanity, doing the same thing and expecting a different result. That's exactly what we're doing here. So I would suggest that the method that we use in terms of putting these particular measures forward to actually get results is to look at if someone overdoses have a facility available and commit them, they shouldn't just be turned back on the loose to cause the same problem. Two hours later just because they're back and conscious enough to walk away. So thank you all for your time and I appreciate the efforts that you've put forth so far.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Thank you. Appreciate you this one.

**Speaker:** Oh, sorry. Commissioner Gonzales had a comment.

**Speaker:** Question I appreciate the comments.

**Speaker:** Just put out a couple of things on this topic. First of all, we currently don't have a functioning sobering station in the city of Portland. That's a gap that we've had for a number of years. Your first responders are calling out, begging for it, whether it's Portland police or Portland fire. It is a significant gap in our social service network. And it is you know, so I want to acknowledge your point there. The city is a strong advocate for that. A mayor can provide more details. We went out for an RFP to try and fill that gap. Got no response hours to respond to the RFP,

working with the county to bring it online. I wish it was here yesterday. I wish it was here three years ago. I mean, it is a mammoth, mammoth gap. Part of the challenge is that this version of meth is something our, you know, our system hadn't seen before. And so the way you did sobering stations for alcohol just don't work for meth. And it's because of the rate of violence in in the system. So I guess I just want to say I fully acknowledge your point. The separate topic of what someone called director's holds or, you know, 48 hour holds on repeat users who overdose. I think that is a conversation we're going to have to have as a community. It's not today. It's not part of what we're discussing here here. But there is a broadening consent focus that we are in crisis and the repeat overdose is time and time again. Our laws may not be adequate to address the issue before us. Our systems certainly are not at this moment in time. So I don't want to ignore your point. It's a valid point. I control a part of the world, and that's, you know, budget for Portland fire. I get to be a legislator when it comes to the city of Portland. That's that's where we're trying to intercede. But it is we need a broader system that's addressing this in crisis. So anyways, thank you.

**Speaker:** Are you aware of commissioner myron, who was here earlier, her proposal for the crowne plaza and that tomorrow morning the county commissioners will be voting on some of the funds they have under their cap from metro for shows that could be a first step. It could be here in 12 months. As far as something that is there for both rescue police and hospitals, public health workers don't want to have to deal with trying to restrain someone who they're not equipped to deal with.

**Speaker:** Yeah, I think everyone at this table is cheering for a sobering station and whatever form it comes online in Multnomah County, it it is absolutely a necessary step in the system. We just don't have it at the moment. But fully supportive.

**Speaker:** Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thanks, steve. I just wanted to thank you for being here. Thank you for the early morning walk. I don't know. It was not that long ago, but with you and dick and others, what I'm hearing from you is where is the coordination of this effort? And when we were on the walk that morning, that's what you kept bringing up a few times. And that's what you're getting at, right? Yes okay. Yeah. And when we have discussion, we should dig into that.

**Speaker:** Thank you so much. Thank you. Thanks

**Speaker:** Our final testifier is bridge crane simcoe johnson. Welcome.

**Speaker:** Good afternoon. Hello again. Today mingus bringing the fire here. I'm charles simcoe of bridge crane johnson and you know, it's interesting. Now, there's a lot of the anecdotal sayings that happen in society and when it comes to trustworthiness, who are we, the voters going to say is more trustworthy drug users or politics persons? Um thank you. Because you know, as has been mentioned, supposedly measure 110 passed. It's possible the voters are going to pass measure 110 because we didn't do our due diligence as voters. And so hopefully as voters and citizens, we're learning that when we pass a statewide ballot measure type things, we need actual plans that say, you know, in instead of making every type of drug totally legal in 2020, and then by 2022, we'll build some facilities to address that, well, maybe come up with better ways to do things. And now y'all are stuck. Another thing that was on my mind is like unfunded federal mandates. And this isn't exactly a problem here, but it is a problem because the state's got all the measure 110 money and it didn't release it and put it into action fast enough. So it's certainly legitimate for us to claw at the state to try and get solutions. Is this solution the right one? You know, obviously we have a variety of opinions as how strong are different people's opinions? Well, the aclu, otx only sent

