

Hello Neighbors,

4/4/2024

I believe the City of Seaside has illegally created a public nuisance in our neighborhood. The camp on Ave S is dangerous to the health and safety of our community. I know many of you have had recent issues such as: stolen property, violent interactions with drug addicts, rat infestation, problems with trespassers, vandalism, human waste on your property and other issues which are a direct cause of the City of Seaside's "unhoused" camp.

The City of Seaside has knowingly created this nuisance and has shown an unwillingness to remove this danger from our neighborhood. Basic laws are not being upheld in the area surrounding the camp. This has undoubtedly placed our community in a desperate situation. Apparently, "citations are not even worth the paper they are printed on." We have neighbors afraid to go outside and walk their dog or be outside after dark. No property owner, not even the city, has the right to create a dangerous and intimidating situation in any neighborhood. I know most of us have heard that the City and the Seaside Police Department have their hands tied because this is a State/Federal directive. I do not believe this absolves them of the basic rights you have regardless of whether you are a tenant or a property owner in the area. The City has a responsibility to **ALL CITIZENS**, housed or unhoused. They cannot take away your basic rights and claim that they are providing a mandated service to a different segment of the population

Thank You,

Your neighbor

Kimberley Jordan

From: pugsnorts@yahoo.com
Sent: Saturday, April 6, 2024 4:39 AM
To: publiccomment
Subject: Seaside Public recycling center

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I don't feel safe using the Alder Mill Ave and Avenue S Recycling Center anymore and now throw my recycles in the garbage. I am an over 65 years woman and when I went to the Recycling Center 2 weeks ago, more then one homeless person was crawling inside the Recycling bin. The homeless person stuck their hands out of the bin opening and took the recycle items from a person coming to the bin to put something in it.

My sister and husband said from now on if we decide to use the Recycling center we better go together to make sure we have help if we are harassed by the homeless there. I decided it wasn't worth it and just quit Recycling.

Glenda Phillips
1680 S Franklin St
Seaside

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

Kimberley Jordan

From: Coastal Homes NW <coastalhomesnw@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 8, 2024 9:49 AM
To: publiccomment
Subject: Site Amendments to Homeless Camp

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To the Seaside City Council:

Our business owns land and builds homes at the Blue Heron Pointe subdivision at Avenue S and Wahanna. In the many years that we have been working there, the amount of theft, vandalism, and drug use has increased dramatically each year, and we strongly oppose the expansion or permanent creation of a homeless encampment on Avenue S.

The repeated direct and indirect impacts of the encampment that we are aware of include:

*Trespassing and theft from construction sites and other private property. Homes under construction have been broken into and appliances, tools, copper piping, and other building materials have been stolen. Homeowners have reported people rifling through their garbage cans and stealing other household items, and generally feeling unsafe with the encampment nearby.

*Open drug use and camping on the premises. The open space where future homes are to be constructed has become a frequent location for drug use and camping, impeding the sales and construction of new homes. Used needles are found regularly and this poses a health risk for all.

*Vendors have threatened to no longer serve the neighborhood as a result of vandalism.

The presence of the encampment on Avenue S has only increased these issues, and the Police log will confirm this. It impedes our ability to build needed homes in the City, and decreases the desire of prospective homeowners to live there. Slowed or limited construction has obvious impacts on City revenue and tax base. We applaud the efforts of the Seaside Police Department in managing these infractions, and the City Council's efforts to solve the local homelessness issue. We understand the need for housing solutions, but oppose any expansion or permanent siting of the homeless encampment on Avenue S.

Respectfully,
Max Ritchie
Coastal Homes NW

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Coastal Homes NW
PO Box 2772
Seaside, OR 97138
503-395-0999

Kimberley Jordan

From: Seth Morrissey
Sent: Monday, April 8, 2024 12:33 PM
To: Kimberley Jordan; Spencer Kyle
Subject: Seaside Homeless Camp Memo
Attachments: Seaside Homeless Camp.png

Hi Kim,

Can you please forward this to the city council?

Hi Council,

Prior to our work session on the Seaside Homeless Camp today, I wanted to share a few thoughts that would be best to discuss internally at this point.

