

## **A Call to Action from the New Organization: THE WAY HOME**

Please consider sending an email to your City Councilor or County Commissioner to request a policy change toward people living without permanent shelter, our neighbors living in tents and cars. WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!!

Here are critical points you might include:

- Express your outrage that sweeps continue during the winter when there are insufficient resources for people to stay warm and dry.
- It's dangerous to sweep people during COVID when doing so means scattering people and potentially spreading the virus
- End all sweeps – at least during the winter and until the pandemic ends.
- Identify places where people can safely stay in their tents or cars.
- Provide garbage disposal access and sanitary stations at these locations. This will help keep the sites clean.
- Urge opening space in multiple locations immediately for people to winter over. Ideas include County Fairgrounds, Westmoreland Park, Washington-Jefferson Park, and neighborhood parks. If you have ideas for potential camp locations, mention them, such as schools, parks, University of Oregon (ie. Autzen Stadium parking lot).
- If a sweep is going to occur, request a 72-hour notification to support groups so that campers can be moved to a different location.
- Remind governmental representatives that they ARE ACCOUNTABLE for these actions and the consequences, for the trauma inflicted, and for preventable illness and death.
- If these policies were effective in any way, we would not have the highest density of people living on the street in the country. These sweeps perpetuate chronic homelessness through trauma, loss of critical supplies and property, and other setbacks—emotional and physical. If there is no (legal) place for people to move to, the sweeps are a meaningless exercise that cannot continue ad nauseum, sweep after disruptive sweep.
- Recommend an approach embodying Kindness, compassion, and support. Remind the City and County that we are a community of Kindness toward all, not just the more privileged.

Here is an example of a letter or email message.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

Recently many unhoused people were again driven out of the closest thing they have to a home when the Police were ordered to clear the Washington/Jefferson Park campers. These neighbors were treated as if they were rats, not people. It is a stain on our community's human rights record to see such unjust actions continued. Please, instead, Choose Kindness.

Who is making these inhumane decisions? Where does it end?

On an ethical as well as health basis, I insist that sweeps are eliminated during the winter months and while the pandemic is raging. It's a serious danger to public health to scatter people from

their encampments when that could spread the virus. Rather than continuing these abusive policies of sweeps, we request that the City move from a policy of demolishing homes – using heavy machinery to scrape and dump personal property – to providing minimal camp supports, such as garbage disposal and sanitary stations. This will be far more compassionate, reduce public concern, and be less expensive as well.

Please open the Lane County Fairgrounds as a safe spot for individuals living on our streets. It is inexcusable to have all of that unused space and to prevent its use for temporary shelter. I also strongly support the identification of other locations as well, where fellow citizens can safely live this winter without fear of displacement. Please understand, for the people being moved, each sweep has the same emotional consequence as the impact for the families whose homes were burned in the fires. In creating and enacting such policies, you are complicit in such traumas.

As COVID worsens, we need to move unsheltered people into safe tent camps requiring minimal support. Please help Eugene and Lane County implement policies and practices to make this right.

If you are unwilling to meet these requests, I ask that caring, engaged, and supportive groups be notified 72 hours prior to a sweep, to help move individuals so that they do not lose their home and all of their possessions.

Please act now.

Requesting more kindness,

---

Below is a list of email addresses for City Councilors, the mayor, and the city manager. The first email address will send a message to all relevant City employees. Following this are email addresses for County Commissioners and the County Administrator. The group addresses below can be copied and pasted into the email address field.

### **City Contact List**

City Leadership (all): [mayorcouncilandcitymanager@eugene-or.gov](mailto:mayorcouncilandcitymanager@eugene-or.gov)

Eugene Mayor and Council: [mayorcouncilandcitymanager@eugene-or.gov](mailto:mayorcouncilandcitymanager@eugene-or.gov)

City Manager: Sara Medary: [smedary@eugene-or.gov](mailto:smedary@eugene-or.gov)

