

Amy Johnson

From: Adams Darla <Adamsdarla@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 9:05 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Cascade Gateway Park homeless "invasion"

We are a retired couple living at Paradise Island park. My husband is blind. He worked for BPA in Portland for 35 years as a computer programmer. He moved to our park for safety, exercise of the walking paths & peaceful/safe living environment.

I resent you, the city council, allowing homeless folks camp next to P.I. Let the homeless live in your neighborhoods. The State of Utah has no homeless problem... they take care of them. Why don't you folks look into their model of the homeless situation?? This situation can be handled in a safe & logical manner. Do your homework, folks..!

Putting our park & residents in danger, is not a solution, you are passing the buck like you have done in the past. Our country has added to the homeless problems by raising rents & closing Mental Health facilities, that used to house & treat this population that are unable to function on their own. It started in the 80's & was fast moving in 1990's. I am a retired mental health worker & sadly watched this problem mushroom into what it is today. Our country has to deal with this problem they have created.

Utah is proactive... why don't you follow their design?? Don't reinvent the wheel. Wake Up folks. I was walking my dog in "our" park & saw a man in a car parked along the fence that separates parks.. with a rifle pointed towards the eagle nest. The eagles have a nest at the top of one of the tallest trees in park. Our park also has car break-ins & theft of personal property that was not happening when I moved in 2012.

We elect you to work on & solve community problems like this.

Darla Adams & Stacey Glennon Unit 166

Sent from my iPad

Amy Johnson

From: ANNE ESCH <anne724@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 5:40 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Cascade Gateway Park

I am a sr citizen who lives in Paradise mobile home village & am quite worried re: the homeless people setting up homesites in the Gateway park. This is a request for the city not to allow this to take place; for our safety & for sanitary reasons.

Sincerely

Anne Esch

3100 Turner Rd. S.E. #621

Salem, OR 97301

Amy Johnson

From: Diana Samson <dndsamson2@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 9:36 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Homeless---Cascades Gateway Park

We the citizens of Salem and Resident's of Paradise Island Park would like you, the city of Salem council members to reconsider using Cascades Gateway Park as a homeless camp.

1. A lot of seniors enjoyed walking or biking over to the park as a safe place to walk or ride along the creek. Some walk the sidewalk to WalMart and down to the park, around the lake and continue along the frisbee golf course on the creek side and back to Paradise Island.

We have personally found 2 syringes (needles) on the sidewalk and human feces inches from the side walk.

2. This camp appears to be unsupervised. This park also borders Paradise Island.

3. No toilets which means they are doing their jobs on the creek's edge or in the creek and have to assume that is where their garbage is going too.

As Salem residence's we want our city Park back again, that means picnic area, play ground for the children - All of it. Thanks for your time. Dennis and Diana Samson

3100 Turner Road SE #413

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of dtakeizer@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 6:03 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	David
Your Email	dtakeizer@gmail.com
Your Phone	5039493141
Message	Why In the world you have a large park like Minto brown open and not one restroom open? The city could at least supply wash stations by the open porta pots? I can go to a small store like Life source here in Salem they have 2 of them. You really need to step up and serve the public you serve in a more efficient way. I hope this issue is addressed.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 4/27/2020.

Amy Johnson

From: Fay Lawson <fay_lawson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 10:19 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Cascades Gateway Park

I strongly oppose opening city parks such as Cascades Gateway park that has no toilet or garbage facilities. I no longer feel safe in my home as I live on the path that leads to the park. My dog barks constantly when people walk by hauling their belongings down the path

Fay Lawson
3100 Turner Rd #132
Salem.
Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Judy Ferguson <fergie.je@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 7:32 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Cascades Park concern

Gentlemen and Ladies:

Your interest in allowing the homeless to live in Cascade Park is a terrible idea. Although homeless live in the area, this park is at the back door of our lovely 55+ senior community, Paradise Island. It is a huge concern for the safety of our residents. Please vote against this idea.

