

06:38 1 SEATTLE, WASHINGTON; MONDAY, MARCH 26, 2018

2 7:06 P.M.

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07:06 5 GEORGE: Welcome. Welcome. This meeting

6 tonight is about Licton Springs Village, and it's

7 about the Human Services Department hearing about how

8 Licton Springs is doing and hearing your comments about

9 Licton Springs Village.

07:07 10 The Human Services Department will then

11 take those comments and consider them as they decide

12 to issue a permit for a second year.

13 So your comments will all be recorded

14 tonight. Ron Cook will be doing the recording. And

07:07 15 we can actually show you the recording as we go along.

16 For some people that will help them hear better.

17 LISA: Who are you?

18 GEORGE: I am George Scarola. I am with

19 the homelessness response team for the City. We are

07:07 20 currently a group from a lot of different departments.

21 My own department is Finance and Administrative

22 services. That group helps run the Navigation Team

23 and also helps set up [permitted] encampments.

24 So tonight we have a number of city

07:08 25 officials in the room who are here to listen as well,

07:08 1 and occasionally we might throw a question their way.

2 From the Human Services Department, Lisa
3 Gustaveson, and Sean Walsh, who is right behind me.
4 They will be the ones who are actually listening the

07:08 5 closest to your comments.

6 We also have from the north precinct
7 acting Captain Abe Barker. Many of you know him as
8 Lieutenant Barker, the operations director. But he is
9 acting commander for the North precinct while his boss

07:08 10 takes a breather.

11 And then community police team officer

12 David Gordon, who some of --

13 >>>: Over here, George.

14 GEORGE: There's David. Some of you will

07:08 15 recognize David because he's here a lot.

16 We have Tom Van Bronkhorst. And Tom has
17 been very active working specially with Nesbitt Avenue
18 neighbors, working with neighbors and with the CAC.
19 The community advisory council, and also Karen

07:09 20 Ko, also with the Department of Neighborhoods.

21 Karen?

22 And who also works with the CAC,
23 community advisory committee.

24 We have Robert Stowers from Seattle Parks

07:09 25 and Recreation, Seattle public utilities, Lou-Anne

07:09 1 Daoust-Filiatrault. And for the Low-Income Housing
2 Institute, which is not a city department, it's a
3 50153C nonprofit, Sharon Lee, executive director, and
4 Josh Castle, who does a lot of the community

07:09 5 volunteer work and also is a neighbor of the -- on
6 Aurora, a neighbor of the camp. A close neighbor.

7 And then finally, we have a number of
8 people from SHARE/WHEEL here. I'll introduce one
9 person, Michele Marchand. Where is Michele?

07:10 10 Who is the long-time leader, staff --
11 inspiration for SHARE/WHEEL. It's a very democratic
12 organization and she doesn't call herself the leader,
13 she calls herself staff, but she is a vital part --
14 one of the founders of this group. There will be

07:10 15 other people tonight from SHARE/WHEEL who will speak.

16 A few other people, and we're pretty much ready to go.

17 LISA: Sure. I'm going to grab that back
18 from you.

19 So we wanted to just do a brief -- a

07:10 20 brief update on where the project is right now, give
21 you some of the data that we've been collecting. Part
22 of our decision process is looking at these programs
23 to say are they -- to see if they are meeting their
24 contractual obligations. So the City of Seattle

07:11 25 contracts with the LOW-income Housing Institute or

07:11 1 LIHI to operate the program. And so they collect data

2 about all of the folks that are in all of the six
3 sanctioned permitted encampments, and this really is
4 not a great map, but -- kind of hard to see, but these
07:11 5 are all the locations that we have. Every person that
6 comes into the programs, they're put into the HMIS or
7 the homeless management information system, and then
8 we keep track of how they're progressing towards their
9 goals of moving out of homelessness into permanent
07:11 10 housing. That is the number one goal that we're
11 looking for is that folks who come into the program
12 are coming into a program and they understand that the
13 goal is to be moving into housing. So in 2017, in all
14 of our six encampments, we had 750 people -- more than
07:12 15 750 people who were served, and of those, 122 moved
16 into permanent housing.

17 So specifically to talk about the Licton
18 Springs Village, in -- and I'm only going to talk
19 about 2017 data when I'm referring here, and also
07:12 20 that -- Licton was only open from March through
21 December in 2017, so that's sort of the frame that we
22 are looking at for this particular dataset.
23 60 -- so in the program at any time up to
24 60 men, women and their pets are served. For anybody
07:12 25 who's ever been -- how many people have actually

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07:12 1 visited the encampment or the site? Lots of people.
2 Don't you love when you go in there and there's all

3 the pets? It's like the best. See everyone, folks
4 don't have to leave their pets outside, they can bring
07:13 5 them in with them. For many people, when the
6 Navigation Team reaches out and says, would you like
7 to be part of this program, the pets are really a big
8 piece of the decision to come inside.

9 So the programs -- as I said, everyone is
07:13 10 referred through the Navigation Team. That is our
11 social workers and SPD team that is out in the
12 unsheltered greenbelts working with people and saying
13 to them, we have a place. Would you like to move out
14 of this place where you are and move into a safer
07:13 15 place?

16 When somebody says yes, they then are
17 referred to Licton Springs or one of our other
18 encampments, permitted encampments. It's important to
19 remember that those are folks who -- as I said,
07:13 20 they're saying yes, I want to go in and I want to make
21 a change from the living experience that I'm having
22 right now.

