

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: Homeless encampments in Shoreline
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2016 8:13:40 PM

From: shellsstall@frontier.com[SMTP:SHELLSSTALL@FRONTIER.COM]
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2016 8:13:21 PM
To: Plancom
Subject: Homeless encampments in Shoreline
Auto forwarded by a Rule

To whom it may concern,

After reading the minutes of the last meeting in regards to encampments in Shoreline, we have some concerns/comments. We live near Syre Elementary School and when we moved to our home 23 years ago we did much research on schools, property value trends and general neighborhood livability. We knew that some day that the sale of our home would be a good chunk of our retirement funds. At that time, homeless encampments were not something that had to be considered when we picked our long time home.

Skip forward to current day. The schools are still ranked high, the property values are holding up and we know all of our neighbors on our street and the street behind us and beyond. We enjoy our community and use the parks, stores, etc. This neighborhood has been a great place to watch our family grow up. The encampments that have been hosted at our neighboring churches have not caused lots of talk in our general area. The encampments have been temporary, they have showering and toileting facilities and most of all a code of conduct that is enforced by the residents.

We understand the desire to reduce the cost and red tape of the permits for these encampments. However, property boundaries have existed in neighborhoods to try to keep setbacks uniform and not allowing any one neighbor more than another. It is difficult to want to give up the neighborhood boundaries to any group or entity. The taxpayers pay the government to keep neighborhoods sticking to boundaries. Now Shoreline is considering changing boundaries for certain groups. The boundaries are both physical setbacks and allowing single homes to open yards to the homeless. The physical setbacks from the street keep sidewalks open, easements open and visual line of site. On property lines it gives us a neighborhood where neighbors can't encroach on open space. As for allowing homeless people into the backyards of single family dwellings it is a liability nightmare. Who will do background checks? How will the sanitary needs of the backyard dwellers be taken care of? How will the backyard residents get to services? How will this be enforced? Will our police be serving evictions in private backyards if something goes

sideways? This is all a logistical nightmare and who gets to be responsible for all of it? If folks want to bring people into their house there is nothing that a neighbor can do, they are INSIDE the house where the owner is taking responsibility. If home owners want to bring people into their home, it is liability that they are willing to take and that insinuates facilities would be available, maybe even transportation to services would be given. Backyard living doesn't begin to feel close to giving homeless residents the facilities and services that are necessary for basic living let alone trying to get back on ones feet.

Please realize most of the Shoreline residents bought houses with a certain expectation of how the neighborhood they chose would exist. If the city feels the residents need to be accountable for it's homeless residents, then we need to provide homes not backyards. If non-profits can fill a void with encampments that don't encroach on the neighborhood and allow basic living and access to services then the neighbors being affected need a say. We urge you to listen to the tax paying residents as we have invested in this city.

Regards,

Myra & Edward Adams