Thank you for your consideration,

Judith Ferguson
3100 Turner Rd, Unit 419
Salem, OR 97302

Amy Johnson

From: jrgrim@juno.com
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 5:57 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Opening Cascades Gateway park to the homeless

We would like to express our opposition to opening Cascades Gateway park to the homeless

UNLESS:

Proper sanitary facilities are provided.

1. Adequate restrooms to provide for the full number of people who will be in the park.
2. Adequate garbage service.
- 3 A source of drinking water
4. Adequate sanitary provisions where people can clean themselves
5. Periodic security checks for the safety of individuals
6. Enforcement of rules that provide for the exclusion and removal of those person who endanger the welfare of others or fail to keep their camping sites sanitary.

Jon & Mary Grim
3100 Turner Rd. SE Unit 211
Salem, Oregon 97302-2086

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of richjudiott@yahoo.com
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 12:21 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Judi Ott
Your Email	richjudiott@yahoo.com
Your Phone	5596760560
Street	3100 Turner Rd. SE, #180
City	salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	We live in Paradise Island Park. Cascade Gateway Park is ust north of us. We do not appreciate that city of Salem has allowed the homeless back to camp. We have already experienced break ins here in the park. Thank you

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 4/26/2020.

Amy Johnson

From: John Shealy <johnshealy67@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 12:57 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Homeless Camping at Cascades Gateway Park

Hello,

We live at 3100 Turner Rd SE unit 309 in Paradise Island Park, which is adjacent to Cascades Park. Lately our park has for the first time in years had criminal activity related to stealing.

We strongly object to the homeless camping at the park with no supervision. There are no toilet or garbage facilities for them there and we think you should come up with another plan for these homeless people.

Thank you for your time,

Inger Johanne and John Shealy

Amy Johnson

From: John Wilde <jnbwilde@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 8:51 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Cascade getaway park

Please do not allow homeless camping in the park the leave massive piles of garbage , you need to find a better alternative

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Randy Green <handlegreen@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 11:52 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Cascades Gateway Park.

To whom it may concern,

The plans to open this park to homeless for camping is an ill conceived and and decidedly toxic plan with ramifications far beyond the mess and crime they will bring with them!

As a senior citizen and resident of the Paradise Island Park, we are a highly vulnerable senior community at greater risk of crimes and other related activities, as well as any health concerns these homeless campers would bring with them! As you well know, there are no sanitation facilities in that park, nor is there any refuse collection, and with Mill Creek running through, I wonder at the likely hood of serious pollution and the environmental impacts this will have for the greater community of our beloved Salem! You need to do better then this, shuffling the homeless from location to location isn't solving any problems, and I doubt they are a problem in YOUR neighborhoods, yet you repeatedly foist them off on the citizens in other neighborhoods around the city, this is completely unacceptable and will not go unchallenged! We are Better then this, lets address this for what it is, and stop trying to put band aids on it, and take action to eliminate this issue! Supporting and encouraging this behavior only leads to more of the same, and we all know it doesn't work, never has, so repeating the same hoping for a different outcome is a waste of time and resources! I expect more from MY civic leadership, and this isn't getting things done, and is unacceptable!

Sincerely,
Karl, M. Green

Amy Johnson

From: Kathy Reens <kreens@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 8:15 PM
To: citycouncil
Cc: Paradise Island
Subject: Homeless in Gateway Park

My name is Kathy Reens. I live in Paradise Island space 142 located at the back corner of the park. Last week there was a car behind our house pointing a rifle at an eagle that was flying over head. My husband's window faces the park. I called the police but by the time he got here they had moved on. The car was there about 1/2 hour and was a tan Subaru and drove toward Mill Creek. There are NO cars allowed in that area.

Since the City has placed homeless in Gateway Park next to a Senior Mobile home Park there has been many many issues.

Camping in the ODOT area between Mill Creek and the freeway. I called ODOT and was told they would get to it when they had time. There have been fights in those camps many times. I called the State Police and they can't put them out and said it was an ODOT issue.

Cars, RV's and sheds have been broken into. Men that don't belong in our park found in people's carports.