23 So also there's 24-hour security,
24 restricted access. Anybody who comes and goes is
07:14 25 recorded at the gate.

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07:14 1 Meals are delivered. There's also a
2 kitchen, bathrooms, laundry and showers.
3 And on-site there are services that

4 include housing search, connection with addiction,
07:14 5 mental health, medical resources. For a lot of folks
6 that have been outside for long periods of time, they
7 haven't had a chance to deal with some of the things
8 that they've needed to deal with, and the Licton
9 Springs community really offers that step towards
07:14 10 addressing some of the medical issues that they
11 haven't had a chance to deal with.

12 So I'm going to go through this very
13 quickly because I want to make sure we get a chance to
14 get to public comment. But the data that we collected
07:14 15 showed that 79 unsheltered men and women were served
16 in that data period, and of that, 27 of the residents
17 left the program. Of those that left the program, we
18 know that 13 moved into permanent housing. We look at
19 what the percentage of the people who leave the
07:15 20 program move into permanent housing, and so at 48
21 percent, that means that the program met its C goals
22 for 2017.

23 So a little bit more about what we know
24 about the folks that are staying in the encampment
07:15 25 from the data. About half -- a little bit more than

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07:15 1 half reported that they were chronically homeless,
2 which means that they were homeless for long, long
3 periods of time, and that, again, meets one of the our
4 goals for the program, that we're serving people who

07:15 5 really haven't had a chance to engage in a program.
6 About 41 percent said that they had more than three
7 conditions when they came into the program that they
8 wanted to address. That ranges from mental health,
9 addiction, as well as physical chronic illness or

07:16 10 other physical disabilities that they needed to have
11 addressed. So, again, we wanted to be sure that we're
12 helping folks that really do need help, and, yes, the
13 data tells us that we are.

14 30 percent of the people reported -- and,
07:16 15 again, this is self-reported data, but 30 percent said
16 that they had an experience with domestic violence,
17 and, again, we know for a lot of people that are not
18 engaged in programs, they're outside and they're
19 really vulnerable to violence. So this is meeting

07:16 20 another one of our goals.

21 And almost half who came into the program
22 had no income at all, had no doesn't, and one of the
23 first things that the case managers work on is helping
24 folks to access resources so they can then get into
07:16 25 housing. So we know looking at the data that people

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07:16 1 are getting access to income. We track how many
2 people are actually improving their ability to access
3 income through -- some people do work, other people
4 get different benefits that they didn't even know that
07:17 5 they were eligible for.

6 So the last thing that I wanted to say is
7 that we track how long people stay in the program, and
8 so for this particular program during that period of
9 time, at the end of 2017, for the people who left the
07:17 10 program, so of those 27 residents, they were there for
11 an average of 79 days. And that actually is a number
12 that we're pleased with. That tells us that folks are
13 getting in, they're working with case managers, and
14 they're moving into a permanent place.

07:17 15 For those that were still there at the
16 end of the year, they were there for an average of
17 170. That tells us there's a lot of people who still
18 have a lot of things that they're working on. But we
19 know that we are continuing to work with these folks,
07:17 20 they haven't left, and they're continuing to make
21 their journey towards getting into permanent housing.

22 So that is the data. I would be happy to
23 answer questions if there's any questions, or we could
24 move on to taking public testimony.

07:18 25 >>>: Do you know if anybody has

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07:18 1 completed any kind of an addiction recovery program or
2 any --

3 LISA: We do. I don't have the number
4 here but I know personally of folks that --

07:18 5 GEORGE: Repeat the question.

6 LISA: Sorry. Do we know if anybody has

7 completed addiction recovery programs, and, yes, we
8 do. I don't have that number, but I know that we've
9 got many, many stories of folks that are able to do
07:18 10 that.

11 >>>: At this --

12 LISA: At Licton, yeah.

13 >>>: Is there a successful strategy for
14 dealing with the people that are not able to move on?

07:18 15 I mean, it sounds very complicated.

16 LISA: It is. We could have LIHI talk
17 about this, or -- what do you think? I know that we
18 have a case manager here. Sharon, do you want to talk
19 about that? And I'm fine talking about it. I always

07:19 20 feel like if the folks are in the room that do the
21 work, they should have a chance.

22 We'll repeat the question. So the
23 question was around what it takes to work with folks
24 that are still working to get into addiction recovery?

07:19 25 Is that --

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07:19 1 >>>: Well -- is there a model for --
2 successful model for dealing with people who have mum
3 conditions, to they them --

4 >>>: I'm Sherry Stehr hag en. I'm the
07:19 5 case manager there. I also work at Georgetown.

6 So there's a bunch of complex strategies
7 that we use to engage people, and one of them is

8 motivational interviewing, which is really helpful.
9 With people who are feeling stuck, the cycle of
07:19 10 addiction, people who have been chronically homeless
11 are stuck in like the survival mode and a lot of them
12 feel more comfortable on the streets. I do a lot of
13 just sort of counseling in the office, and also I just
14 do really basic stuff for people to get them to trust
07:20 15 me, like them them get ID or help them sign up for
16 Medicare, Medicaid. And then over time when people
17 start to trust you and feel like somebody actually
18 cares about them for the first time in years in some
19 cases, they'll start to kind of feel more motivated
07:20 20 and some people will pursue employment or come in and
21 really start filling out those housing applications.
22 And like two of our residents just got jobs this week.
23 So that's a huge success.

24 LISA: Thank you.

07:20 25 Okay. Any other questions? About the

11

07:20 1 data?

2 >>>: Yeah. So it says up to 60 men or
3 women, and then later on it says 79 unsheltered men
4 and women were served. Why is there a discrepancy

07:20 5 or --

6 LISA: No. So this is at any time. So
7 at any time that's how many people are there.

8 >>>: Okay.