## Contact information for individual city counselors:

<b>MAYOR</b> <b>Lucy Vinis</b> Term: January 2021 – January 2025	101 West 10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Eugene, OR 97401	Phone: 541-682-5010 Fax: 541-682-5414 <a href="mailto:lvinis@eugene-or.gov">lvinis@eugene-or.gov</a>
<b>WARD 1</b> <b>Emily Semple</b> Term: January 2021 – January 2025	101 West 10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Eugene, OR 97401	Phone: 541-682-8341 Fax: 541-682-5414 <a href="mailto:esemple@eugene-or.gov">esemple@eugene-or.gov</a>
<b>WARD 2</b> <b>Matt Keating</b> Term: January 2021 – January 2025	101 West 10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Eugene, OR 97401	Phone: 541-682-8342 Fax: 541-682-5414 <a href="mailto:mkeating@eugene-or.gov">mkeating@eugene-or.gov</a>
<b>WARD 3</b> <b>Alan Zelenka</b> Term: January 2019 – January 2023	101 West 10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Eugene, OR 97401	Phone: 541-844-7812 Fax: 541- 682-5414 <a href="mailto:azelenka@eugene-or.gov">azelenka@eugene-or.gov</a>
<b>WARD 4</b> <b>Jennifer Yeh, President</b> Term: January 2019 – January 2023	101 West 10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Eugene, OR 97401	Phone: 541-682-8344 Fax: 541-682-5414 <a href="mailto:jyeh@eugene-or.gov">jyeh@eugene-or.gov</a>
<b>WARD 5</b> <b>Mike Clark</b> Term: January 2019 – January 2023	101 West 10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Eugene, OR 97401	Phone: 541-682-8345 Fax: 541-682-5414 <a href="mailto:mclark@eugene-or.gov">mclark@eugene-or.gov</a>
<b>WARD 6</b> <b>Greg Evans</b> Term: January 2019 – January 2023	101 West 10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Eugene, OR 97401	Phone: 541-682-8346 Fax: 541-682-5414 <a href="mailto:gevans@eugene-or.gov">gevans@eugene-or.gov</a>
<b>WARD 7</b> <b>Claire Syrett, Vice President</b> Term: January 2021 – January 2025	101 West 10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Eugene, OR 97401	Phone: 541-682-8347 Fax: 541-682-5414 <a href="mailto:csyrett@eugene-or.gov">csyrett@eugene-or.gov</a>
<b>WARD 8</b> <b>Randy Groves</b> Term: January 2021 – January 2025	101 West 10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Eugene, OR 97401	Phone: 541-682-8348 Fax: 541- 682-5414 <a href="mailto:rgroves@eugene-or.gov">rgroves@eugene-or.gov</a>

## County Contact List

Group distribution list to all commissioners: [lcbcccom@lanecountyor.gov](mailto:lcbcccom@lanecountyor.gov)

Individual commissioner email addresses:

Jay Bozievich	<a href="mailto:jay.bozievich@lanecountyor.gov">jay.bozievich@lanecountyor.gov</a>
Pat Farr	<a href="mailto:pat.farr@lanecountyor.gov">pat.farr@lanecountyor.gov</a>
Joe Berney	<a href="mailto:joe.berney@lanecountyor.gov">joe.berney@lanecountyor.gov</a>
Laurie Trieger	<a href="mailto:laurie.trieger@lanecountyor.gov">laurie.trieger@lanecountyor.gov</a>
Steve Mokrohisky	<a href="mailto:steve.mokrohisky@lanecountyor.gov">steve.mokrohisky@lanecountyor.gov</a>

(paste directly into email)

Jay Bozievich <[Jay.Bozievich@lanecountyor.gov](mailto:Jay.Bozievich@lanecountyor.gov)>; Pat Farr <[Pat.FARR@lanecountyor.gov](mailto:Pat.FARR@lanecountyor.gov)>;  
Joe Berney <[Joe.Berney@lanecountyor.gov](mailto:Joe.Berney@lanecountyor.gov)>; Laurie Trieger  
<[laurie.trieger@lanecountyor.gov](mailto:laurie.trieger@lanecountyor.gov)>; Steve Mokrohisky <[steve.mokrohisky@lanecountyor.gov](mailto:steve.mokrohisky@lanecountyor.gov)>