



PUBLIC SAFETY ACTION COALITION

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners,

It is no secret that our city is deeply challenged with regard to public safety. The gun violence statistics are startling. The Police Bureau is deeply understaffed and is on course to lose more trained officers in the coming year. Violent destruction continues unabated, and people across our city are afraid to venture out on what were once our beautiful and safe streets. This is horrifying and unacceptable!

While there is so much that has to be done, you have an opportunity in the this Spring's Budget Monitoring Process to make some meaningful decisions to help move us in a better direction. We strongly urge you to support the following:

- **Equip and fund officers with body-worn cameras** — Portland residents and Portland officers agree that it's long overdue to find the money and get it done.
- **Fund the full expansion of Portland Street Response (PSR) citywide** to relieve emergency services from taking calls that are better served by non-emergency staff.
- **Support the technology and staffing needs** for the Bureau of Emergency Communication's (BOEC) services by hiring more 911 operators and other BOEC requests to decrease call wait times.
- **Increase foot patrols** (for example, PS3 officers or detail police officers) in Old Town and other areas disproportionately impacted by violence and crime.
- **Policy recommendation** — Due to the high recidivism rate and because individuals who cause community harm are being put back onto the streets, we recommend that the City work with the County by committing one of the City Budget's line items to fund and expand jail capacity by fifty beds.
- **Safe Parking Program:** We recommend expediting at least two smaller-scale locations be for safe parking in high-need areas of Portland for implementation in 2022.

- **Create two Service Coordination Centers** in other high-need areas of Portland (similar to Transition Projects [TPI] in Downtown) who will accept or triage walk-ins at the doors of these facilities. Unhoused folks in areas of North, East, and Southeast need a dedicated area to go to when they are not able to connect by phone.
- **Expand staffing and trash cleanup disposal programs across the City.**
- **Increase shelter bed capacity for areas** in Portland who need it and give the general public a transparent view of those shelters' real-time census capacity.
- **Support OldTown Community Association** plan for revitalizing the neighborhood.
- **Fund Vandalism repairs.** Provide grant assistance for businesses to repair broken windows from vandalism.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Hammer, Co-President
Sam Miller, Interim Co-President



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