

From: webmaster@shorelinewa.gov
To: [agenda comments](#)
Subject: City of Shoreline Agenda Comments
Date: Monday, December 07, 2015 7:10:04 AM

A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

Form Name: Comment on Agenda Items
Date & Time: 12/07/2015 7:09 AM
Response #: 116
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Time to complete: 1 min. , 28 sec.

Survey Details: Answers Only

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1. Brad Lancaster
2. Shoreline
3. (o) North City
4. brad@lancasterlawoffice.com
5. 12/07/2015
6. None
7. My name is Brad Lancaster. I live in Shoreline. I ask the Council to make homelessness a high priority. Tonight, I ask the Council to look at the Shoreline zoning code from the perspective of a homeless person.

Imagine you have become homeless yourself. Unexpectedly, you suffered some setback. You develop a chronic disease or disability. Or your spouse or child did. Your sanity might have fractured. Or you found yourself addicted to some substance, and in trouble with the law. Maybe you suffered domestic violence, or your child was abused. Perhaps you became unemployable because you never finished high school, or you speak English poorly, or you cannot read well enough, or you just got out of jail, or you have been bouncing from job to job for years. So, now you are homeless and broke, in Shoreline.

Where, in Shoreline, should you live? In the parks. No. On the sidewalks. No. In an apartment? You cannot afford one. On the beach? No. With friends? Not if you have worn them out. In a tent? No. That's not permitted. Shoreline contains 12.3 square miles, 413 acres of parks, 191 miles of streets, and 3.4 miles of beautiful shorelines. But there is not one square inch available to you and your homeless children. Not in Shoreline.

If you live in a tent city, you might get a church to take you in. To make that legal, the church will need a temporary use permit. That permit costs several hundred dollars and takes weeks. And you will have to move again in ninety days. How do you keep your new job when you might be moving

from Shoreline to Renton? What kind of education are your children getting when they bounce from school to school every ninety days? Regardless, the Shoreline zoning code says, "Sorry about that. Move along."

Oddly, cats, dogs, chickens, rabbits, bees, goats, and sheep can live in Shoreline without a permit. People who are dead, golfing, running a business, being sick, gambling, doing theater, selling marijuana, or living in an RV (briefly) can locate themselves in Shoreline. But if you are poor and homeless, there is no legal place for you. Not in Shoreline.

We each stand but a few terrible events from being homeless ourselves. I know you care about these suffering citizens. Each of you is a good person. I know. Because I live here and I watch.

Please address homelessness

8. Neutral

Thank you,
City of Shoreline

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