There have been camps in the fringed golf area behind homes here and they had camp fires.

My question is where do they get money for cigarettes liquor drugs or dog food?? Could they be stealing and selling things that don't belong to them??

This used to be a very peaceful secure place for seniors to live, you have made it a very big mess for all who live here.

And oh by the way we are the ones who pay taxes. And vote for City Council members.

Kathy Reens

Amy Johnson

From: Linda Thomas <clycash@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 6:13 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Cascades Gateway Park

I am a homeowner at Paradise Island Park. I live next door to Cascade Gateway Park.

Since the city has allowed the homeless to live in Cascade Park they come and live next door to our fence line it is very disturbing. Upon living there they have started campfires which is very alarming to residents and their properties. It is not a safe situation.

In seeing how the homeless leave there areas extremely unsanitary. They leave garbage, needles and defecation. When the homeless leave, we are unable to use the walking area for us or our dogs.

I realize the homeless need a place to live, but please don't let them live at this end of the park. It is not fair to us homeowners. They don't respect our area and safety.

Ms Linda Thomas
Paradise Island Home Owner

Amy Johnson

From: Patrice Hadsell-Evans <pehadsell@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 7:40 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Cascade Gateway Park- Covid19

City Councilman,

I'm writing on behalf of myself and my husband. We are residence of Paradise Island MHP on Turner Rd in Salem. This is the second letter I have sent regarding the problems we are experiencing in our neighborhood since you made Cascades Gateway Park a "shelter-in-place" for the homeless population. First of all we should never allow homeless camping in a PUBLIC PARK, this park belongs to the citizens of Salem and it's become a dumping ground. It's not only unsafe it's unsanitary since the city made no provision for toilets or garbage.

There are many residents living in Paradise Island that walk or ride their wheelchairs to Walmart, it's now unsafe to do so. We've had multiple break-in in our retirement community since you made this decision. Personally, we had our outside security camera stolen, they got into my car and attempted to get into my shed. My husband dedicated 33 years to law enforcement and we moved to Paradise Island from West Salem because we felt safer in a community such as this.

I'm appalled at the complete lack of care and concern for the welfare of such a vulnerable population. My husband is unwell and I have the task of caring for him myself. It's very unnerving, to say the least, knowing someone's outside in my yard, prowling about my neighborhood, and it's my responsibility to keep him safe. I resent you making this kind of a decision without any regard for the safety, security and peace of mind of a large elderly population. With the COVID19 effecting "our age" is enough pressure thank you very much...

This decision putting a homeless camp on the doorstep of a retirement community is shameful. What were you thinking? This has to be dealt with, the homeless in this park need to be move to an area where they have access to the facilities they need instead of using Walmart for the restroom..it's just not safe and it's not fair to the citizens where Walmart is there only option for food and supplies.

We expect something to be done and sooner than later...

Patrice & Gary Jeffs
3100 Turner Rd SE unit 402
Salem, OR 97302
530-613-0236

Amy Johnson

From: Pamela Watson <ppw30@msn.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 10:10 AM
To: Chuck Bennett; citycouncil; CityRecorder
Subject: Expiring camping

Good morning All,

I'm writing to encourage each of you to vote to extend the camping at both Parks as we continue to find our way through this pandemic.

We need to be using this time to be planning on "where they will go" once camping is not allowed.

After consulting one of our agencies heads I learned there are no discussions going on for planning the next step!

So for now, I feel where the unsheltered are at is the best solution.

As a City and Community I'm hoping we can work together on a solution. It's not going away!

Be well,

Pamella Watson

Sent from [Outlook Mobile](#)

Amy Johnson

From: Roberta Kane <bkane@teleport.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 11:25 AM
To: citycouncil
Cc: pdisland@comcast.net
Subject: Cascades Gateway Park

Good Morning,

I would request that you reconsider your decision to allow camping at Cascades Gateway Park. I understand that the area is unsupervised and lacks adequate personal and refuse facilities.