us a non lawyer who won't even put a background on his zoom to not show us the hollow core doors. So the aclu, which used to rent space right down the street and probably still does, didn't show up in person and didn't bring any legal staff to talk about the law. So maybe they're not even really concerned. Maybe you just need to one of you made the point about be balancing different people's liberty interests. I'm pretty sure the person who used the mobility device from the evidence, we have to probably say that they live at the maple center at six s and couch and we talked about the problem with the ada accessibility lawsuit. So. You know, to fund measure 110, we have to have an economy. So it's not that you're horrible all crappy craptastic capitalists for trying to think about how we're going to keep a vibrant economy. And then when we talk about people who want more expensive usage, there's nobody in the big budget hypocrisy business like outside in or other places which have testified here about who should be able to use freely. They never put up with that on their own property. You can't go anywhere and smoke fentanyl in their bathrooms or sit in their service area for medical health care and smoke that crap. So maybe they'll put their money where their mouth is while you try and figure out what we can do. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you.

**Speaker:** Commission chair gonzales and commissioner Ryan. I'm good.

**Speaker:** I'm good.

**Speaker:** Commissioner Ryan. I just had a oh, very good. Okay. Does that complete public testimony does very good. So we'll ask staff if they're still here. I believe they are. Stephanie and shaw, thank you. Come on back, colleagues. Any questions for stephanie or shaw maps?

**Speaker:** I just have a clarifying question which I think might help folks at home track what's going on in, you know, as I've kind of referenced a couple of times

today, I believe this council has the power to regulate the public consumption of alcohol in public spaces. Like you can't go into a bar, grab a gin and tonic, and then wander through the streets of Portland. And I think the same is true with cannabis. You can certainly walk into a cannabis store to buy your weed, but you're certainly discouraged from actually stepping out onto the sidewalk and smoking a joint. And indeed, we have laws on the books that state that. Is it really the case that the city of Portland in this council doesn't have the authority to regulate the public consumption of fentanyl? Like how can that be? I find that astounding. And I'm pretty sure that the 740 000 people who live in Portland would find that fact astounding to can someone place some context around that for us?

**Speaker:** I can. Okay commissioner, I'm happy to that is the case.

**Speaker:** There is an Oregon state statute that explicitly prohibits local governments from entering ng laws that would provide hit public consumption of controlled substances. It is a statute that is decades old, certainly a statute that existed long before the fentanyl crisis was even imagined. But yes, that that that is a state law that does not allow local governments to regulate that.

**Speaker:** Well, thank you for that clarification. And although I know everyone on this council agrees with me, i'll just turn to my colleagues and to everyone here who can hear my voice and say that is a crazy state of affairs. You know, if this council has the power to regulate the public consumption or the consumption of alcohol or tobacco or cannabis on our sidewalks, we sure as heck should have the authority to regulate the consumption of fentanyl on our sidewalks, too. And I sure hope that the state legislature, the next time they come together could just take an afternoon to pass this common sense reform that would make it much easier for this City Council. And every other City Council in the state to maintain order in their

sidewalks, in their parks, in their parking garages. I think that's very important. And frankly, I think that's why we're here today.

**Speaker:** Thank you, commissioner Mapps commissioner Ryan.

**Speaker:** Thank you, mayor. And wearing your police commissioner hat and stephanie, you, I think, addressed this a little bit with commissioner Mapps. This issue has been obviously on the top of everyone's mind for some time. And we get calls about it all the time. And we get reports that in other jurisdictions outside of Portland, police do take action on when someone is smoking fentanyl, for example, in a public right of way. And so I think there's confusion over what was just said. And so I'd like to hear if you have any intelligence about that as well. And also, I'm fascinated today, mr. Mayor, why there is no one from police here to be a part of this conversation. So I also wanted to ask that question.

