

# Homeless camps observed near Barbur and Terwilliger boulevards

**Letters to the Editor**



The Southwest Portland Post  
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After all the postings about a reported homeless camp near Barbur and Terwilliger and a neighborhood meeting on Sunday, three of us took a walk in search of the infamous camp today (Monday, April 8).

We just found two tents between Barbur Boulevard and Interstate 5 just down the hill from Baja Fresh on the wooded slope above the freeway off ramp.

One campsite was very trashy and the other one was well kept with all

their trash carefully bagged.

The occupants of this campsite were a man in his mid-late 20's and a young woman in his tent. Nobody was seen at the other camp at about 4:00pm.

Judging by the huge piles of garbage at other sites, we believe there may have been three to five campsites at one time.

We looked for evidence of crime. No syringes were observed. We could not find any packing material from Amazon or other online providers that would evidence package theft as some people at Nextdoor had suggested.

I did not see any bicycles, bike trailers, bike parts or any evidence of bicycle theft that is so apparent at other homeless camps. There was a shopping cart and Fred Meyer shopping bags which lead me to believe the occupants probably hang out at the Burlingame Fred

Meyer's.

The only odd things I observed were a pair of child's crutches and some torn and discarded Christmas wrapping. The couple that we spoke to were busily cleaning up.

We introduced ourselves and asked if they needed anything. They did not want to engage us in conversation but were not hostile in any way.

Bottom-line: Compared to what I have observed in other parts of Portland, this did not appear to be a significant problem.

It does not seem to pose a safety risk and it is not in an environmentally sensitive area. No assistance was requested and we could not discern any way we could help these homeless neighbors.

Denny Barnes  
Collins View  
(via Nextdoor)

# Pedestrian safety improvements being considered for Stephenson Street

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

By Don Snedecor  
The Southwest Portland Post

The Portland Bureau of Transportation is holding a meeting to explain a number of proposed solutions for improving pedestrian safety along Southwest Stephenson Street.

The meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 4 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Stephenson Elementary School (cafeteria), 2627 SW Stephenson St.

Traffic calming, including installation of speed bumps, and lowering the speed limit are being considered.

A pilot program called the Safer Shoulders Project is an interim approach to providing a safer walking environment on Southwest Portland streets.

Until the significant funding necessary to build full city standard sidewalks can be found, PBOT has been developing this program with the Bureau of Environmental Services to provide interim safety improvements.

The program provides more shoulder space for pedestrians on important routes to destinations such as schools, where sidewalks are missing or discontinuous. This program is also being considered for Stephenson Street.

Rich Newlands of PBOT (rich.newlands@portlandoregon.gov) will provide outreach, education and answer questions at the meeting.



U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden tweeted on May 25, "Heard from Oregonians today in Portland at the @MultCoLib branch in Hillsdale about the urgent need to restore #NetNeutrality." (Photo courtesy Multnomah County Library)

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