

While well intentioned, Measure 110 has disastrous flaws that need to be fixed before more addicts ruin their lives or die. This fix also needs to improve the safety and vitality of our neighborhoods.

In recent weeks I've experienced the following in my downtown neighborhood. All highly likely drug fueled:

- An overdose on the steps of Portland Center Stage.
- A fire in Jamison Park.
- A person laying in their own feces surrounded by garbage at the front door of my condo building.
- A person yanking the outdoor lights off the walls of my condo building and then throwing a rock through the glass doors.
- A ranting person holding a hammer in a residential northwest neighborhood.

This must stop. And these folks must get help.

Here are some ideas:

1. Make drug use illegal again but protect users from a criminal record by offering them choices. They must pick one:

- Go to a sobering center
- Go to a sanctioned supported camp
- Go to rehab
- Go to jail

2. Extradite drug users to their home state if they have outstanding warrants.

3. Give first responders the tools and support they need to enforce the above choices.

4. Support police in confiscating drugs from users on the streets.

5. Modify the Bottle Bill so no cash is given for bottle returns (that will probably be spent on drugs). Instead provide receipts for food (no alcohol) purchases in the facility in which the bottles were redeemed.

Fixing Measure 110 should be the highest priority and action should be taken quickly.

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