**Speaker:** I think with regard to your first question, I think I understand there's let me say and I think the mayor will speak to this in a moment, but I when initially the mayor was bringing an ordinance like this that was going to prohibit it, the one that was pulled at the last second, correct. After after that happened, we certainly received a lot of outreach from neighboring jurisdictions and from other cities who understood as we did, that there was this statute that prohibited it and wanted to know how do we help, how do we change this? Because you guys are ready to do it. And we want to know how and what your plan was. And we were frank with those those other elected officials that we understood that was going to be an uphill climb. But at the time, no one was doing anything wrong. And so, so understanding that that statute is on the books. It was on the books then. It was it was understood that it was going to take a lot of collaboration and the willingness to step forward and say we have to do something wrong to drive that conversation forward. And then when the legislature act acted in the last minutes, it changed some of the



calculus around that. And I think gave us a little bit more flexibility in how we can approach this issue. And I you know, as I said, I think the mayor will speak more to that. But I think I understand your question to be asking about how we can collaborate or how we could reach out with other cities. And that's happening. That has been happening. We are certainly interested in talking with folks from any of the other cities that have expressed interest and looking at the organizations I think will help to inform some of the decisions around working with like the league of Oregon cities, for example, because I think this is a common, you know, common desire for lots of local governments to address with regard to the police, the lack of police presence here today, I think I have certainly been in discussions with the chiefs about this. The mayor and I have talked with them and they have given in their input into how to move forward, I think because this is an ordinance that will not go immediately into effect in terms of enforcement, I think they understand this to be much more of a this is a chance for dialog around the relationship with with governments and the policy level. So I think that was a little bit of the difference between having police here to testify or or to give input versus what we have today.

**Speaker:** Well, earlier we heard testimony. I'm going to go ahead and call you out. Keith Wilson with their interviews and so why don't we get to that? Is confiscation can we confiscate the fentanyl or the new meth?

**Speaker:** It is it is more complex than a quick answer. And I would defer to our city attorneys to advise us on that. We have had those discussions before and I think there are arguments that you can and some that you can't. And so it's an issue that we're looking at constantly. I think the what I will say is that police are routinely making arrests and confiscate getting drugs from people who are distributing drugs all over the city. So we are confiscating a great deal, a horrifying amount, frankly, of fentanyl and methamphetamine and other drugs through those efforts. So whether

a police officer has the right to simply approach someone who is using something or they suspect is using something wrong and take that from them in that moment, I think that's a much more nuanced question than if they have been arrested or if they have charged them with a crime. Okay that's that's good.

**Speaker:** Very good.

**Speaker:** Clears mud, right.

**Speaker:** Any further questions? Comments all right. Item seven, five, six, resolution. Call the roll, please.

**Speaker:** Gonzales I want to thank the mayor and his team for bringing the original code changes us forward.

**Speaker:** Earlier this summer, it was a crucial step of leadership up and a step forward for the city. I also want to thank my colleagues for their collaboration on this matter and my team, including shaw smith, for helping to further the dialog today is a response to ordinary Portlanders and to our first responders as our message to you. We hear you and we will fight every day to restore and protect Portland's livability. We are going to fight for every inch of this city in the face of crime addiction in cartels, and sometimes despair. Do some who may disagree with today's action? We are not turning our back on treatment. We are not criminalizing addiction. Quite the contrary. We want volunteer participation, action and behavioral health services. One of the challenges our community faces is what happens when users refuse services and engage in behavior that hurts society. We, a community, has the right to regulate public behaviors that hurt others. The damages emergency response systems and as a city, we're left with a tough choice. If no one else is willing to take a stand for Portland city hall must step in and that is precisely what we are doing today for a family or for a community to function. It needs compassion. It needs love. It's also needs protection. And sometimes

sternness. And that is our step today, our message to the country. Portland city hall is taking a stand. Come to our beautiful city to visit to build families, businesses as beautiful organizations as but don't come here to camp out and do hard drugs. We aren't going to stop here. We will work collaboratively and firmly with our public partners to get the job done. That means reestablishing of the social contract and providing behavioral health services as we have to do both. Today is a step in the right direction for our city. Let's continue working together to center our decision on livability for all Portlanders. Thank you. I vote I Mapps.