This area is in close proximity to a senior living development and these conditions present a grave concern to the residents, for their health, welfare and safety.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Roberta Kane
3100 Turner Rd Se Unit 701
Salem, OR. 97301

Amy Johnson

From: RALPH Y MORGAN <rymorgan62@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 8:39 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Homeless at Cascade Gateway Park

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I realize having homeless people in downtown areas or any other place is not only a city problem, but Also a humanitarian problem. I do not feel that it should be a problem shoved on to the residents of Paradise Island Park. If you put them at River Front Part, the whole town of Salem would be up in arms.

We at Paradise are 55 and much older. We have been vandalized, abused of our property, and I personally Have had my wife's bike stolen, and my motor home broken into and they used it as a toilet.

I promise you I don't want to be violated in anyway, nor do I want to hurt anybody, however my wife, and Property come first.

Solutions are tough, and I unfortunately don't have one that you would resort to, unless you can figure out A way to get them into Wapato. I understand it never has been used and was paid for with tax payors money.

Sincerely, Ralph Y. Morgan 3100 Turner Rd SE #302, Salem, Or 97302

Amy Johnson

From: Dixie Pearson <rondixiepearson@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 5:24 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Cascade Gateway Park

To whom it may concern,

We are residents at Paradise Island Mobil Park that borders the back of Cascade Gateway City Park.

We are concerned with the ever increasing presence of the Homeless population that resides at Cascade Gateway Park.

It's becoming more common for items turning up missing....and a couple of the neighbors cars were broken into.

It's only been in the last few months this started happening.

We used to enjoy going to the park and fish and then when our grandchildren would come we would take them also.

We don't feel secure to go to the park or as secure in our house.

Thank you for your time and understanding.

Ron and Dixie Pearson
3100 Turner Road SE Unit 625
Salem, Oregon 97302

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Ronsrv9a@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 1:40 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: trim.20661E35-EDC5-45FE-A56E-A4F74BECD48E.MOV

Your Name	Ronald Sterba
Your Email	Ronsrv9a@gmail.com
Your Phone	5034009191
Street	500 20th st ne
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97301
Message	<p>Hello city councilors. Concerns : Emergency Declaration @ Cascades Gateway Park. South East Mill Creek Association (SEMCA) neighborhood association. Board Member Ronald Sterba. Councilors you have put extreme pressure of forced anxiety on the "55" and older Paradise Island -Mobile Home park senior citizens. I bet you didn't even know that Cascade Gateway southern boundary is shared with Paradise Island park's senior citizen's backyards where their bounty wire fence has been cut several times allowing thieves to STEAL from the seniors properties. Last week a unknown person was seen using a rifle and targeting the Eagles nesting area at the park! Councilors you need to stop this scary scenario for these homeless folks as well a park visitor. Why do I say scary because I ventured back to the camping area (parking area because the picnic area is not accessible ,still has barricade posts at Mill creek bridge) and FRANKLY I was a little on EDGE as two people walked toward me asking WHY I was there. People walk pushing carts down the driveway to the park because approximately 890 feet of sidewalk is missing from the park entrance next to Walmart on Turner road Se. Why is SEMCA SAFETY requests being ignored at city hall. On two occasions I hand delivered pictures and a email asking for the tree to be trimmed on the south east corner of the park entrance on Turner road. The branches have totally grown around the luminarie (street light) blocking light from reaching the CROSSWALK LINES and Pavement at this corner, I volunteered to cut the branches but I was told I would be fined! I hope it doesn't take a accident to get the tree trimmed. I will mention more pedestrian foot traffic near the park roadway as well as On the Turner road pavement itself in front of both mobile home parks and down to Air Way dr. Se. I bring this SAD news that there was person killed in pedestrian/vehicle accident 2018 by Lakeside mobile home park on Turner road,,,, WHY because there is NO bike or pedestrian lane on the shoulder of either side of the Turner road pavement. Saturday I took a picture of two pedestrians walking south on the pavement and a bicyclist walking on the other side. By this city's Emergency Declaration these two communities WELL BEING on Turner Road have been comprised. My feelings on comprise,,,the end of May overnight camping ends at Cascade Gateway Park. Install a 10 foot wide perimeter gravel driveway next to the Paradise Island property line/fence to add in police/security patrols. Next add a pavement pedestrian/bike lane on the West side Turner road Pavement (Garmin Corporate south) (pass Public Works discussions) this would be the least expensive) because the east side has flood water concerns and the sidewalk expense would be high! I say city canvas the campers on what city they are from and if they did not previously live in Salem give them a transportation voucher to their hometown. Our town has graciously given opportunity for all the homeless to succeed. Now what's in it for</p>

