



COMMUNITY ACTION

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**HELPING PEOPLE
EXIT POVERTY**

17 March 2020

SENT BY EMAIL

Steve Powers
City Manager
City of Salem
555 Liberty Street SE, Room 220
Salem, Oregon 97302

Dear Mr. Powers:

Thank you for a copy of the proposed City of Salem Resolution 2020-18, concerning an emergency declaration over the COVID-19 pandemic and the homeless population of our community.

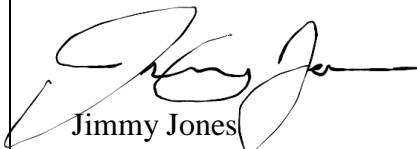
The Agency follows the advice and best practices for homeless services, as outlined by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Centers for Disease Control, the Oregon Health Authority and other public health agencies and homeless services networks.

In this current public health crisis, the community should avoid large concentrations of the homeless population where they cannot hope to practice good hygiene. Our homeless should also be able to shelter themselves in tents, so that they can self-quarantine when they are sick. Allowing the homeless to camp in Wallace Marine and in Cascade Gateway is the best of limited options available to the City, given the current public health conditions in the downtown, and the high probability of COVID-19 community spread among our homeless neighbors.

If the Council adopts Resolution 2020-18, Community Action will provide any homeless person needing to relocate to another part of town with a tent, sleeping bag and other camping equipment through our ARCHES Day Center at 615 Commercial Street.

Thank you for the City's concern for our homeless neighbors, and your continued commitment to keep them safe and healthy through these difficult times.

Yours respectfully,



Jimmy Jones
Executive Director