**Speaker:** Let me start out by thanking everybody who submitted written testimony on this item and everyone who testified before this council today. I actually think we had some really great and constructive dialog on this piece. And I also want to thank commissioner gonzales and the mayor for their leadership in pulling this resolution together. Now as is abundantly clear from the conversations we had this afternoon, this item is important because Portland is in the grips of a public health crisis unlike any we have seen in our city's 171 year long history. In just a few short years, the scourge of fentanyl has transformed our city and has devastated a generation of Portlanders. For example, between 2019 and 2020, Oregon saw a 74% surge in fentanyl related deaths, and in the last eight months of 2023, more than 170 people in the Portland metro area have died of drug overdose cases. And most of those drug overdoses were associated with fentanyl. To sum up our current situation today, fentanyl is fueling our houseless crisis today, de fentanyl is feeding our city's public safety crisis. And today, fentanyl is fraying the fabric which holds our city together. That must change. And the ordinance before us today is the beginning of the change that Portland so desperately needs. Now, as we all know, change is not easy, and there are several things that make fighting fentanyl particularly hard and first, as we've heard, fentanyl is up to 50 times more potent

than heroin and that potency makes fentanyl extremely addictive. Second, and under current state law, this council does not have the authority to regulate the public consumption of fentanyl. Now I think most Portlanders will be shocked to hear that. It's hard to believe, but it is true. It is ridiculous that this county has the authority to regulate the consumption of alcohol or cannabis and public spaces. However over Oregon state law does not give this council or any council in the state the power to regulate the consumption of fentanyl in public spaces or public spaces like our sidewalks, our streets, our parks and our public parking garages. Is that state of affairs? Is absurd. It is dangerous. It is politics, malpractice. And it must change now, there's a third dynamic which makes it challenging for Portland to turn the tide of our current fentanyl crisis. This Portland needs more and better treatment services for our friends and neighbors who are currently struggling with fentanyl addiction. Put plainly, Portland needs more sobering beds and Portland needs more treatment beds as the resolution before us today does at least two important things, which will help Portland turn the tide and our current struggles with fentanyl. First, this resolution calls on the state legislature to give the city of Portland the authority to regulate the consumption of fentanyl in public spaces like our sidewalks, like our parks, like our public garages that is just plain common sense. And it's far past due for us to take or for our state legislature to take that step. Second, the resolution before us today calls on the legislature to provide our partners at Multnomah County with the resources they need to provide Portlanders with an adequate number of sobering beds and an adequate number of drug treatment beds. Now, as I wrap up, let me be clear. The resolution before us today will not end Portland's fentanyl crisis. Instead, by passing this resolution, this council has identified and embraced a strategy which, if followed, can lead to the beginning of the end of Portland's fentanyl induced nightmare. Which is why I vote.

I Rubio. Thank you, mayor Wheeler and commissioner Gonzalez for introducing these two items for our consideration session.

**Speaker:** I also want to thank people that came to testify and provide a firsthand accounts of the kind of impacts that this is having in community, as well as those who have raised concerns as well, but also those who currently experience this substance abuse disorder. And I appreciate the comments by tony and adrian in particular providing a critical recovery lens into this issue. What's important for me to emphasize today is the intention of the resolution that we need to be working jointly with our state and local partners and align together and also to take into account that there are new substances on the streets inviting everyone to tackle this challenge with us is a really good first step, and I hope that our state and local leaders understand very clearly that we need their support and their help. I also hope that it's clear to the Portlanders that we hear from every day that we are listening and we're actively trying to problem solve. Sometimes we get it right or sometimes we don't, and we have to pivot and sometimes we have to try new things when we have limited options. And we are doing that today. We also need you to let your voices be heard in salem. And while we're doing the utmost that we can today, there is a way forward through state action. Finally, this is not solely a community safety issue. This is a public health issue. As we've heard over and over again today, we're experiencing a public health crisis. And those people struggling with drug addiction need and deserve help and ready services and we have to do both. And I believe that we can. So like before today and from here on out, you will continue to hear from me and members of this council continue to advocate for more community centered treatment for behavioral health services and rehabilitation. I advocate for more temporary alternative shelters that are paired with community centered services for more stabilization beds and long term

treatment beds, and work towards effective partnerships with other government officials and jurisdictions to get these things done. So for these reasons, I vote i. Ryan yes.