9 And then can you also explain how much
07:21 10 money the encampment has cost in that year?
11 LISA: Okay.
12 Do you want to talk about that?
13 >>>: So we have an operating budget
14 that's broken up into two parts, and last year there
07:21 15 was about \$59,000 was spent on services, which includes
16 hiring a case manager and some of the related
17 services. So the services include some flexible
18 money, like if we want to help with transportation,
19 with emergency food or other things. And then \$394,000
07:21 20 was spent on primary staffing. So we committed to the
21 community that there would be two on-site security
22 staff, housing staff, at all times, basically all day,
23 all night, all weekend. So we partner with SHARE/WHEEL,
24 that manages the day-to-day operations, so the bulk of
07:22 25 the money went for staffing on the site. But it also

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07:22 1 pays for insurance, utilities, garbage removal,
2 recycling, water, other, you know -- kitchen supplies,
3 you know, things like that. So -- last year we spent
4 \$453,114 and so if you divided that on a monthly basis
07:22 5 and then on a individual basis, you will find that
6 it's very cost effective.
7 LISA: Okay.
8 Yes, sir?
9 >>>: I know there are many examples of

07:22 10 indoor transitional housing programs in Seattle. I
11 visited several of them. I went to Union Gospel
12 Mission, I went to the Lutheran compass center. Even
13 had a friend go through the Compass Center program.
14 And those were very successful. They're indoor
07:23 15 programs. I'm not sure what the product advantage is
16 hereby putting people in these little shacks.

17 LISA: Do you want to talk about that?

18 Go ahead.

19 >>>: Well, one thing is that a lot of

07:23 20 people, especially couples, if you look at many of the
21 existing shelters, if you're a couple you can't stay
22 together often, it's the women going one place, women
23 and children one place, men another place, and then
24 many of the nighttime shelters, they don't necessarily
07:23 25 accept pets, so there's a big difference in terms of

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07:23 1 being in a 24-hour environment, so in this case if you
2 have a tiny house you can stay there, you can lock the
3 door, you can go to work, you can go to school. You
4 don't have to worry about your possessions. If you're
07:24 5 staying at an overnight shelter, you have to lug your
6 stuff around with you and then you have to get in line
7 and you have to wait for a place. You may have to
8 stand in line. You may not get in. So it adds to a
9 lot of instability. So in this case people and their
07:24 10 possessions and their pets can feel safe and secure.

11 And because the village is gated, there's a fence
12 around it and there's security and staffing at all
13 hours. There's a sense that once you're in the
14 village, you're safe. And so you don't have to warned
07:24 15 the streets during the day and then hope that you can
16 get into a shelter at night. So -- and it makes a big
17 difference.

18 GEORGE: So next, we asked Acting
19 Captain Barker if he would tell us what the north
07:24 20 precinct is seeing in the immediate neighborhood.

21 CAPTAIN BARKER: Thank you.
22 Good evening. It's mentioned, I'm
23 Lieutenant Abe Barker, temporarily acting captain
24 while the captain is taking a well-deserved rest.
07:25 25 I've worked the North Precinct since 1999.

14

07:25 1 A. I've worked here as an officer, as a
2 sergeant, and now a lieutenant. I've worked the bike
3 squad, I've worked the pro Alaska squad, I've worked
4 properly quite a bit. So -- just to -- when I heard
07:25 5 about this, I looked into the call volumes in the
6 area. I looked at the areas that we refer to as
7 districts John Three and North Three. These cover an
8 area from about Fremont to the west, I-5 to the east,
9 just south of Lake -- excuse me -- Green Lake, to the
07:25 10 south, and 115th to the north.

11 Dispatch calls wise, we are in line with

12 our five-year weighted average, which means we're
13 about where we expect based on the data that we have
14 regarding people calling into 911 and saying they've
07:25 15 got a problem, they've got an issue, they've got a
16 concern, and an officer either needs to go out there
17 or it needs to be addressed by our true unit.

18 So that's about consistent with what we
19 expected.

07:26 20 On views, on the other hand, we've got
21 about 1256 year to date. That's officers out in the
22 field doing property work, seeking out concerns,
23 addressing ongoing concerns, doing premise checks,
24 really simple basic, you know, broken window police
07:26 25 work. That's at -- what was it? 1256 year to date,

15

07:26 1 versus 1106, so that's 1106 five-year average. So
2 actually our officers are paying more attention,
3 that's exactly what we want to see. We want to see
4 the officers out in the field making contacts, looking
07:26 5 for stuff, working harder than we have or expected to
6 in years past. So call loads are about where we
7 expect them. The science of that is positive as far
8 as we're concerned, and officers appear to be working
9 harder than expected.

07:26 10 An example of this would be our what's
11 called directed patrols, where officers go out in the
12 field and they log to a certain location, they might

13 walk around, for instance the park over at Licton
14 Springs, perhaps on '85th over at -- down in the park
07:27 15 of Green Lake.

16 This year so far there's then been
17 officer initiated patrols, versus 35 year to date last
18 year. So that's twice as many officers going out
19 there seeking out work that they can find to try and
07:27 20 improve the work of the community.

21 The five-year average on that, this goes
22 going to be good and bad -- is 15, so they're
23 basically doing four times as many as historically
24 they've been doing in direct property. That's a
07:27 25 positive. We're going to keep pushing that, we're

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07:27 1 going to keep working on that.

2 So that's sort of our qual volume, our
3 concerns and some data regarding the activity in the
4 field.

07:27 5 Let me talk a little bit about property
6 resources. The first is the parole officers. I
7 mentioned that area south of Green Lake all the up to
8 with 115th. At any given time there's about two to
9 four patrol officers working that area, and that's it.

