

Rachael Gangelhoff

From: Caroline Brown <carolinejobrown@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 1:50 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Public Comment - Safety and Livability Agenda item

Hello, please record this for public comment for tonights City Council meeting

Caroline Brown
Ward 5

Removing the 72-hour notice makes Salem less safe and more cruel. Our unhoused neighbors are still residents of Salem and making their lives more uncomfortable and less safe does nothing to address the issues they face. Real safety is having shelter, warmth, and compassion. Rather than wasting time proposing ways to harm and hurt those in our community who are experiencing homelessness, we should be utilizing this time finding actual solutions to help those who are suffering.

Rachael Gangelhoff

From: Sarah Currin <sarahcurrinmoles@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 12:10 PM
To: Rachael Gangelhoff
Cc: CityRecorder
Subject: Re: Public Comment on City Council Meeting 10-27

Hello,

This is in reference to Agenda Item 5a, regarding the Safety and Livability Strategic Action Plan.

Thank you,
Sarah

On Mon, Oct 27, 2025 at 12:00 PM Rachael Gangelhoff <rgangelhoff@cityofsalem.net> wrote:

Good morning,

Your comments do not appear to be related to an item on tonight's meeting agenda. In that case, please direct your email to CityCouncil@cityofsalem.net.

Regards,

Rachael Gangelhoff, CMC

Deputy City Recorder

City of Salem | Legal Department

PO Box 14300, Salem OR 97309

rgangelhoff@cityofsalem.net | 503-588-6097

Find the City Recorder's Office at [440 Church St SE, Suite 500](#)

From: Sarah Currin <sarahcurrinmoles@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 11:57 AM
To: CityRecorder <CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net>

Cc: Linda Nishioka <LNishioka@cityofsalem.net>

Subject: Public Comment on City Council Meeting 10-27

Hello,

I am writing as a born-and-raised Salem citizen who is deeply concerned about the city's treatment of its houseless residents, citizens, and neighbors. I am especially alarmed by Julie Hoy's support of the petition to repeal ORS 195.530, which will make it far easier to sweep encampments without notice or respect to anyone's well-being, destroying people's possessions and eliminating any marginally safe space they may have found. This law currently requires that sweeps of encampments where people live be "objectively reasonable." What does it mean that Julie Hoy and people with power in our city want to remove that provision? What does it mean for Salem that people with power want the right to be *unreasonable* in their elimination of the only places houseless people can be? All I see is them declaring their intent to brutally upend the lives of people who are already in the most precarious positions and vulnerable states. They do not care about these people as people; they see them as less than, as blemishes, as a problem to be removed. I cannot tell you how frightened that makes me, as we all know where the dehumanization of a particular population leads. I am grievously worried about the erosion of this city's humanity. If we want to eliminate houselessness as an issue here, we need to do far more than bring in more police and shatter people's lives by forcing them to go somewhere else without offering any assistance. This is not a problem that will be solved by simply pushing people without stable housing outside city limits. City leadership may no longer see the problem then, and they may be able to pat themselves on the backs and say that our parks and sidewalks are clean again, but the rot in our civic spirit will only grow. How can we say we care about our neighbors when we aren't doing everything we can to ensure people have a roof over their heads and a safe place for their belongings? How can we say we're a good place for families when there are children going hungry and cold in our city every night? How can we say community health is important when there are members of our community unable to afford the basic necessities of life, including medical care and treatment? I urge you to reject this movement and work on providing more supports and resources that have been proven to end houselessness and lift people out of poverty: "housing first" policies; increased access to public benefits; better health care, substance use treatment, and social services outreach; jobs programs; and more low-cost housing options. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Currin

Ward 2

Salem, Oregon

Rachael Gangelhoff

From: Bill Dixon <bill.r.dixon@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2025 4:13 PM
To: CityRecorder
Cc: Vanessa Nordyke
Subject: Testimony regarding Agenda Item 5.a. 25-391 Donation in support of the Safety and Livability Strategic Action Plan

Testimony regarding Agenda Item 5.a. 25-391 Donation in support of the Safety and Livability Strategic Action Plan

My name is Bill Dixon, and I live at 608 Salem Heights Ave. S. in Ward 7. I write to urge the Council to authorize development of a policy to govern acceptance of donations to fund city operations. The lack of written guidance to govern the proposed donation to fund police officer positions illustrates the need for such a policy.

Although the agenda material about a donation for police services indicates general understandings about the terms of the donation, there is nothing in writing that specifies the terms for the use of the money. For example, the agenda narrative says staff have confirmed with the donors that the added officers would not be assigned exclusively to downtown. But the written offer from the donors repeatedly references the deployment of the officers downtown and says nothing about using them elsewhere.

