

From: [Hollie Oakes-Miller](#)
To: [Chuck Bennett](#); [Virginia Stapleton](#); [Trevor Phillips](#); [Tom Andersen](#); [Jackie Leung](#); [Jose Gonzalez](#); [Chris Hoy](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [citycouncil](#); [CityRecorder](#); [SALEM Manager](#)
Subject: Salem City Council Public Comments 3/28/22
Date: Monday, March 28, 2022 4:23:32 PM

Agenda item 4.c. Supplemental Budget 3 to amend and appropriate funds made available to the City in the FY 2022 budget.

With this weekend's tragedy weighing heavily on us we once again ask the City Council to stop the sweeps. It is cruel and inhumane to continue to push people around the city knowing fully there is nowhere for them all to go and most often the places they are forced to sleep at are unsafe. "The accident comes about three weeks after Salem authorities cleared another encampment out of Marion Square Park. City officials acknowledged in a statement then the limited opportunities for those campers to find new shelter.

"Available shelter and housing may not meet the individual's needs, and depending upon the circumstances, there is often not available emergency shelter or housing," the statement said." Source: <https://www.salemreporter.com/posts/6350/four-in-salem-homeless-camp-killed-when-vehicle-crashes-into-compound>

At least one of the victims might not have been at that location when the accident happened had they not been forced by the city to leave Marion Square Park. Source: <https://www.salemreporter.com/posts/6354/police-identify-four-killed-in-homeless-encampment-crash-sunday>

We attended the last sweep of Marion Square Park and what we experienced was a city caused disaster scene. I don't see how anyone who claims to be trauma informed can agree that inflicting systemic trauma on already traumatized vulnerable people is a trauma-informed approach to handling the houseless crisis.

- We support city funds being used to keep camps clean and tidy until real solutions for where people can go come online.
- We support construction of a navigation center.
- We support repealing the camping ban and allowing camping at city parks until real solutions for where people can go come online.
- We do not support additional city funds being used to police houseless people.
-

End the sweeps.

Gary Miller & Hollie Oakes-Miller
Ward 5