07:28 10 So it's a pretty big area. Just imagine the stretch
11 of land. And that's what we can provide. There's on
12 average between 20 to 25 officers working an entire
13 north end. That's everything from the ship canal to

14 145th. That's what we've got to work with. And the
07:28 15 patrol officers are the backbone of the department.
16 It's the best description for them. They go out on
17 the 911 calls, they make the traffic stops, they look
18 for the problem areas, they deal with the ongoing
19 issues with. Not quite to the level of one of my
07:28 20 favorite CPT officers in the back there, Dave Gordon
21 is our CPT officer for this area. He is in charge of
22 a region from '85th all the way up to 1 '45th and all
23 the way to the water and over to the freeway itself.
24 It's a large area, as you can imagine. Every ongoing
07:28 25 community-related issue that may work its way through

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07:28 1 the system, either through our Find It Fix It apps or
2 simply, you know, concerns that they have regarding
3 ongoing issues. Probably will end up on his desk. So
4 you can imagine his workload.

07:29 5 About -- what was it, two hours a day you
6 would say you're addressing homeless issues in the --
7 yeah, okay. So two hours a day every day of his work
8 he's addressing some sort of homeless issue here in
9 the city. It's part of the job. We accept that.

07:29 10 That's what it is.

11 Another resource that we have to apply is
12 our bike team. You may have seen them out there. We
13 have seven officers and one sergeant. They work for
14 one shift, which is about nine hours. They work

07:29 15 everywhere in the north end, from University over to
16 Ballard, all the way over to lake city and down here.
17 They only work two out of three days. It's a four and
18 two shift, so they're on for four days, they're off
19 for two, they work nine-hour shifts. They're here, I

07:29 20 would imagine, about a third of their time, working
21 Aurora, up and down, up to 115th, up to Home Depot, up
22 to 1 '45th and all the way back. That's the resources
23 we can apply. I talked to Dave Sylvester, he is working
24 directly -- excuse me -- for the bike squad, he works

07:30 25 directly for me, and he says they regularly hit 85th

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07:30 1 and Aurora, they obviously hit Aurora, they stop in in
2 Licton Springs Village. That's their mission, they
3 accept it, but as you can imagine, I'm sure you all
4 heard the number of protests we have every year, 400.

07:30 5 Just say 10 percent of those require a bike response
6 from the north end. That's 40 events a year. So
7 you've just taken them out of the picture. An event
8 downtown, an event in the east pretipping the, like
9 today, they were down there all day today, is going to

07:30 10 take them out of service. They're unavailable as a
11 resource to us, they're required to be in that scene
12 handling those issues.

13 So that's part of it.

14 Finally, another unit that works for me

07:30 15 is the anticrime team. You may or may not have seen

16 these guys. They drive around in stealth vehicles,
17 they handle the warrant service for narcotics, they
18 handle the pursuit of what we would consider
19 high-level offenders there a are -- need to be

07:31 20 addressed. But when they can, they're also out here
21 on Aurora addressing some issues at the direction of
22 the captain and myself as the needs are required.

23 So those are the resources?

24 A. Property, bike, CPt -- thanks, Dave --

07:31 25 and the anticrime team.

19

07:31 1 So that's what we've got to apply to the
2 situation. That's what we do apply to it. As you can
3 see, our call volume is about the same. Where we
4 expected, and our on about views are up a little, and
07:31 5 that is a direct response at Captain O'Donnell's
6 direction to try and maintain the quality of living
7 here in the John 3 North 3 area. He takes it very
8 seriously and conveyed that to me before he went on
9 vacation to Mexico. So awesome.

07:31 10 All right. Finally, operations. As
11 you -- I think was mentioned, the existence of
12 encampments themselves is always going to be addressed
13 by the [Navigation] Team. They're the experts, they're highly
14 trained, they know what we can and can't do. When a
07:32 15 patrol officer goes out to one of these [unsanctioned encampments] and decides to
16 take action, it rarely goes exactly the way that we

17 would want. It shows up in the news from time to
18 time. And we've tried to continuously remind officers
19 that no matter how reasonable or upset or vehement the
07:32 20 citizen is who's reporting these concerns, it needs to
21 be documented, which the officers are told to do,
22 documented accordingly and reported to the NAV Team as
23 soon as possible.

24 So that is confirmed regular by buy Chief
07:32 25 Wilske. My boss' boss and I guess right now my boss?

20

07:32 1 A. So we'll go from that. I actually talked
2 to him today.

3 Regarding the Licton Springs -- it's
4 gone. Licton Springs Village, I know Dave checks in
07:32 5 there fairly regularly. That's accurate, right?

6 Yeah.

7 And as well the bikes roll by and cover
8 that as best they are able to. So that's sort of what
9 we have, what the data tells us, and how we try to
07:33 10 arrested as best as possible. That's pretty much what
11 I got.

12 GEORGE: So a few questions?

13 >>>: So do you have the actual data that
14 Licton Springs compare at a low level property crime
07:33 15 car prowls, narcotics, from 2016 data to 2017 data? I
16 mean dub.

17 CAPTAIN BARKER: I hear you, and I would

18 love to tell that you we did. In fact, I reached out
19 to our crime analysis unit, detective this morning
07:33 20 when I was told I was not just attending but I was
21 speaking, that I would -- what do we have? What can
22 you show me from 2016, 2017, 2018.
23 >>>: We have that analysis.
24 >>>: Just let him answer the question.
07:33 25 >>>: Sorry. I'm answering your

21

07:33 1 question.
2 CAPTAIN BARKER: You have it?
3 >>>: We did that analysis using
4 available data from you all, so there was no
07:34 5 specifically significant difference between crimes --
6 as far back as 2015 and then through -- it must have
7 been the end of February, and there was no
8 significantly difference in theft or loitering,
9 suspicious person. We looked at any kind of crimes
07:34 10 that could be related to Licton Springs, related to
11 drugs or alcohol, public drunkenness, those sorts of
12 things. There was no difference between Licton
13 Springs or after. We didn't look at JT, which is
14 another part.
07:34 15 LISA: Why don't you tell everybody who
16 you are.
17 >>>: Oh. Yeah. We're students from the
18 University of Washington master's in public health,

19 and we did an evaluation of the Licton Springs
07:34 20 Village, which we'll talk about a little bit later.