	the taxpayers? As a reminder one citizen I Quote “ I remember swimming and LIFEGUARDS at Cascade Gateway park. Attributes of Cascade Gateway Park” Off Leash Dog runs and beautiful picnic area along Mill Creek. Don’t let our hearts get abused Ronald Sterba SEMCA Active board member,
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This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 4/27/2020.

Amy Johnson

From: RICHARD & LILLIAN THOMAS <lilltom@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 7:10 PM
To: citycouncil
Cc: pdisland@comcast.net
Subject: Cascades Gateway Park

City Council;

Allowing anybody, especially the homeless people, to spend the night in Cascades Gateway was not allowed before and should not be allowed now of all times.

The park is an un-secured gate away from a senior citizen community of over 300 seniors. We have taken all COVID 19 precautions thus far and to have to see this happen to us is ridiculous!

State parks are closed and other facilities are locked and you see fit to do this shows a total disregard to the health and safety of all of us here in Paradise Island as well as all the citizens of Salem.

Please do not allow this to continue!

I am,

Richard L Thomas
3100 Turner Rd SE Sp 624
Salem, Or 97302

Amy Johnson

From: sharon peterson <sharontrekingon@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 7:51 AM
To: Paradise Island Bunny; citycouncil
Subject: Cascades Gateway Park homeless residents

I am a senior tax paying citizen of Salem, Oregon who owns a mobile home in Paradise Park at 3100 Turner Rd SE and my home backs up to Cascades Gateway Park. Before retiring I was a Realtor here in Salem and Paradise Park was the premiere park for retired people and it took a long time for any homes in here to become available. My husband and I have worked in Oregon most all our years so have of course paid our taxes all those years and still do for our home here. Now, he has to be in a Memory Care facility so I have to live alone and this mobile home park is the most affordable option for me. It is still the most beautiful park in Salem for us. Our owner has strict rules that we as residents have to abide by, so it is a lovely place to live. I have always been confident it would be this way. So, it goes without having to say, it is very dismaying to have the homeless camping in our backyard. I have heard it say they are the vulnerable ones and yet I would ask you if your mother lived here at Paradise Park wouldn't she be the vulnerable one? And the answer would be a definite resounding "YES".

We all know they could care less about how they live as we have witnessed wherever they park themselves on the city streets. It is unsafe for anyone around them. The ones who parked behind our home were able bodied young people who could work if they choice to do so. People have choices and these choose to be homeless. Amazon opened a huge warehouse and many jobs were available and these homeless ones choose to not work. Why?

I see a gal who parks herself on the corner of Turner Rd. And Mission begging. My husband and I choose to go to work in Honduras for one year out of our careers and that was an eye opening experience to say the least! It is a shame to see our country and our state of Oregon looking like a third world country!

Cascades Park does not have the facilities needed to house these people. It should be a safe place where children can fish and have a good time. I thought putting in a disc golf course was a nice thing for our youth but not a hangout for homeless people who seem to have enough money for alcohol and drugs.

What is becoming of our once beautiful city and homes? It is deteriorating!

