

**From:** [Plancom](#)  
**To:** [Rachael Markle](#); [Steve Szafran](#); [Easton Craft](#); [David Maul](#); [William Montero](#); [Paul Cohen](#); [Lisa Basher](#); [Jack Malek](#); [Laura Mork](#); [Miranda Redinger](#); [Julie Ainsworth-Taylor](#); [Susan Chang](#); [Donna M. Moss](#)  
**Subject:** FW: In Support of Allowing Backyard Tent Encampments  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 07, 2016 9:45:12 PM

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**From:** leauri715@comcast.net[SMTP:LEAURI715@COMCAST.NET]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2016 9:45:05 PM  
**To:** Plancom  
**Subject:** In Support of Allowing Backyard Tent Encampments  
**Auto forwarded by a Rule**

Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to voice my support for the rights of Shoreline homeowners to host backyard tent encampments. As a 20+ year resident of this great city, I am blessed to be able to afford a home. Our transient citizens deserve a safe, stable place to live, sleep and store their belongings. Temporary backyard encampments would be one of several ways those who are willing could assist our homeless neighbors.

We can spiral down multiple paths of discussion about what is “best” for our homeless citizens without actually being of service to anyone. A few years ago, my mom and I were on a short road trip and we stopped at a convenience store. I stayed in the car while my mom went in to buy water. A homeless man entered the convenience store and I spent five minutes internally debating what are the “best” solutions to end homelessness. I could see my mom through the store window talking to this man, and I saw that she handed him something. When she got back into the car I asked her about the interaction and she said, “Oh, he wanted a cup of coffee but he was short 35 cents, so I gave it to him.” Her action was compassionate, pragmatic and responsive to this citizen’s immediate need. Backyard encampments are very similar – they are a compassionate, pragmatic response to the immediate needs of our transient neighbors.

Mother Theresa said if you cannot feed 1,000 hungry people then feed just one. Does feeding one person solve world hunger? No. Does it compassionately and pragmatically respond to a person in need? Yes. Choosing to debate the causes and best solutions to end world hunger doesn’t fill an empty stomach, but providing a meal for someone who says they are hungry does. Both avenues are important: addressing the short-term, immediate needs and working to solve the complex, long-term condition.

For those Shoreline residents who are willing and able to host backyard encampments, I commend and support them. What a gracious and kind safety net they are willing to provide to our transient neighbors, solving the short-term needs of Shoreline citizens in crisis.

Respectfully,

Leauri Moore