

Submitter: krishna balasubramani

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

At some point you probably want to consider the tax base and how to pay for ongoing services and improvements in the City. You need to find a way to attract tax payers to support those people who need support. I think we can all agree that more tents on the streets do not attract tax payers? Can we all agree that this plan will not attract more tax payers and will instead actively push tax payers out of the City and County?

I hope you do not give serious consideration to this measure. I live in Portland and manage a law firm based in Portland. Somehow the City has gone from allowing people who do not have access to resources during a pandemic to live in public spaces to spending time considering a bill that will decriminalize it. There are many tents around my house and office and I've talked to several folks who live in them. Largely they are folks who are resistant to services or the guidelines that come with them. Many of them recently were relocated to Portland (I've talked to them). Admittedly I have not talked to the severely addicted or seemingly mentally unstable folks. However, presumably no one believes they should be allowed to live on the streets. If that is your plan that is a dereliction of your duties.

Krishna