To avoid confusion over the terms of accepting this donation, the Council should require a written agreement. And to avoid confusion over the terms of accepting future donations, the Council should seek development of a clear policy that addresses such topics as:

- The city's control over the implementation of any donor-funded service,
- The city's control over the hiring and management of donor funded staff.
- Reporting requirements over the use of the money.
- Legal recourse, if any, on the part of the donor.
- Restrictions or prohibitions on the use of donor money to fund city operations in favored areas of the city.

I believe such a policy could prevent confusion and possible legal action over well-intended donations for city services.

--

Bill Dixon

bill.r.dixon@gmail.com

503-602-1708

Rachael Gangelhoff

From: Emme Jay <emmejaydiary@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 1:34 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: A Plea for Our Most Vulnerable Citizens

Dear City Council,

Thank you for your efforts to bring aid to our struggling neighbors. Though, I fear the proposed policy about-face will only create more barriers for people experiencing homelessness. Julie Hoy's Trumpian approach to caring for the least among us violates Oregon's commitment to the humane treatment of all.

The people of Salem did not ask you to push out those who already live so close to the edge. You should be ashamed of yourself for such a gross misunderstanding of our community priorities. It's my hope that a strong constituent response helps you realize that Council wildly misinterpreted the survey data that led to such a gaudy policing budget with considerably underfunded services. This was made apparent through voter approval of the Livability Levy. If we really wanted you to force out the unhoused under a police state, there would have been celebration over such an unjustified policing budget and no Levy. Instead, we rallied to correct your misinterpretation and protect our services through levy adoption. That was a clear communication of our values.

Do not let Julie Hoy silence the voice of the people - we demand well funded social services and the humane treatment of all, which will undoubtedly deliver the safety and security sought and requested through the 2024 budget priority survey.

When the people of Salem voiced concerns about community safety, we meant the safety and security of ALL PEOPLE, especially the disenfranchised. We don't need protection from the have-nots; do your job by standing up to corporate interests on behalf of the people.

- Stop handing out property tax breaks to private interests that can (and should) pay their fair share.
- Stop offering revenue guarantees to airline carriers, you're only subsidizing those who can easily afford to fly out of PDX.
- Stop lending the lion-share of your time and attention to a small constituent faction of classist assholes; they will never stop begging you to remove poor people from their privileged view.
- Stop giving away the farm to big tech. Data centers are a fast track to greater wealth inequity; they destroy the planet through pollution and resource exploitation; allow tech oligarchs to increase their hold on local municipalities and if that weren't bad enough, they feed government overreach.

I'm disgusted that my tax dollars are spent harassing my struggling neighbors and that my City Council continues to acknowledge a mayor that lied, cheated and stole in her ascension to power. For these reasons (and more, I'm sure) nobody wonders why OGEC is up your ass.

Do better.

Nathan Owens

Rachael Gangelhoff

From: sid <sigilmeacham@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 12:10 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: OR 195.530

As a resident of Salem, I am incredibly disappointed and angry to hear that Mayor Hoy wants to repeal OR 195.530. This law gives very basic protections to homeless individuals, such as being reasonable with sweeps and the ability for unhoused folks to challenge in court if the city violates reasonable time, place, and manner to remove them.

I truly do not believe this city cares for the homeless populations safety when they are stripping their rights. Sweeps have been proven to be inhumane and detrimental by displacing people/their possessions further. Jimmy Jones, executive director of Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action who works with the city's homeless community disagrees with this repeal and expressed how harmful it will be, "This is another step down the path to criminalizing the homeless condition, and it would make it a far worse place than what we have right now." (Salem Reporter)

To further prove how abortent sweeps and repealing reasonable sweeps is, "Jones said he's known people that died homeless despite having a housing voucher ready with their name on it, because they were moved and outreach workers couldn't find them again."

This city has the ability to fine, sweep, and police the homeless. It is coming up on winter and further taking away protections during sweeps is immoral. This will kill people on the streets. Adding more obstacles to people already struggling will not fix the issue, it will only punish people for trying to survive.

Is having a pretty sidewalk worth destroying the lives in your city?

Stop the sweeps. Housing first.

Rachael Gangelhoff

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of salemlawdog@yahoo.com
Sent: Sunday, October 26, 2025 8:13 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

| | |
|------------|--|
| Your Name | Suzanne K. Taylor |
| Your Email | salemlawdog@yahoo.com |
| Your Phone | 5035809404 |
| Street | 5057 Jones Rd SE |
| City | Salem |
| State | OR |
| Zip | 97306 |
| Message | The \$180,000 gift - This is public safety; not the children's auxiliary. Totally inappropriate to make or talk about this kind of "deal." For love of God please talk with the lawyers first. The Mayor and Council need to be prepared to document and publicly disclose all discussions with dates, times and all parties involved. All "interests" and "relationships" need to be documented and publicly disclosed. NO ONE is permitted to be anonymous if this is a public matter. Any business ties should be disclosed ASAP. Let's make sure we get documentation for lunches, trips, coffees etc. We wouldn't want any more ethics complaints would we? |

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 10/26/2025.

