

## Ruth Stellmacher

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**From:** KAREN R HEUBERGER <ejkroheub@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 12, 2022 10:20 AM  
**To:** CityRecorder  
**Subject:** my comments for city coucil agenda June 12, 2022

**Categories:** Council Dox

Micro shelters across from Safeway at 1280 Center Street N.E., Salem, is a disaster waiting to happen, I fear. Already, Safeway feels the impact of vagrants hanging out around the store. I previously was a property owner nearby; but sold that property in 2021 due to the untenable situation in Salem of vagrancy, homelessness/filth and debris, lawlessness and crime. Our police, sadly, can only beg vagrants to "move along, please" due to their hands "being tied", as a family member learned when a hostile vagrant trespasser threatened said relative on our private property.

Citizens of Salem deserve safe, clean/non trashed sidewalks and public spaces. Our public spaces must not be denied the public by tents and garbage, discarded needles, human waste, open air drug use, criminal activities. Studies show that the vast majority of the homeless population has been rendered schizophrenic and unhousable by drugs; primarily methamphetamine. In the recovery field, it is a fact that the people who are most in need of treatment are those who are most resistant to treatment. The unsheltered need a place to go and not sleep in public. But housing must be earned.

I urge dropping the microshelter site, working with the Cascade Policy Institute, for example, for workable solutions to the disaster we currently have.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Thank you,

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