

It is my birthday today. In an effort to support struggling business in downtown Portland, my wife and I booked a hotel to shop and dine downtown. We have been downtown for about two hours now, and despite a much larger security presence than we have ever seen, it is still a drug addiction wasteland. We have witnessed a blatant theft and confrontation at Athropolgy. We have had to cross the street several times to avoid open use of drugs. It is crazy, and I would never venture downtown without a big can of mace. This is all in your hands. Keep 110 and Portland will continue to be a lawless town. Take what you want. Do what you want. Hurt who you want. Or, turn back the clock to a time when this town was great. Enforcement of laws does not degrade a community. It does not make it worse. It makes it better. Safer. We owe that to our children. We owe that to our elders. Those are the "vulnerable" populations. Not the drug addicts that do as they want, when they want, empowered by a law that was poorly written and poorly executed. Fix it.