Rachael Gangelhoff

From: Rachael Gangelhoff
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 11:10 AM
To: DJ Vincent; CityRecorder
Subject: RE: Public Comment - DJ Vincent Ward 3

Good morning,

Your comments do not appear to be related to an item on tonight's agenda. If that is the case, please direct your comments to CityCouncil@cityofsalem.net.

Best,

Rachael Gangelhoff | 503-588-6440
City of Salem | Legal Department | Deputy City Recorder

[Find the City Recorder's Office at the Parkway Building, 4th floor](#)

From: DJ Vincent <dj.vincent@churchatthepark.org>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 8:09 AM
To: CityRecorder <CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Public Comment - DJ Vincent Ward 3

Our mission at Church @ the Park is to create spaces of love and acceptance for those who need it most in our community. We do this through programs that help our neighbors who find themselves unhoused be seen, safe and supported to more positive housing destinations. The past three years we have been able to shelter over 700 people a year, and see over 500 individuals successfully transitioned to permanent housing through our programs each year.

The root cause of homelessness can be tied to trauma connected to broken relationships at some point in someone's life. The number one driver across the nation of homelessness is the lack of affordable housing. The fastest growing group of unhoused people nationally, statewide, and in our Salem community are seniors. Church @ The park has seen a 300% increase of people over 55 requesting shelter and utilizing our programs.

The challenges and number of people entering into homelessness are growing in our city, and we are in support of the Cities focus to provide safety, health supports, and more cleaning efforts. The current and existing legislation in House Bill 3115 guides a city to exercise "appropriate time and manner" policies and practices in their interventions with those who find themselves unhoused. We do not believe this current legislation is either unjust or unreasonable for the City to shape their interventions.

We have spent time listening to downtown community groups and businesses meetings. We are hearing themes of helplessness, hopelessness, and a desire for more support. There has been a consistent request these past few months to be understood, seen and supported more in the areas of sanitation and intervention for those with mental health crisis. I believe the city and service providers are both listening and seeking to make tangible efforts to help.

A statewide repeal of House Bill 3115 opens the door for the criminalization of poverty and homelessness. These methods are more expensive than the current direction the State, City and service providers have been partnering on. It costs more to have someone in a temporary jail cell, than a transitional shelter. The time in the jail cell also increases system and institutional trauma. Meaning very practically that the person will be harder to work with when they return to the community in need of safe and supported services for their health, income, and housing stabilization needs.

- The cyclical churn between homelessness and incarceration costs taxpayers \$83,000 per person per year.

- In Ashland, Oregon, leaving someone unhoused costs \$52,509.40/year vs. \$18,283/year for emergency shelter (study conducted by Brookings.edu).

The current law on books is not hindering our city from creating interventions for more shelter, more health, interventions, more substance recovery services, and more mental health interventions. We as a community need to ask for **more** assistance from federal, state and county government - **not** less. We need collaborative partnerships for housing developments and mental health services to increase. I believe this referendum is an misdirection of our energy.

Jimmy Jones, executive director of the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, stated that repealing Oregon's current state law on public camping would undo years of coordination among cities, nonprofits, and outreach workers. "House Bill 3115 in 2021 created some reasonable approaches to this issue of trespassing in homeless encampments," Jones said. "It's done in a way that is smart, it's done in a way that doesn't cause trauma to the clients, it's done in a way that doesn't increase costs for cities and potential liability for poor decision-making." He warned that repealing the law would take Oregon back to policies that have repeatedly failed at addressing homelessness.

To see real progress, we will need to put energy, time and money into prevention strategies, quality interventions, and the development of more affordable housing to see a significant change in our community. I believe with the level of commitment and collaboration possible in our city we will see those days in our future. I oppose the referendum filed because it is taking us backwards to methods of enforcement and criminalization that I've already failed.

DJ Vincent (he/him)
Founding Pastor & CEO
503.949.2124
Church-at-the-Park.org

Rachael Gangelhoff

From: Pamella Watson <ppw30@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 8:34 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: 5A

Mayor Hoy, City Manager, City Councilors,

I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding our City accepting private donations to fund 2 police officers.

Once this door is open what is to stop it from advancing further into others providing donations to fund police officers?

Our Police department are city employees. How we fund our police needs to be part of the general budget and stay that way.

What if more affluent neighbors decide they want to donate to hire police officers to patrol their neighborhood? Leaving less officers paid by the city to patrol general city areas?

If privately funded what's to stop those officers from going rogue and violating their code of ethics?

This could be a dangerous precedent and should be considered with extreme caution.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamella Watson 97317

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

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