Camp Location - As I've mentioned in previous discussions I'm concerned about the current camp location and the unfair burden it puts on this area of town. While there's an argument to be made that the camp is working for the majority of the city, it's clearly not working for this specific area. In short, I'm not in favor of this location being the "permanent" camp and have attached a mapped detailing other proposed locations that I would prefer even on a "temporary" basis. One of which is the backside of the Seaside Public Works property.

In summary, I believe we must find a location that does not unfairly burden any of our residents.

Permanent Camp Location - There's a complaint amongst residents that live near the camp that we did not follow proper protocol when selecting this location. That protocol was supposed to include giving public notice of our intent to move the camp to this location followed by subsequent public meetings. Regardless of the location the council decides to choose for the permanent location, it's critical that we move forward with a process that includes both public notice and public input.

Camp Operation - I'm concerned that our leniency to the campers is creating an incentive that will bring more campers into our area. I'm in favor of the city pursuing the strictest possible enforcement of our local ordinances and state laws. This would include:

- Empower Seaside PD to enforce all camp rules and laws. If a camper refuses to follow the rules and laws of the city they should be immediately removed and banned from the camp.
- Reinstate the required camp move out at least once per month. This was never intended to be a permanent location and moving the campers periodically will help emphasize that.
- Reach out to the State of Oregon for all available funding and resources that are available.
- Contract with an organization to manage the camp and use the Seaside PD only for law enforcement when needed.

Thank you,

Seth Morrissey
City Councilor



JABER
RONALD
P

BURNHAM
DAVID
JOE

Ave U

Alder Mill Ave

SE



CITY OF SEASIDE

Published on *Seaside, OR* (<https://www.cityofseaside.us>)

[Home](#) > [Public Comment Submission or Registration](#) > [Webform results](#) > Submission #40

Submission information

Form: [Public Comment Submission or Registration](#) [1]
Submitted by Anonymous (not verified)
April 8, 2024 - 1:26pm
2601:1c0:4e00:3810:e828:c997:e81f:18c3

Full Name:

Max Ritchie

Full Address (Providing your address is required to offer public comment):

PO BOX 2772 Seaside, OR 97138

Phone Number:

5037760629

E-mail Address:

coastalhomesnw@gmail.com

Confirm E-mail Address:

coastalhomesnw@gmail.com

Is this comment for the City Council or the Planning Commission?

City Council

Meeting Date you will be providing public comment (Council Meets 2nd and 4th Monday of Month, Planning Meetings 1st Tuesday of Month)

April 8, 2024

Select which option you will be using to attend the meeting:

Written Comment

Written comment instructions:

I have read and understand the written comment instructions.

Written Comment:

To the Seaside City Council:

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Respectfully,
Max Ritchie

Is this comment for the general (open) comment period or for a specific agenda item?
Specific Agenda Item

Please list the specific item on the agenda that allows for public comment (Example: Item #11A - Resolution #3994):
Site Amendments to Homeless Camp

If you would like to submit a photo or other documents along with your comment please upload them here:

Please select one of the following required options:

I am stating that I would like this comment submitted to the City Council prior to its next meeting and included in the council packet. Further, I'm stating that by checking this box, I understand that it will become part of the public record. Comments made without a name and address cannot be added to the public record.

Source URL:<https://www.cityofseaside.us/node/20386/submission/14536>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofseaside.us/public-comment-form>



CITY OF SEASIDE

Published on *Seaside, OR* (<https://www.cityofseaside.us>)

[Home](#) > [Contact the City Council](#) > [Webform results](#) > Submission #95

Submission information

Form: [Contact the City Council](#) [1]
Submitted by Anonymous (not verified)
April 8, 2024 - 1:48pm
47.7.8.12

Your Name:

Cathey Ryan

Your E-mail Address:

catheyryan@gmail.com

Your Phone Number:

206 747-4442

Subject:

Intellectual Freedom

Message:

Intellectual freedom is the right of library users to read, seek information, and speak freely as guaranteed by the First Amendment. Intellectual freedom is one of the core values of the library profession; it promotes access to information and guides the defense against censorship. The freedom to read is essential to our democracy. In a democratic society, individuals must be sufficiently knowledgeable to make informed decisions. Libraries provide their users with necessary information through a wide selection of materials from varying points of view. It is essential that library resources remain free to use for all, regardless of age

Councilor Morrisey

Councilor Frank

Councilor Dillard

Councilor Posalski

Councilor Montero

Councilor Horning

Mayor Wright

Kimberley Jordan

From: Crystal Evans <crystalevans25@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 8, 2024 2:29 PM
To: publiccomment
Subject: Homeless encampment

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To the seaside city counsel:

I purchased our home just off of avenue S two years ago. Since moving to Seaside I have seen this area deteriorate to a state that no longer feels safe. Our garbage has been rummage through, I hear yelling late at night coming from the direction of the encampment, I don't feel safe walking to burly and the bean anymore after witnessing people clearly on drugs. The mess and junk around that area is disgusting and I'm sure is causing our property values to go down. I was under the understanding that it was a temporary fix but now I have been notified it's becoming permanent, I'm angry and disappointed it wasn't agreed upon by the homes in this area. I don't believe this is fair to our community and would like my voice and others in the area to be heard. There has to be another piece of property that can be purchased outside the main part of seaside that these people not paying taxes or respecting cleanliness can be placed.

Crystal Evans & Greg Montgomery

I live about 1 block from the homeless camp on ave S. I feel the problems being caused by many of the homeless is visably obvious and well documented through all the police reports and rise in crime. I realize that not all homeless are bad people or guilty of the stereotype, but the crim violence, destruction of the environment, pollution messiness, drugs, mental illness and possible gun sales that do occur, is enough to instill fear, anxiety, apprehension and frustration for residents living around them or nearby.

I haven't wanted to complain because I do feel sorry for homeless people and I'm grateful that I'm not homeless myself. And I recognize all of the efforts the city has made to try to find solutions. Seaside is a small city trying to come to grips with a huge problem, and it seems to have exploded in the past three years. I know officials are struggling to find space enough to accommodate everybody by providing enough tiny-homes (or any at all) and that we are limited for space compared to Astoria or Warrenton, but I really wish this encampment could be relocated to somewhere less residential and away from here.

I miss feeling safe enough to walk my dog around the mill-pond or to leave my front gate open. I have to keep it pad-locked with a no-trespassing sign on it to keep people from walking into my yard at night and stealing my possessions. My car began getting broken into by at least one man, and recently it was vandalized when someone smashed part of my head-light when the turn signal is.

I'm tired of hearing all of the fights, or dispute occurring frequently and I think I may have witnessed a gun-sale across the street late at night, in front of the garage-door co. I saw someone getting out of the back-seat of a car and then ~~scampering~~ carrying away carrying something that looked like a rifle, and then the car left.

I tried to help one homeless man because his dog was so pathetically neglected and tended-up being mistreated and become a target. I helped the little Yorky as much as he would allow me to, and I'm not sorry I did, but I have suffered his abuse and emotionally from experiencing his on-going neglect / abuse of this poor little dog. It makes me cry, even to this day.

I am partially disabled and almost 70 yrs old and I've made it my quest in life to help animal whenever I can, but it's really hard to witness / experience abuse when I see it, over and over.

I've lived in my home for 38 yrs. I take pride in my home and community. I've worked hard to try to create a pleasing, tranquil environment for myself and my animals. All I want is to be allowed to live-out my remaining years in peace and harmony.

Homelessness is a wide-spread problem. I feel it is a 'sign of the times' and the result of over-population and the dwindling of resources and space. We were warned decades ago that people would be living in their cars or motor-homes, or in the streets, but I don't think anybody foresaw all of the problems that would come with it.

I don't want the wilderness to become encroached upon by moving homeless away from the city, and into the woods but I do feel more buildings could be utilized within the city to provide housing such as the former Broadway School, churches, or the Red Lion Inn.

Another idea of mine, to provide more tiny-homes would be to utilize 3-D printing technology. It's an extremely fast, efficient, low-cost method of building very sturdy structures. And I feel it may set a precedent for other cities and save resources. We could be proud of our innovativeness and creativity, and show how compassionate, caring, and understanding we are as a city.

