

From: Weeke, Margaux
Subject: Resignation Letter
To: Ryan, Dan; Torres, Kellie
Cc: Zito, Ronald
Sent: October 21, 2022 12:30 AM (UTC+00:00)

Dear Commissioner Ryan,

Please accept this communication as the formal notice of my resignation as your Communication Director & Senior Policy Advisor. My last day with the City of Portland will be October 27th, 2022.

I am grateful to you, everyone who serves today and has served in the Office of Commissioner Ryan, the City's Safe Rest Villages team, the City's Permit Improvement team, and so many City employees across bureaus and Council offices for the time that we have spent tackling the most challenging issues facing our community under your leadership. This last year and a half in your office taught me so much: from the power of permitting to the value of cross-sector engagement, working for you has expanded my horizons. I appreciate your confidence in my ability to take on parts of the policy portfolio and I wish I was able to dive further into that work with you and your team.

Unfortunately, I cannot continue in my role due to a moral conflict. It is my strong belief that forcing hundreds of unhoused people into large, sanctioned camping sites with minimal services will cause irreparable trauma and unnecessary deaths. I am deeply concerned that the involvement of law enforcement in relocating unhoused people to sanctioned camps will result in violence and the further criminalization of houselessness. I hope that I am wrong, but I cannot in good conscience work to advance this initiative in partnership with the Mayor's office. I appreciate your understanding of my position.

Commissioner Ryan, you are a shining leader in Portland with a stellar team backing you up. I truly enjoyed our time together and I know you will continue to serve Portland with tenacity, honesty, and compassion.

Thank you,

Margaux Weeke
Communication Director & Senior Policy Advisor
Office of Commissioner Dan Ryan
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