Sincerely,
Homeowners at #122
Sharon Peterson

Amy Johnson

From: Stan & Sharon <stanshar@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 5:42 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: HOMELESS IN CASCADES GATEWAY PARK

IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT YOU ARE GOING TO OPEN CASCADES GATEWAY PARK ON TURNER RD. TO THE HOMELESS FOR CAMPING. WE LIVE IN PARADISE ISLAND PARK RIGHT NEXT DOOR. WE STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS. THERE IS NO GARBAGE OR SANITARY FACILITIES OR SUPERVISION AT GATEWAY. IT WILL BE JUST A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY PUSH TOWARDS OUR PARK. IT SCARES US.

STAN AND SHARON PETERSON

3100 TURNER RD. SE
#215
SALEM,OR. 973024

Amy Johnson

From: Cory Poole <robotopdx@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 11:45 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: From SEMCA Board, Regarding Homeless camps in Cascades Gateway Park.

Mr. Mayor and City council members.

We the board of the Southeast Millcreek Neighborhood Association are writing to you in lieu of in-person testimony that has been suspended.

Cascades gateway park is a great asset to our community. Over the years SEMCA has worked closely with Salem Parks, groups, and individual Salem residents to help make Cascades Gateway park a destination for Walking, fishing, wildlife viewing, disc golf, and other activities.

On many days Cascades gateway park enjoys a level of use that rivals other city parks that enjoy much larger maintenance budgets.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Salem city council opened Cascades Gateway park to unsupervised, unregulated camping by homeless individuals. There was no effort made by city staff to contact SEMCA or adjacent residents or businesses.

Almost immediately after this, homeless individuals started to build makeshift camps throughout the park often on sensitive wildlife habitats. The areas of Cascades gateway park where many of these camps are located have no lighting, no road access for patrol, no garbage disposal facilities, and most importantly no supervision by city staff, parks staff, or police.

Immediately to the south of Cascades Gateway Park are two manufactured home parks, the manufactured home park bordering the park is a senior park with 213 households with an average age of over 70. Both manufactured home parks have seen an enormous spike in theft and trespass. Residents living in these communities are expressing extreme concern for their personal safety since homeless campers have cut the chain-link fence to gain entry into the manufactured home park several times.

In addition to the current homeless camping policy being unsafe for residents and businesses adjacent to the park, it is also unsafe for the homeless community camping in the park. Many camps are placed very close together homeless campers are not observing social distancing congregating in groups within the camps. When homeless campers steal from or assault each other there is no chance for a quick police or ambulance response. The people living in these conditions are left to deal with these criminal acts on their own.

Cascades Gateway Park is suffering from the presence of these camps. A camp has set up on the island in Wirth Lake. This island is set aside for wildlife and currently, nesting geese and ducks have been forced to leave their nesting sites due to the presence of campers and disruptive behavior of these campers. A camp is located adjacent to a tree containing an eagle nest one homeless camper that was illegally driving his car through the park was observed aiming a rifle at the eagle in its nest. The campers have been trampling native plants on sensitive creek banks and have been cutting down park trees to make campfires which they claim is permitted under the current camping ordinance. In the absence of restroom and garbage facilities campers are using bushes and Mill Creek as open toilets and garbage dumps. I have documented toilet paper, human waste, drug manufacturing paraphernalia, and large amounts of garbage around the campsites.

Understanding that the COVID-19 pandemic has aggravated an already tragic homeless crisis in our city we are asking the Council to make the following changes to the current camping policy.

1. Move all homeless camps to the north end of Cascades Gateway Park, north of Mill creek. This area already has

vehicle access for emergency response, It has lighting at night for the safety of the campers, it has a covered shelter which could be used for serving food and distributing supplies, It has restroom facilities, it is much closer to transportation and bus service along mission street and very importantly the north end of Cascades gateway park is not adjacent to any residential or business properties.

2. Provide homeless camps with garbage and restroom facilities. Clean and safe restroom facilities MUST be provided to people living in tents. Clean water for handwashing and sanitary toilet facilities are critical to keep the homeless population from infecting each other and the broader community. Garbage disposal facilities also must be provided to keep garbage from polluting Cascades Gateway Park and Mill Creek.