The problem of unhoused people is likely to grow in the next 10 or 20 years, and I feel it important to establish resolution that would set a standard for how many we can accommodate and for where they are allowed to camp, before it gets even more out of control.

Sincerely,
Debra K. Bettula
770 AVE S

Mr. Mayor, as a longtime Seaside resident and business person, it is apparent to me we are in the midst of a homeless crisis rooted in addiction to fentanyl. As this crisis relates to the City's camp, Seaside lacks the financial, institutional and land resources to legally abide by the state camping mandate.

This camp is an illegal public nuisance, and it is dangerous to the health and safety of our entire community. My neighbors and I experience stolen property, violent interactions with drug addicts, rat infestation, trespassers, vandalism, human waste, and other more unpleasant issues as a direct result of the City's camp. I even heard the rat nuisance raised in the last budget meeting regarding damage to city trucks parked at the property adjacent to the camp.

However, it is not just the nearby residents of the camp that are feeling the negative impact of this larger crisis. Vagrants broke into the basement of a small property I own on 1st Ave and began to make themselves at home there too. There are camps under several of the town's bridges. I know numerous residents who are constantly catching criminals and vagrants on their security cameras. Mr. Mayor, you must ensure that the police department is directed to enforce even the most basic laws that hold our community together.

I have been in the camp on several occasions to search for and recover items stolen from my construction site across the street. This is not a camp needed as a result of limited housing. This is homelessness specific to addiction. It will not be solved by a place to camp, a laxity of basic laws, and easy access to bottle deposit funds to trade in for fentanyl at \$1 a pill. The camp is filthy, it is not humane and the city should not be involved with managing this public health disaster without proper resources. The current path is growing this disaster and endangering the community you are tasked with serving.

Mr. Mayor, please show the leadership Seaside needs at this moment. I ask you to declare a State of Emergency in Seaside for homelessness specific to addiction. Demand more resources from the State of Oregon. Institutional help for drug addiction is necessary from the larger metro areas. Police resources are also needed to deal with the rise in property crimes we are experiencing. I also offer the idea of asking the governor for a 6-month moratorium on bottle deposit returns in Seaside and possibly all of Clatsop County. As you know, bottle deposit refunds help drive the fentanyl economy in our community. As we face this emergency, remove easy access to the drug during coming the summer months and allow Seaside to evaluate the future of responsible bottle refunds.

Please do not let the crisis continue to grow.

Your community needs you to take this action immediately!

Dave Keller
900 Ave S

Avenue S Self Storage LLC

P.O. Box 592 / 955 Avenue S.
Seaside, OR 97138
(503)717-2444

April 8, 2024

Honorable Mayor and Councilors,

As a former Councilor in Gearhart, I very much appreciate the predicament you are facing with the homeless epidemic. There is no place a camp can be placed within the community that will not impact the surrounding homes or businesses. Unfortunately for me, I am one of those businesses that is being impacted by the camp located adjacent to Avenue S.

I purchased this business 17 years ago, and though I have had minor issues with tenants and small homeless camps that have popped up around the mill ponds, I have never experienced the volume of garbage being dumped on our property, graffiti to our buildings, vagrant vehicles parked in our isles, and tenants feeling unsafe coming and going from their units, as I am dealing with at this point. It has become very apparent that the homeless camp and the adjacent homes and businesses are not compatible with each other.

It is inappropriate to provide a camp space for the homeless, and not provide a place for them to park their vehicles.

As a business owner, the burden of the camp is very taxing, I can't imagine what it must feel like to be an adjacent homeowner.

If the campers aren't willing to police their own actions, and be better neighbors, the city needs to provide more oversight to the camp to lessen the impact of the adjacent homes and businesses. We should not be responsible for picking up and hauling away their debris. We should not be responsible for towing their cars when they are blocking our tenants' entrances. We should not be responsible for the clean up of the defacing of our buildings. We should not have to be dealing with the safety concerns of ourselves or our tenants.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss these issues further.

Respectfully,


Daniel Jesse