

Ruth Stellmacher

From: RICHARD & LILLIAN THOMAS <lilltom@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:01 PM
To: citycouncil; tanderson@cityofsalem.net; pdisland@comcast.net
Subject: Cascade Gateway park

I deplore you to end the homeless camping policy in Cascade Gateway park or just go back to no overnight camping there.

While deciding to extend the policy allowing non resident homeless people to camp in this park I would hope you could put yourself in our situation.

We live in Paradise Island Park situated next to Cascade Gateway park and enjoy a comfortable place to live. On occasion we have people in the park who do not reside there but not like we have had recently. These folks are visibly identified because of dress, age and appearance. They come here out of boredom and in search of what ever they can find to do.

As we are an open society we cannot keep them from coming here and I am not saying they are criminal. This a retirement community and should stay that way.

I do not know where you live but would you want up to 300 of these folks staying less than a city block away from you?

Thank you, I am

Richard Thomas
3100 Turner Rd SE
Salem, Oregon 97302

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Stan & Sharon <stanshar@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:52 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: HOMELESS: CASCADES GATEWAY PARK

IN REGARDS TO THE 12-14-2020 MEETING . SINCE THE HOMELESS HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO MOVE INTO CASCADES GATEWAY PARK "UNSUPERVISED" THE PARK HAS BECOME A TOTAL DISASTER . WE LIVE IN PARADISE ISLAND ADULT PARK AND WE HAVE SEEN MORE UNKOWN PEOPLE AROUND HERE SINCE THIS HAS HAPPENED. WE THAT LIVE HERE ARE OF THE OLDER GENERATION AND THIS IS VERY FRIGHTENING TO MOST OF US. WE KNOW THAT THIS IS A PROBLEM THAT IS NOT EASY TO SOLVE BUT WE BELIEVE THAT WE AS TAX PAYING RESIDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO FEEL SAFE IN OUR HOMES. AND WITH THE SITUATION AS IT IS IN CASCADES PARK WITH NO SUPERVISION {NOT TO MENTION THE FILTH AND TOTALLY UNSANITARY CONDITIONS } WE DO NOT FEEL SAFE. SO THEREFORE WE ASK THAT IT NOT BE CONTINUED.

STAN AND SHARON PETERSON
PARADISE ISLAND PARK

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Shari Stoutenburg <shari.stoutenburg@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 6:32 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: 12/14/2020 HEARING/DECISION RE: EXTENSION OF UNREGULATED HOMELESS CAMPING @ CASCADES GATEWAY PARK

Dear City Council Members,

My husband and I are writing to oppose the extension of unregulated camping at Cascades Gateway Park.

We recently purchased a home in Paradise Island Mobile Home Park. We have lived in Salem for over 40 years and decided to retire in this beautiful mobile home neighborhood. Unfortunately some of the first comments we heard from our new neighbors were related to the homeless camps at Cascades Gateway Park. Our neighbors say how they love this park, have felt safe and enjoyed the beautiful natural surroundings for years.... until recently. With the growth of the homeless camps in the neighboring park this neighborhood has experienced theft, break-ins of vehicles parked at their homes as well as in the RV parking area, other property damage, even some trees being cut down by the homeless campers to use for firewood and shelters.

In our research into the matter we have learned that human waste is being dumped into Mill Creek even though there are porta-potties provided at the park area where campers are living. The natural habitat that is home to deer, many types of birds including bald eagles, foxes, etc is being polluted with trash (including spoiled food) discarded drug paraphernalia, and the growing presence of campers that are not respectful enough to even clean up after themselves.

Over the years we have used Cascades Gateway Park for family recreation, fishing, and outings with our children and then our grandchildren. We cannot do that anymore. It is not pleasant or safe.

We resent having to give up our safety and security as well as our recreational area for campers who are drug addicts and criminals. The homeless situation in Salem is very tragic and serious and very sad. It must be addressed. But not by simply allowing them to camp wherever there may be space. We pay for our home, we pay taxes, we work to maintain our property for our benefit and the benefit of our neighbors, and we believe it is reasonable to expect regulation, protection, and enforcement of those regulations that will keep these camps from encroaching on our neighborhood. Many residents no longer feel safe walking their dogs along the creek and other walking paths in our neighborhood.

I have heard from more than a few residents that reports of theft are ignored or disregarded by police.

The unregulated camping and free access to homeless camping at Cascades Gateway Park must end! Police must enforce camping restrictions and trespassers must be arrested and prosecuted.