3. There must be 24-hour supervision of the campsites. Salem's homeless population are among the most vulnerable people in our city. Many of these people suffer from mental illness, drug addiction, PTSD, and acute health problems. We cannot expect this population to monitor itself. At all times there should be a city staff member present to monitor the campsites to ensure that homeless campers are not abusing each other. Using the north end of Cascades gateway park would allow for fast medical, fire, and police response.

4. Tents must be spaced in a way that allows for social distancing. A grid should be laid out on the field grounds to designate a safe personal space around each campsite. Campers should not be permitted to congregate in large groups to prevent infection by COVID-19. This approach is currently being employed effectively in Portland and other cities.

5. A task force should be established immediately to establish a post-pandemic homeless camping policy. SEMCA and Salem's residents are unwilling to permanently loose Cascades Gateway Park to homeless camps. A more permanent homeless village or some other system outside of Salem parks should be implemented to provide ongoing safe shelter for the homeless population.



Homeless camper illegally driving his car on the Disc Golf course.



Homeless campers cutting down park trees for firewood.



Campfire made from park trees.



Homeless Camp set up on the disc golf course.



Homeless campsite less than 50ft from Paradise Island Mobile home park.



Drug cooking supplies adjacent to homeless campsite 100ft from Paradise Island Park.



Campsite on the protected island in Wirth lake. Normally a nesting site for wild birds.



Mar 13, 2020 3:57:50 PM
3100 Turner Road Southeast
Salem
Marion County
Oregon

Homeless Trespasser in Paradise Island Park. He told park staff that he was looking for a place to take drugs.



Apr 8, 2020 10:12:29 AM
2650 Turner Road Southeast
Salem
Marion County
Oregon

Homeless campsite on Disc golf course.



Campsites immediately adjacent to businesses.



Campsites adjacent to neighboring businesses.



Alcohol from homeless campers left on disc golf course.



Homeless campsite on disc golf course.



Homeless campsite on disc golf course.



Garbage left by homeless campers on disc golf course.



Homeless campers driving through park. (not on roadways.)



Trash left by homeless campers 20ft from paradise Island mobile home park.



Garbage left by homeless campers adjacent to disc golf course.



Campsite with large amounts of garbage on disc golf course.



Homeless camp with many stolen bicycles adjacent to disc golf course and neighboring businesses.



Homeless campers not practicing social distancing.



Homeless campsite on Disc golf course.



Homeless campsite on an ecologically sensitive creek bank.



Homeless campsite on an ecologically sensitive creek bank.



Homeless campsite on an ecologically sensitive creek bank. Park trees have been cut down for firewood.



A young park tree cut down and burned for firewood in a homeless campsite.



A young park tree cut down and burned for firewood in a homeless campsite.



Group of homeless campers burning park trees in a campfire.



Burned garbage immediately adjacent to Mill Creek, next to homeless campsite.



Man with a machete threatening me for taking photos of his campsite while he cuts down park trees.

We the board of the Southeast Mill Creek neighborhood Association implore you to take immediate action to save Cascades gateway park and our community from the destruction caused by Homeless campers.
We look forward to working with the city to assist.

Thank you.
Cory Poole
SEMCA Chair.

Amy Johnson

From: Tim Parrish <trig4tim@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 5:11 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Please note upon opening a area or park to homeless people you must provide bathrooms, supervision, and management with rules.

I think it's wonderful for the city council to take compassion for the needy and the Homeless. However to open an area with no provision of bathrooms, garbage cans with pickup. The city is being totally irresponsible by transferring a problem only to send it to another place away from their view, only to make it a problem for neighborhood. Those of us living in Paradise Park. No Sanitation, open campfires, no garbage collections. It is NOT OK for the council send their problem to another neighbor hood without considering the safety of our neighbor hood. Your actions is very irresponsible. Please take of your errors. Perhaps the council members ought to consider their own neighbor hood. Please resolve your poor decisions

So we can retain our clean and sanitary park. Also our park has escalated with breakins, and fires in unauthorized places.

Tim Parrish 3100 Turner Rd SE

Sent from my iPhone