

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Aotjen139@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2019 6:26 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Categories: Council Dox

Your Name	Andria Otjen
Your Email	Aotjen139@yahoo.com
Your Phone	5039498203
Street	1781 van kleeck ct nw
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97304
Message	<p>Hi. I am writing in support of the ordinance limiting camping or leaving belongings. We cannot continue to let camping take place all over our city. I sympathize with homeless individuals. However we cannot continue to let tents pop up all over the city. We need swift action when camps pop up. Once a single tent/camper is set up more start to be grow. Then the area grows more campers. For example a camp has formed near the center at bridge. This will continue to grow until a huge mess has to be cleaned up. We can't will or wish these camps away. We need to take action. I believe we also need to find out where homeless individuals are coming from. It seems we are taking in homeless from other parts of the states or country. We cannot become a destination for homeless individuals, we need to actively engage in encouraging individuals to return to their home states or cities. We cannot afford to finance homeless individuals with no ties to Salem. We have to do something. Downtown Salem has become like a big city and it is becoming undesirable to visit. To be frank we need to make it uncomfortable we have to discourage homeless individuals taking over our city. Salem needs to stay a livable and we are on the wrong path.</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 11/25/2019.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Bcbrettppm@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2019 6:58 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Categories: Council Dox

Your Name	Brett Carlson
Your Email	Bcbrettppm@gmail.com
Your Phone	5034092024
Street	1781 van kleeck ct nw
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97304
Message	I support the sit/lay ordnance and camping ban in Salem.

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Ruth Stellmacher

From: Kathleen Thorpe <kathleenthorpe@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2019 8:34 PM
To: Chuck Bennett; Lynda Rose; Steve Powers; Tami Carpenter; Cara Kaser; Tom Andersen; Brad Nanke; Jackie Leung; Matthew Ausec; Chris Hoy; Vanessa Nordyke; Jim Lewis; Kristin Retherford; Jerry Moore; Kathy Simé; Dan Atchison; CityRecorder
Subject: The Tragedy of the Homeless.pptx
Attachments: The Tragedy of the Homeless.pptx
Categories: Council Dox

Kathleen

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The Tragedy of the Homeless

Opposing Sit-Lie Ordinance



November 25, 2019

Our community feels helpless and under siege

People who live and work in the downtown area feel unsafe, not knowing which homeless may pose a danger.

Homeless feel worthless and little to no dignity.

Homeless feel safer downtown.

Take the Homeless away

The use of public land when perceived negative externalities exist.

Where can homeless be?

Salem is not alone

- Cities throughout the U.S. are experiencing an increase in people without homes who are interacting with fellow citizens in the “commons” (common areas). The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development statistics showed nearly 554,000 homeless across the country in 2017.

Where do the homeless go?

- The homeless, too, are drawn to the commons.
- They see it as a living space (which includes spending daylight hours socializing, resting, reading, sleeping, entertaining themselves, and relieving bodily functions).
- Where the behavior breaks down and where it can become frightening is in aggressive panhandling, living in public, intrusions into personal space, unkempt appearance, and outbursts which are very different from the way people normally look and act when out in public.
- To say the least, the problem is profoundly complicated.

We simply do
not have
enough beds
or mental
health care

- They also have legal rights that allow them to ask for money, and if the city doesn't have enough beds, to sleep on the street. (The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal recently ruled that unless beds are available, it is "cruel and unusual punishment," violating the Eight Amendment, to prosecute people for sleeping on the street.)
- On the other hand, homeless behavior often deviates from social norms.



The Homeless are our Neighbors

The homeless population consists of very different kinds of people:

- resident homeless,
- mentally ill homeless,
- substance abusers,
- adult and youth transient homeless.

Many need social services assistance:

- shelters, hot meals, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, medical and dental services, and overnight parking for those living in vehicles.

November 25, 2019

But what about sit-
lie?

November 25, 2019



▼
We must figure out how to ensure their rights while preserving the sanctity of the “commons.”

- Can the City of Salem collaborate with private parties, businesses? Can they lead the discussion? Work outside the lines?
- We did not want a tent city, but we have one.
 - Can we create safe sleeping areas?
 - Keep populations under 20-persons?
 - If we force the homeless to move on, where will they go?
 - Into the neighborhoods
- Many, many people, business owners, philanthropists and churches want to help. Would the City be willing to work with all the stakeholders to produce real solutions?
- What can we do right now?
 - Bathrooms?
 - Garbage service?
 - Safety patrols?

November 25, 2019

Chamber to
Testify in
Support of
Sidewalks and
Public Spaces
Ordinance
Monday Night
at Salem City
Council
Meeting

- Following a vote of unanimous support for the proposed Sidewalk & Public Spaces Ordinance by the Salem Chamber's Public Policy committee, the Board of Directors unanimously endorsed support for the ordinance at the 11/20/19 Board meeting.
- The Chamber's position of support of the ordinance acknowledges that safety and security of employees and customers is essential for economic sustainability for our downtown businesses.
- Further, the Salem Chamber remains committed to partnering with social service providers and agencies, the Good Neighbor Partnership effort, engaged nonprofit organizations, the Main Street Association and all concerned citizen and advocacy groups as we collectively tackle this complex community crisis.

November 25, 2019

In the meantime ...

- 86-year old woman is on the streets, sleeping in a parking garage. Arches voucher for three nights runs out. Dogooders paid for hotel room until a lower bunk was opened at Simonka. I know this story.
- Grandma is homeless, sitting on the curb.
 - She has no place to go
- *There but for grace*

- Sit-lie is a solution for nothing.

Until there is a place

November 25, 2019



Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of CBF@custombuiltfurniture.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 10:27 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Categories: Council Dox

Your Name	Jeffrey Zens
Your Email	CBF@custombuiltfurniture.com
Message	<p>Greetings Salem City Council; I read the recent article in the Statesman Journal concerning the city's approach to the homeless population in and around Salem. Your refusal to act on the problem of vagrants trashing the downtown area is yet another indicator that Salem is headed downhill like Portland and Seattle. It is another reason people avoid downtown Salem like the plague. I suspect part of the Council's reasoning is compassion, but I ask you: what compassionate person allows another human to lie around on a city sidewalk in the middle of winter - or ever? How is this hands-off approach helping anyone? A much more compassionate approach would be strict enforcement of "No Vagrancy" laws. Pass ordinances that give people options: mental health or drug treatment, or incarceration. Forcing people to make hard choices is the only way a problem of this magnitude is ever going to be solved. There are a lot of cities in the country that have little or no problem with the vagrant population that west coast cities experience. Why do you think that is?</p>

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