



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Roberts and City Councilmembers

FROM: Jessica Simulcik Smith, City Clerk

DATE: May 17, 2016

RE: Documents received at 5/16/16 Council Meeting

CC: Debbie Tarry, City Manager
John Norris, Assistant City Manager

Attached hereto are documents received from the public at your May 16, 2016 City Council Business Meeting.

- 1) Written comments regarding homelessness submitted by Brad Lancaster.
- 2) Written comments regarding affordable housing submitted by Ginny Scantlebury.

COUNCIL TALK
5.16.16

My name is Brad Lancaster. I live in Shoreline.

I have been suggesting a series of changes to Shoreline law and policy that might make Shoreline more hospitable to homeless persons. Tonight I pivot to begin a series of talks on what other towns are doing to address their homelessness problems. Some towns are trying workable approaches that deserve praise. Others have gotten spanked by the courts and media for harsh or bigoted actions. These tales are the stories of America. We all struggle to know just what to do when families in our midst fall out the bottom of our economy.

Daytona Beach, Florida, has a homelessness problem. The weather is great. The beach is beautiful. The homeless love the benches. The tourists hate the homeless. In 2014, Daytona homeless advocates counted around 175 homeless people within Daytona Beach, and another approximately 700 in Volusia County generally.

Daytona Beach decided to remove its benches. Then they had a beach near which no one could sit, except in the sand. The homeless learned to camp just outside the city limits, so city regulations would not impact them. They would walk downtown every day. Many good-hearted Daytona Beach residents helped feed the homeless population. A researcher studying the Daytona Beach problems with homelessness concluded that such feeding enables homelessness, and makes the unhoused population grow. The researcher recommended engagement, rather than enablement. Address the root causes of homelessness substantively. Providing meaningful care could be financed by the funds saved in public services, of which homeless people are voracious consumers.

So, Daytona Beach decided to create Tiger Bay Village just outside the town. Homes will be provided for people, with onsite services to address the various problems that drive homelessness. The service agencies plan to consolidate, offering other savings. Just so you do not think these folks daft, in Florida in August of 2014, shelter for a homeless person cost \$11-28 per day. A night in jail cost \$53-94 dollars per day, and each booking cost \$764 dollars. A night in the hospital cost \$1,278. So, the savings are there to be snagged, if one can only find a way to do so.

We can follow the success and failure of Tiger Bay Village from a safe distance to see how it works out in Daytona Beach.

May 16, 2016

Shoreline City Council,

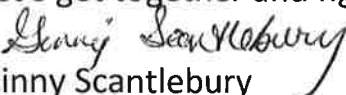
Did everyone here know that May 16-22, 2016 is Affordable Housing Week in King County? The kickoff in King County was today at noon in downtown Seattle and Shoreline did sign on as one of 20 participating cities. Why isn't it on the agenda tonight? As a participating city, I would think the least the city could do is let us know about these events. For your information, there is still another event this week on Thursday, May 19 at 4:30 pm at El Centro de la Raza, 2524 16th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98144. This is called an Elected Officials Reception.

On the topic of Homelessness, I know that Brad Lancaster has spoken at least 10 times at City Council Meetings over the past few months. He has spend a lot of time working on this project and I don't know if the city council has really listened to him at all. You certainly should!

One interesting article I wanted to mention to you is entitled "As housing market soars, poorest renters are priced out", by Tad Sooter, Kitsap Sun, April 10, 2016. In Bremerton, a Seattle company bought out a 118-unit complex in January and "began displacing tenants in waves as it prepared to renovate rooms and increase rent." In March, many of the tenants were waiting for 20-day termination notices. This is what is already happening in Shoreline as home values continue to rise. When the upzoning REALLY begins to take off, then the housing will get even more expensive. Another interesting fact from the article is about Section 8 rental assistance vouchers. "A year ago about 85% of voucher holders in Kitsap found housing within 120 days. This year the "find rate" is down to about 50%. This change is attributed to a depleted supply of rentals."

Maybe we can figure out incentives to help current apartment owners upgrade their buildings without having to evict tenants. Also, as far as new developments are concerned, they need to offer truly affordable units!

Let's get together and figure this out!


Ginny Scantlebury
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