

Communication from Public

Name: Evan Schreiber

Date Submitted: 09/19/2019 10:55 AM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, I am calling on you to rescind 41.18 (d). The proposed amendments are not forward thinking and I know they will make our city's homelessness crisis much worse. In recent years, we have only seen homelessness increasing. I know the answer is not making it harder for those already experiencing a traumatic situation. We know that the solutions are housing and supportive services. Housing First and services, not sweeps are what those experiencing homelessness need. They need our empathy and support not to be further criminalized and marginalized. Let's focus our efforts on supports instead of on increasing burdens for people just trying to survive. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Josh Scarcella

Date Submitted: 09/19/2019 12:22 AM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Councilmembers, I urge you to reconsider the proposed revisions to MC 41.18. The proposed language makes it essentially illegal to live as a homeless individual on the streets of certain neighborhoods that provide essential services to these individuals. Homeless neighbors, already facing severe trauma from the stress of surviving day-to-day without permanent shelter, will be thrust into further turbulence if these revisions pass. If they are forced to relocate, it may also cut their ties with their service providers, wiping out any progress they've made in their search for housing or other stabilizing resources. We need to focus the city's attention on forming connections with these individuals, offering them community, resources, and services. Instead these revisions put the quality of life of the home owners before the quality of life of our most vulnerable citizens. I also worry that if these measures pass and the federal government gets involved as hinted at, this city will see dehumanization of our homeless neighbors at a rate never seen before. Please consider focusing the city's attention on stabilizing the lives of the homeless and not criminalizing their unchosen lifestyles. Thank you for reading.