

## **CITY COUNCIL: DEMAND THAT WAR DOLLARS BE RE-DIRECTED TO LOCAL HUMAN NEEDS!**

## To Portland City Council:

On January 12, 2012, Council unanimously passed Resolution #36896, calling for federal money spent on war to be redirected to our domestic needs. It is time for Portland to reaffirm its position. Not only are we facing an increased war budget, but the City is desperately trying to find ways to pay for its crumbling infrastructure, including how to pay for road repair and maintenance. In late June, President Obama asked for \$65 billion in additional "war funds" for this fiscal year. Just one tenth of one percent of that amount would cover more than the \$50 million Commissioner Novick wants to raise with a street users fee; of course Parks, Housing and other City Bureaus could also benefit from these war dollars being re-directed home.

These funds are going to support US military operations in Afghanistan, which are supposed to end this year. Yet 950 members of the Oregon National Guard will be sent to Afghanistan soon, making up about 10% of all the soldiers there vying to be the last person to die for a mistake. About \$500 million, which could be re-allotted to \$10 million for every State, is to fund "moderate" rebels in Syria, which is not a controllable outcome and will only lead to more chaos such as the militant ISIS group which has over-run huge areas of Iraq using US military equipment.

We therefore urge you to pass a new resolution reflecting the current situation, based on the earlier resolution.  
See [www.pjw.info/DraftCouncilResolution2014.html](http://www.pjw.info/DraftCouncilResolution2014.html) for our proposed text.

Campaign supported by Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group, American Friends Service Committee, Recruiter Watch PDX, Portland Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Jewish Voice for Peace-Portland, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Veterans for Peace Chapter 72, St. Luke Lutheran Peace & Justice Group, Occupy Portland Elder Caucus and others. 09/14/14

**Return petitions to: Peace and Justice Works, PO Box 42456 Portland, OR 97242**

09/14/14