21 >>>: Living in the neighborhood, I

22 December agree wholeheartedly.

23 >>>: Yeah. Exactly.

24 GEORGE: We're going to take questions

07:35 25 and people can have -- they have their chance.

22

07:35 1 >>>: Can he finish answering my
2 question? Because she interrupted, and it's not the
3 data that we're all -- we're all looking at the data
4 in lots of different ways, but I want to hear what the

07:35 5 Seattle Police Department, what the city is basically
6 doing to look at community impacts. He hadn't
7 finished the question so I'd like him to finish bark
8 of.

9 CAPTAIN BARKER: Yes. As I was saying,
07:35 10 the 2016 data is what I was interested in, because,
11 again, it wasn't in operation in 2016. I wanted to
12 see the changes. He's working on that right now, but
13 he did send me -- I asked him about the Licton Springs
14 and he assumed I was talking about Licton Springs

07:35 15 Park, so that was our first issue. But however, he
16 said he did check the area from 85th to 100th and
17 Aurora to College. So that's College way over there.

18 And he says the following chart shows --
19 calls for service in the area. Now, obviously you

07:36 20 can't see the chart so that's an issue, but his
21 analysis was -- and this doesn't really jibe with the
22 chart that he provided me so I was going to ask more
23 but he'd already gone home for the day when he sent me
24 this at 5:30. Crime has increased 19 percent in that
07:36 25 area year to indicate as compared to the same frame

23

07:36 1 last year. This is from him. There has been a
2 15 percent increase in calls for service and a one
3 percent increase in on about view's proactive calls
4 disregarding premise checks. I don't disregard
07:36 5 premise checks because premise checks is -- I'm still
6 answering the question. I'll get to you, I promise.
7 This was this is all the data that I was
8 provided, and I understand that year to date the
9 encampment wasn't even open at that point. So this is
07:36 10 just what the information that I have to provide you
11 at this point.

12 So most of the on about view to attach
13 call centers center around 85th and Aurora which is
14 pretty consistent with the efforts there.

07:37 15 >>>: Is there any follow we can get?
16 From SPD's perspective of that Licton Springs
17 community to get a 2016 to 2017, you know, present,
18 you know, trend as a comparison to our community
19 impact? Because I think the City has an obligation --

07:37 20 this is great showing all what Licton Springs has been

21 doing but we need --

22 GEORGE: That's your chance at the mike,
23 but you made the point, it's been recorded, and it's a
24 fair point.

07:37 25 Questions? Because we have one more

24

07:37 1 quick presentation then we want to actually listen to
2 people's comments.

3 >>>: You said the police calls rarely go
4 as planned. Why is that?

07:37 5 CAPTAIN BARKER: Rarely go as planned.

6 Do you recall what I was referring to?

7 >>>: You referred to Licton Springs
8 calls to encampments. Rarely go as planned. Why?

9 CAPTAIN BARKER: I may have misspoke.

07:38 10 >>>: Maybe I managers heard.

11 LISA: I think you're talking about

12 sanctioned --

13 CAPTAIN BARKER: Are we talking about the

14 NAV team? I'm sorry, what I was referring to is not

07:38 15 Licton Springs.

16 >>>: I may have misunderstood you.

17 CAPTAIN BARKER: I'm sure I wasn't clear.

18 The NAV team is the unit that has to respond to

19 address campers that aren't expected to be there.

07:38 20 Unsanctioned --

21 >>>: I understand what you're saying

22 now.

23 CAPTAIN BARKER: The officers can't just

24 go in and say you're on your way. Unfortunately for

07:38 25 both the officers who can't take action and satisfy

25

07:38 1 the needs of the community at the time and, of course,

2 sometimes it takes the process of getting the reports

3 through the system.

4 >>>: Thank you.

07:38 5 >>>: I live in the area in a condo, and

6 right by Mineral Springs Park, and we have had a lot

7 of campers there over the last, I would say about

8 three years. It seems like it's escalating quite a

9 bit. And we've been working with Barry Amber about

07:39 10 that issue. But I'm just wondering if you're going to

11 speak to if the camping at either Mineral Springs Park

12 or Licton Springs Park has improved since the Licton

13 Springs Village has been put into place or what you're

14 seeing on that.

07:39 15 GEORGE: And we might want to call on

16 Robert too on that, who is with the parks, pays a lot

17 of attention.

18 CAPTAIN BARKER: Pays a lot closer

19 attention to the --

07:39 20 >>>: Yeah. I'm not aware that the camps

21 have increased. We've been having problems in Licton

22 Springs and Mineral Springs Parks for quite a while.

23 And our parks crews work with the NAV team to clean up
24 unsanctioned parks. The issue is, though, we have
07:39 25 like over 400 encampments, unsanctioned encampments of

26

07:40 1 some type around the whole city. And so we have to
2 schedule our encampment cleanups with the NAV team and
3 so scheduling 400 cleanups, we don't get around as
4 quickly as we should. But I think that's going to
07:40 5 pick up because we've -- we've just established
6 another more quick team crew that I think it's going
7 to pick up a little bit here. But, yeah, it's been
8 our concern and we've worked with the community and
9 citizens around there over the years to try to clean
07:40 10 that up. It's an ongoing problem. It is. Yeah.

11 GEORGE: Any more -- one more question
12 for Captain Barker?

13 Okay. So next, Lou-Anne is going to talk
14 about the work that Seattle Public Utilities does

07:40 15 with respect to trash on the streets, and needles,
16 sharps. Lou-Anne?