You must seek resolution to this issue - as if they were camping next door to your family.....

Sincerely,
Ron & Shari Stoutenburg
Residents - Paradise Island Mobile Home Park

Name: Martha Ling
3100 Turner Rd SE Lot #K7
Salem, Or. 97302

Date: 12/10/2020

Dear City Council:

I am writing to lodge my complaint that you are still allowing the homeless to set up camp in Cascade Gateway Park! I live in Paradise Mobile Home park, ~~which~~ ^{which} is right next door. As you must know, our mobile park is for seniors, & it is a tragedy and a tragedy that we, as seniors, should be expected to endure their thoughtlessness & have our lives put in jeopardy because you allow them to camp out there?

I personally have experienced and reported to both the park manager, the police, & even your Council the following events on my site in the last year:

- 1) Items stolen from my front porch
- 2) My car rifled through, & items dumped for easy resale.
- 3) Someone trying to enter my front door late in the evening, while lights were on & fortunately doors locked. My guests, in the room at the time, jumped up, ran to the door, & scared them off.
- 4) Early in the same morning (about 2 AM), pounding on the exterior wall by my bedroom! Loud enough to scare the living daylights out of me!

It is your responsibility to make it "uncomfortable" for people to want to live as homeless in our area, to provide reasonable solutions, & to protect law-abiding, tax paying citizens!

Please Do So!!!

Martha Ling



Darrell R. Wing
3100 Turner Rd. SE Unit 412
Salem, OR 97302

Name:

Date: 12-9-20

Salem City Council,

I am writing in reference to Cascades Gateway Park. Please get the homeless out of there. We used to frequent that park regularly but do not feel safe there now. These people have confronted us asking what we are doing there as if they own the park. That place now is a filthy mess also.

I have personally seen where they have illegally entered Paradise Island Park (Private property)

Surely the city has properties where you can house and help these unfortunate people.

Please vote to remove these homeless from Cascades Park and try to find a safe place for them.

Thank You,

Sincerely,

Darrell Wing

(Resident of Paradise Island)

Name: RALPH & SARA MORGAN #302 Date: 12/9/2020

FOLKS THANKS FOR LISTENING AGAIN. YOU HAVE I BELIEVE A NO PRYING THANKLESS JOB. ALL THAT BEING SAID YOU CAN YOU?

WHAT I SAID AT THE LAST MEETING I MEANT EVERY WORD. YOU FOLKS AND YOUR CITY MANAGERS CHOSE THE SIGHT AND ARE GOING TO HAVE TO SOLVE IT.

MY SUGGESTION FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH IS: I GET THEM OUT OF THE PARK AREA. SOUNDS EASY AND COULD BE IF YOU THINK ABOUT. THEY COULD BE PUT IN A "TEXT CITY" SOME PLACE. I SAID TENTS NOT TARPOLINS. NEXT CHARGE THEM A FEE TO PAY FOR A PATROL & GARBAGE PICKUP. IF YOU WONDER HOW THEY PAY THE FEE, ASK THEM HOW THEY BUY THEIR CIGARETTES? GUARANTEED THEY SOMETHING. ANYTHING THEY WANT THEY CAN GET HONESTLY. MOST WOULD PROBABLY WORK IF GIVEN THE CHANCE.

THE KEY IS MONITOR THEIR COMINGS AND GOINGS. MAKE IT A CLEAN AREA AND DEMAND IT STAY CLEAN. THEY COULD END UP WITH THEIR OWN RULE MAKERS AND IF THEY DON'T COMPLY THEY ARE OUT. IF ITS WELL KEPT THEY WILL OBEY BECAUSE OF PRIDE.

AS I SAID IN THE MEETING, I DOUBT IF ANYBODY WOULD HAVE SUGGESTED BUSH PARK BECAUSE OF MONEY AND STATUS, AND THE LAUGHTER FROM OTHER COUNCIL PEOPLE. THE FACT IS YOU MADE A DECISION ON A SPOT WITH OLDER ADULTS W/NO KIDS.

Ralph & Morgan

Ruth Stellmacher

From: PATRICIA CLARK <clark4420@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2020 9:32 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Cascade Park/Homeless

What a MESS! We pay our taxes, worked all our life, keep our home clean while the city of Salem takes more from us. We can not use the Park any longer for fear of the homeless taking more. What you pay to clean up after these people you could put them in a place for mental or abuse care. Also you could put them in a home with standards. They really do not care as long as someone else is paying for it. We as tax payers should not have to take care of them any more. By helping them you help us.