

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Douglas S Rohrer

**Date Submitted:** 12/20/2019 11:21 AM

**Council File No:** 19-0602-s1

**Comments for Public Posting:** Our children's health and safety need to be a priority over indiscriminate use of public rights of way around our schools for camping, loitering, substance abuse, public defecation/urination, lewd conduct and language, fighting and other offensive conduct that need not be the first thing children encounter in the morning, during recess, child pick up and throughout after school programs that occur largely outside. Our schools need to be protected and preserved as constructive sanctuaries for child cognitive and behavioral development and while we of course will not solve the unsheltered's substance and mental health issues through adoption of an ordinance requiring the aforementioned activities be located more than 500 feet from schools, such an ordinance will certainly improve our children's health, safety and educational environment. Such ordinance should not be objectionable under the current legal requirements of *Martin v Boise* as it doesn't criminalize occupying all public spaces for transient dwelling, it simply prioritizes a public health concern of our children for the 500 feet proximate to our schools. I hope our City Council will share these fundamental and common sense concerns and show some deference to our children's well being, health and safety by adopting an ordinance that creates a 500 foot buffer zone so that our public safety officers can more effectively remove and relocate transients to more appropriate public spaces.