17 LOU-ANNE: Hi there. I'm Lou. I'm with
18 SPU. I pulled the numbers for you guys just to get an
19 idea of what the trash situation looks like from 85th

07:41 20 to about 90th on the Aurora Nesbitt corridor. In the
21 last three years had 342 illegal dumping reports come
22 in, which is quite significant, and we have a -- you
23 guys have probably heard of our Find It Fix It app so

24 that gets used quite a bit around here, and keep
07:41 25 using it. That's how we collect our data, and we find

27

07:41 1 out which areas of the city need more attention or
2 not. So thank you all for using that regularly. It's
3 been really helpful just to keep track of what's going
4 on so we can provide some rapid response pickup in
07:41 5 that area.

6 Since January we've also had 38 separate
7 needle calls for that corridor as well, so you can
8 imagine our inspectors are in the area about every
9 other day on calls in this area. So as a result this
07:41 10 is where I come in. I'm also the project manager for
11 a litter abatement program, and we selected this area
12 to be part of that program this year, which is a new
13 pilot that we're testing to bring proactive litter
14 services to select neighborhoods that need it the most
07:42 15 through data collected on Find It Fix It, and so we're
16 hoping to bring this to the Licton Springs area in the
17 next month. So we'll be providing proactive litter
18 pick up so that we can turn down the amount of
19 complaints that we're getting, and that will likely be
07:42 20 twice-a-week crews coming in and doing five hours of
21 work every -- 10 hours total trash pickup in the area.

22 GEORGE: Questions.

23 >>>: Are the residents going out and
24 cleaning up trash? I heard that was done in the

07:42 25 beginning but maybe it's not anymore. If they're not

28

07:42 1 working --

2 LISA: They're still doing that. And
3 they'll probably talk about it when they give their
4 testimony.

07:42 5 GEORGE: So we've asked the camp to bring
6 one resident, one staff person - remember, they have a
7 24-hour staff person -- and one member of the community
8 action council, and they're going to lead off, and
9 then we -- it will be by numbers on the sign-in.

07:43 10 So --

11 >>>: That's not how we prepared, George.
12 We were given 10 minutes and we do things by group.
13 So 10 minutes.

14 GEORGE: Come on up.

07:43 15 >>>: Thanks for letting us speak
16 tonight.

17 We're the SHARE/WHEEL staff people of
18 Licton Springs Village.

19 We're the on round operators of the

07:43 20 village. There's 12 of us total. Two staff on shift
21 at all times. First shift, second shift and third
22 shift. Currently we have 62 villagers, equal men and
23 women. We have had up to 70, in which we provide a
24 harm reduction model of stability and security 24/7

07:44 25 for our villagers. Some of whom have been on the

07:44 1 streets for years.

2 LISA: They're just recording so they're

3 recording all the words.

4 >>>: We do a number of things for the

07:44 5 village and also more importantly for the residents.

6 We take care of everything from the mundane of basic

7 trash collection to emergency calls. We handle the

8 donations, we give tours, we give and also search out

9 for resources that our villagers are asking for.

07:45 10 We actually do do a number of

11 neighborhood cleanups, just us staff ourselves. The

12 big thing is, you know, we try to keep the peace in

13 the village.

14 But for us the most important thing is,

07:45 15 and always has been, the care, you know -- the care of

16 our villagers, the support of our villagers, and the

17 well-being of our villagers.

18 >>>: Hi. I'm Charlie, also from SHARE

19 staff.

07:45 20 We've all been there -- I've been there

21 at least since the beginning, preplanning stages, and

22 the earlier community meeting we had last year. As

23 far as our interaction with the neighborhood and the

24 greater community, I can personally say I feel like

07:45 25 it's gone as well as we expected, which is quite well.

07:45 1 I know there's probably some people that maybe have,
2 you know, some negative views of the camp. Maybe they
3 had them before, maybe they still have them, but we
4 interact a lot through the fact that we go out daily

07:46 5 and do litter busts as we call it. We really do
6 tackle that whole area, and we get a lot of positive
7 feedback from that. We interact with a number of
8 community members that come by, whether it's church
9 groups, school groups for tours, a lot of different

07:46 10 groups come by and reach out and see what kind of help
11 they can provide or just fact find. We -- at the
12 site -- and I've been there as staff, I go to our
13 community advisory meetings. We don't get much
14 negative feedback directly. It's very rare that

07:46 15 anyone actually comes to the site or calls us directly
16 with anything they can attribute to us. I know our
17 organizer does feel we have a policy where people can
18 field incidents or something they may field, you know,
19 has to do with us and we'll respond to that. But as

07:46 20 far as our -- the way we feel and the feedback we've
21 gotten from the community and the honest feedback I
22 think we get from the seven members of the community
23 advisory council that represent the neighborhood and
24 the school and the clergy and whatnot, we feel like

07:47 25 most people that view us subjectively feel like

07:47 1 it's -- it's going well, we're not having adverse

2 effect, and I think -- you know, want it to be a
3 success and a pilot or a model for other villages in
4 the future.

07:47 5 So we have some residents from the
6 village here that I think would like to possibly say
7 something, and then we might have a member from our
8 community advisory council also that would speak,
9 Elizabeth Dahl.

07:47 10 >>>: Hi. I'm a resident at Licton
11 Springs tiny house village. And.
12 Sorry. My notes.
13 -- I can't express to you enough the
14 comfort of having four walls and a roof. And a door

07:48 15 that locks at night.
16 It gives me a great feeling of safety and
17 of having a home. I believe has cleared up a lot over
18 the last year. I personally have been homeless for 10
19 years, and I slept on Nesbitt many nights. Now when I
07:48 20 walk down Nesbitt there are very few people camped out
21 on Nesbitt, and way less trash than there used to be.
22 It used to be way clustered with RVs and vans and
23 garbage, and I believe that it has increased on being
24 cleaned up a lot.