**Speaker:** First of all, thank you for the passionate testimony today. Both invited and in public, especially those with lived experience. S under the category of why? Why are we voting on something that is already illegal? And what many would also say can be enforced? Why side note the county banned flavored nicotine and this has now been upheld. And yet we the city, can't confiscate fentanyl. It's confusing. Yet several conditions are in place that make it necessary for this council to vote on these common sense resolutions today. And more importantly, after this vote, Portland will expect action from law enforcement and collaboration with Multnomah County and the state of Oregon to move today's vote to action on the streets that Portlanders can visibly see. When we voted to support measure 110, the campaign knew what needed to be sold to voters an urgent need a desperate need for services. Too many people on our streets have a disease that is not being humanely addressed, and this is the humanitarian crisis. That's why my brother died on our streets. Sadly we Portland and the state of Oregon is known today for accepting intolerant behavior on our streets. This nightmare on our streets is making us too dangerous for many to come back downtown and enjoy arts and culture to book a hotel downtown to raise children in our city. This is not the city that we want to live in. Going from near last in the nation and providing treatment services will take time. I trust the buildings underway, the growing 4g organization we heard from earlier is a fine example of that. Thank you. Voters did not expect the decriminalization of hard drugs. Instead coupled with an acceleration of new, more toxic, poisonous and psychotic inducing hard drugs, hitting our streets, we are living in a really scary reality. Voters don't want a war on drugs. They want

compassionate action for those suffering from the disease of addiction and compassionate action for those merely trying to access our beautiful city. Those people need our support today. Many Portlanders and those visiting the rose city reach out to me, and I'm sure all of you with quotes like this I've traveled the world and I've been in the neighborhoods that are known internationally as dangerous. Yet what I experienced walking down fifth avenue from southwest salmon to west burnside was the most unsafe I've ever felt in my entire life. That convention, if you will, will probably not return next year from an elder who lives downtown. I felt trapped in my home not just at night, but in broad daylight. I must cross the street multiple times to dodge the smoke and the noise. And then I look around. It's just me and numerous people breaking the law. It's scary and this is what you can hear from an intercom at the gateway transit center. Please do not smoke fentanyl at the transit center. Yes the first major stop after taking the max from the Portland international airport. Welcome to Portland. And what my spouse hears daily while commuting from north Portland to east county and more important, they must move from car to car hopping from one, two car, car to car to be free of the poisonous secondhand smoke. We wonder why our tourism is slow to recover. We wonder why downtown foot traffic is behind all other cities post covid. We wonder why people are not returning to our downtown sidewalks, art houses are riding our max trains. It's not a mystery. This lack of enforcement of open air drug use on our sidewalks, parks and public transit is intolerable. Now is the time for our city and our county to work together to enforce this. Yes. As mentioned by Multnomah County commissioner Sharon Meieran, the county runs our treatment centers. Our jails, our judicial and prosecutions. A joint work session between the city and county is needed soon to improve this system and to monitor implementation from dangerous episodes on our streets to stability and recovery. We, by enforcing the

banning of open drug use, we promote a safer and more welcoming environment for all residents and visitors to enjoy our beautiful city. This is a step if we act like it's an emergency and make certain we implement these resolute actions. I vote. I

