

Communication from Public

Name: Philip Messina

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Comments for Public Posting: I, along with the lion's share of my neighbors, support the right of the homeless to sleep on city streets when no other shelter is available. We all feel great compassion for the homeless and believe society as a whole needs to treat this colossal problem with a massive and comprehensive effort. We also understand that, despite the valiant efforts of so many in city government, this is a gruelingly slow process. As such, we believe that certain requirements should exist to safeguard residents, schools, and public parks from certain inherent dangers. My wife and I and other neighbors have reported harassment from homeless individuals that included physical threats, the hurling of human feces, and being awakened in the middle of the night by screaming and loud arguments. We do not support criminalizing the homeless, but are asking for a reasonable code that allows law enforcement or homeless advocates to legally move encampments out of residential neighborhoods, without jailing the homeless. We are asking for both enforceable safeguards and compassion. Thank you Philip Messina South Citrus Avenue Block Captain