07:48 25 I lost my sister to homelessness, and

32

07:48 1 this is the reason I don't like shelters. She resided
2 at DESC, which is funded by the Gates Foundation, and

3 she was dead on the floor for six hours before she was
4 reported.

07:49 5 So if tiny houses did not get their lease
6 renewed, I too will be put back out onto the street,
7 where I probably will die.

8 Thank you.

9 >>>: Hi. I'm Michael Tapper. I'll be

07:49 10 59 in April, and my significant other, she's in a
11 wheelchair. She's on second stage of osteoporosis,
12 and if it wasn't for Licton Springs she would not be
13 able to make it to a hospital appointments, doctor
14 appointments, and any appointments that helps her, you

07:49 15 know, however they can, which they really can't do
16 much where she suffers a lot with pain. They don't
17 give her nothing for pain, and I spent all my time
18 taking care of her in Licton Springs I would have no
19 security or safety or basically no direction as far as
07:50 20 dealing with what needs to be done.

21 Thank you.

22 >>>: Hi. My name is René. I've been

23 here in Washington about 10 years. About a year ago
24 my wife and I found ourselves homeless, and we didn't

07:50 25 really know what we were doing so we got a tent and

33

07:50 1 put it under a bridge and did the best we could with
2 what we had. And the Navigation Team came by, they
3 offered us a tiny house. We weren't really sure what

4 to do and how it was going to be because we were
07:51 5 scared. We didn't -- we now what we were doing
6 finally in a tent under a bridge. So we were kind of
7 safe there. Like oh, my goodness, now we're going to
8 do something different. But then it took about two
9 weeks of us talking about it and praying about it,
07:51 10 honestly, homeless people are Christians also. The
11 Navigation Team, they helped us move. Moved
12 everything for us. It gave us a chance to breathe.
13 We were clean for three years before we came here to
14 Washington, and then we both relapsed. What put
07:51 15 that's not what put us into being homeless, but during
16 our process of being homeless also, we relapsed. I
17 had never done heroin before. I did. I don't
18 anymore. Somebody had asked the question is it
19 possible or, you know, has anyone, you know, been
07:52 20 successful in being clean and sober living at Licton
21 Springs. Sure. Of course. I have. I am.
22 Homelessness isn't what I thought. I had
23 such a misconception of it. This walk has humbled me
24 so much. I don't regret it. I could go back to
07:52 25 Florida. We have a home there. But no. This is our

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07:52 1 home. The tiny house village has gave us such
2 opportunities to see the world from a different point
3 of view. To actually be better people, believe it or
4 not. You wouldn't think that. We are better people

07:52 5 because of the walk that we've walked, and Licton
6 Springs has only helped us.

7 While we're there, they provide so much.

8 Much more than just a little tiny house or -- I think

9 somebody referred to it as a shack. It's not a shack.

07:53 10 It's a home. It's a door that shuts and locks. It's

11 where we sit and eat dinner together and pray. We can

12 go visit a neighbor that needs to borrow a cup of

13 sugar. You know? It's just a real place to get

14 better. That's all they want from us there. They

07:53 15 don't judge us. They don't have a misconception of

16 just because we -- some of us are on drugs. Some of

17 y'all may be on drugs. Okay?

18 GEORGE: We have to have room for

19 everybody else.

07:53 20 >>>: We're no different than you guys.

21 We're humans too. And this next year is so crucial.

22 For the progress that needs to continue in our lives.

23 Not just mine and my wife's but the other residents.

24 And I'm asking you guys, you know, please think about

07:54 25 us as humans and neighbors and friends. Just like the

35

07:54 1 ones that are right there next to you. And you and

2 you and you. Because we matter. And I just want to

3 say thank you. Okay? Thank you so much for

4 everything you guys have done. Okay?

07:54 5 GEORGE: Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 >>>: My name is Elizabeth Dahl. I'm the

8 executive director of a local nonprofit called the

9 Aurora Commons, located at 90th and Aurora. I'm a

07:54 10 neighbor and I also am a member of the CAC. So I've

11 been in the neighborhood for about 12 years. We just

12 celebrated our seventh birthday in the neighborhood,

13 and Licton Springs Village has been a welcome neighbor

14 to our community. We have seen people's lives

07:54 15 improve. It provides stability for people to orient

16 themselves. It really does. It's a place to store

17 people's belongings. When people lose all of their

18 belongings they are setback. They could be setback a

19 year, two years, 10 years. It's really hard to obtain

07:55 20 an ID. An ID is the bridge to resources.

21 I have personally seen people's health

22 improved. People who are now clean and sober, who

23 were not clean and sober before the village. We've

24 seen incredible progress by people and people that

07:55 25 have been traditional sprawlers along Aurora, who I'm

36

07:55 1 sure many of you have now seen are now housed in

2 Licton Springs. At least three people that I know

3 that were -- had global encampments -- illegal

4 encampments among Aurora are now housed, and we've seen

07:55 5 it just improve the neighborhood and provide a much

6 needed stability for many of the folks that we've seen

7 that have been unhoused and unstably housed along
8 Aurora for 10 plus years.

9 The community advisory council is made up
07:56 10 of me as a local nonprofit, a neighbor, someone who
11 owns an apartment complex on Nesbitt, the principal of
12 Robert Eagle Staff School, a local community church member,
13 and a member of Aurora Licton Urban Village and someone
14 from the Greenwood involved neighbors, so it's made
07:56 15 up of a bunch of different neighbors. But anyway, I'm
16 here to speak for -- to plead with you to please be in
17 support of the renewal of the permit.

