

## **Board of Directors**

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## Resolution on Sweeps of Homeless Camps in the Montavilla

Whereas the Montavilla Neighborhood Association is the officially recognized neighborhood association representing issues of civic interest within the Montavilla Neighborhood Boundaries;

Whereas the City Council has the obligation to make responsible use of taxpayer dollars; and

Whereas the City Council has the obligation to address homelessness in a responsible, constitutional, and compassionate manner that respects the rights of homeless residents:

Whereas the City of Portland continues to spend large sums of taxpayer dollars on sweeps of homeless camps;

Whereas the sweeps of homeless camps do not reduce homelessness and have a detrimental impact on homeless populations that have nowhere to shelter due to lack of adequate investments in shelters and affordable housing; and

Whereas the sweeps, as policy of addressing homelessness, has failed and is not achieving positive outcomes for housed or houseless Portlanders and wastes taxpayer dollars; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Montavilla Neighborhood Association (MNA):

- 1. urges the Portland City Council to cease further sweeps of camps in the Montavilla Neighborhood Boundaries which may be unconstitutional and be human rights violations;
- 2. urges the Portland City Council to convene a meeting of stakeholders to include Neighborhood Associations, Neighborhood Coalitions, Portland Housing Bureau, Joint Office of Homeless Services, Advocacy Groups and Other Key Stakeholders to develop a responsible 5-year plan to address homelessness by allocating limited taxpayer dollars to long term solutions that reduce the population of those living outside by adding affordable housing, new shelter beds, transitional housing and adequate mental health and substance abuse services;
- urges other neighborhood associations within the Southeast Uplift
  Neighborhood Coalition to join the Montavilla Neighborhood Association in encouraging a more responsible response to addressing homelessness that

uses long term solutions to address homelessness versus ineffective and expensive tactics to address symptoms;

Approved by the Montavilla Neighborhood Association Board of Directors on June 19th, 2017.

Sincerely,

Jonnie Shaver Board Chair Montavilla Neighborhood Association