**Speaker:** Wheeler well, first of all, I want to thank everybody who testified.

**Speaker:** I have a hard and fast belief that if you get a bunch of people in a room and everybody agrees, you have a very unhealthy democracy and so I was actually very pleased today that I felt like we heard the whole spectrum of perspectives. I appreciated that there was just the flat out competition of ideas, the sharing of information, the sharing of personal perspectives. I wish every City Council meeting was thus and so. I really want to thank everybody who testified today. Whether you agreed with me or vehemently opposed. I hope to see all of you back here, not just for this issue, but other issues as well. And I thank you for that. I felt like this was a highly functional democracy today. So just to do a little cleanup, as you know, I intended to bring a similar to ordinance. I'm speaking both to the resolution and the ordinance at the moment. Earlier this summer. And I was motivated to take action to address in any way that I could drug use in our public spaces, as well as the obvious harm that comes with it, both to the people who are suffering from substance use disorders as well as the public at large who are most certainly impacted by it as well. I suspect that based on the good advice of my staff members and others that such an ordinance would come with its challenges, including what I believe is an antiquated state statute that prohibits local governments from regulating public consumption of controlled substances. As Stephanie explained earlier, I also suspected that the city would almost certainly end up in a court battle about the city's right to protect itself, and at that time, as you'll recall, the legislature had shut down due to a walkout. The legislature was therefore gridlocked with little hope of meaningful legislation passing to address what is obviously one of the



biggest problems facing our community. See, under those circumstances, I concluded that the fight, no matter how hard that fight might be, was absolutely worth it. However, in the last moments of the session, the legislature came back to work. They passed hb 2645, which made possession of certain amounts of fentanyl a misdemeanor, and it lowered barriers for prosecution for the distribution of fentanyl. I want to thank the legislature for that action. It was an encouraging action and it was a good start. I think it was an acknowledgment on the part of the legislative body that this is something that they need to take as a to see as a as a crisis issue that requires urgent action. That legislation in my opinion, changed the calculus. It illuminated a path forward working together to make far more impactful progress at the state level and due to the preemptions, we need that action at the state level. But the bottom line is this week by week, the situation is getting worse. In fact, it's getting much worse. And therefore we need to do more. And I want to thank my colleagues on this council again, I started with this. I want to end with this. This is a unified action on the part of this council. We do not always agree on every issue, and sometimes we vehemently disagree on this. We are unified and we have made our position clear through what will be the passage of this resolution. And shortly the ordinance will holding space to find solutions moving forward, working with our legislature for the resolution, we bring today is intended to express our commitment to addressing our complicated public safety challenges in partnership, not in opposition. It's going to take all of us working together to tackle issues we currently face, including, as described the lack of sobering and treatment resources, jail capacity and alternative sentencing resources treatment and are desperate need for public defenders. We have to move with focus and urgency to save lives and livelihoods. One last thing. I want to just make it clear this isn't the only thing we're doing. Far from it. This is one action and as you know, it requires a trigger for

the legislature to take action before it's even enforceable. So I want to remind people that the governor called together a task force. We're part of it. I hope that there are many actions that that task force will take that will help further our issue here, most notably, we do not have a mental health strategy for the state of Oregon. We do not yet have a plan. We need a five year plan. We need a ten year plan. How are we going to go from dead last to having the services that we need in our communities? And I'm hoping that the governor's task force will tackle that here at the city level, we created the task sites and you will remember those were created under withering opposition from many. But our first site is now up and running. It is filled to near capacity. We went out and sought service providers to provide behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment, job training and other services, public health services for people who desperately need those services. And we will continue to support the expansion of that program. We heard from Portland street response today. Thank you. Portland street response for the great work you are doing. That is a non-police strategy to help people who are in crisis on our streets. It's a new program and of course it's going to have bumps along the way as it matures. But they're off to a great start from a public safety perspective, we have greatly increased our patrols and our presence throughout the city. We have heard about the need for a new sobering sobering 2.0, the beacon facility the City Council has supported it. We have provided funding. We will continue to push and advocate for it. But as you have heard, we cannot address this crisis alone. There is a role for the federal government. There is a clear role for the state government. There is a role for county government which has its own sources of funding for behavioral health, substance use disorder, treatment and public health services that the city does not have access to. Nor do we have the personnel or expertise to lead in those areas. And of course, there's work we all

have to do here as the City Council and collective cully today we're doing one more thing that demonstrates we're willing to do our part. I vote i. The resolution is adopted. Please call the roll on the ordinance. Seven, five, seven. If you can read it again and then call the roll.

**Speaker:** Okay