18 GEORGE: Thank you.

19 Now we're going to take public comments,
07:56 20 and we're going to call people up according to
21 their -- how they signed in. And people are going to
22 speak at this mike, and we're going to both record
23 them and also watch the time. So Sean, if you'd give
24 Karen that seat, and you need these time cards. So two minutes,
07:57 25 please. And we have just the right number of people

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07:57 1 and the right number of time if we stick to two
2 minutes. So the first two people I'm going to call
3 up, Elizabeth James and Aidan NRA don't know, and then
4 let's also call up René Reynoso.

07:57 5 >>>: Hi. My name is Liz Bethel James.

6 Can you hear me?

7 >>>: Knock.

8 >>>: I don't think it's on.

9 >>>: Hello?

07:57 10 My name is Elizabeth James and I'm with
11 speak out Seattle, and's sad video indicate for safe
12 and inclusive neighborhoods. We're thankful that the
13 sites at Licton Springs and at some of the newer sites
14 have improved since they were first rolled out in

07:58 15 2015, where there was no running water, no
16 electricity, no heat, no insulation, and so these
17 sites have greatly improved to have those items.

18 Still this is not the type of housing
19 that's habitable per HUD or acceptable per the UN.

07:58 20 And we need to have a strategy to move people indoors.

21 That said, I supported the renewal of the second year
22 permit at Ballard Nicholville, which is where I live
23 and I'll leave it to you guys to decide the neighbors
24 in Licton Springs if that's what you want to

07:58 25 recommend.

38

07:58 1 As far as improvements, there's some
2 areas of improvement that remain. The city could roll
3 out these sites in a way that was a little more left
4 like an ad campaign and a little more realistic that
07:58 5 there will be an impact on the neighborhood.

6 We just heard some statistics from the
7 police that there hasn't been much of an impact, and
8 it's not necessarily and I don't believe it is for

9 most of the people that live at these Licton Springs
07:59 10 encampment, but I spoke to a retired surgeon, El
11 sister, of the SPD, retired six months ago, about, and
12 he said -- he made it clear that the crime figures are
13 fudged. He said that if a police officer does not
14 physically respond to a call, it does -- it didn't
07:59 15 happen. It doesn't get included in the statistics.

16 So if you call in a report or you fill it out on the
17 Internet, it does not -- it doesn't get counted in the
18 statistics.

19 That's a problem I've had a situation
07:59 20 where I was assaulted and could not get a police
21 officer out for two hours, and at two hours they
22 called and said it would be another four.

23 I'm going to just be very quick and say
24 the City needs to advertise the public notices a
08:00 25 little more. It's difficult especially for people

39

08:00 1 that are not engage to find out. LIHI needs to do a
2 little bit better -- and this is primarily the CACies
3 need to get out data a little quicker to the
4 communities. A year after they open is a little bit
08:00 5 long to take to get the first data.

6 I also want to point out that Barbara
7 Poppy showed us the way, she gave us the guidance on
8 how we should be addressing homelessness. It involved
9 exclusive -- or explicitly making it that encampments

08:00 10 were not the way to go, that they upset neighborhoods

11 and that they don't move people out of homeless.

12 >>>: Can I give her my two minutes?

13 GEORGE: Are you done?

14 >>>: He can finish my two minutes.

08:00 15 GEORGE: I pressure putting it together

16 but we -- if we're going to get everyone through. And

17 you are? Aidan?

18 >>>: Aidan.

19 GEORGE: Great.

08:01 20 >>>: In 2016 LIHI announced that they

21 were working on a two-year plan to develop -- design

22 and permit a low income property down south. We now

23 know it as the Othello encampment.

24 The original one-year permit was extended

08:01 25 for another year as the process went on. They are now

40

08:01 1 up for their -- well, their camp is now expiring.

2 LIHI is planning on going to the City Council and they

3 are going to ask for amendments to the original

4 ordinance. The original ordinance for all these

08:02 5 encampments were a permit for one year and then go

6 through a renewal process like you folks are doing

7 tonight at Licton Springs.

8 I'm very concerned about altering the

9 original ordinance because if Othello is asking for an

08:02 10 extension for their permit, what is going to happen

11 next year at Licton Springs, Georgetown will come up,
12 and camp second chance will come up. When their final
13 permits run out. Please don't let LIHI and the City
14 alter the original premise of the permits. They need
08:02 15 to stick with what they promised. Neighborhoods don't
16 have much of a recourse when the camps are sided.
17 LIHI and the City comes in and said this is where it's
18 going to go. We don't have much to say when we come
19 into a repermitting hearing. Most of us get to the
08:03 20 place where it's going to be here for two years.

21 Let's do the best we can and live with it. Don't
22 change the permitting.

23 GEORGE: Next person is René Reynoso.

24 >>>: She spoke with our group, George.

08:03 25 She's already spoken.

41

08:03 1 GEORGE: Oh. Sorry.

2 Jess Mogk?

3 And then Marilyn Sullivan, and then Tim

4 Sullivan.

08:03 5 >>>: Jim.

6 GEORGE: Jim.

7 >>>: Hi. So my name is Nicole Scheer.

8 This [standing next to me] is actually Jess Mogk. And I'm just going to

9 introduce us. We are a group from the University of

08:04 10 Washington in the school of public health,

11 specifically the community oriented public health

12 practice. And we are masters of public health
13 candidates. SHARE/WHEEL contacted our professor to do
14 an evaluation of Licton Springs village to assess how
08:04 15 the encampment model is working both for the villagers
16 and for the stakeholders. We did in three months a
17 number of different data collection methods so we
18 question -- we did surveys and interviews with almost
19 all -- all -- if not all of the villagers, all of the
08:04 20 staff. We also did qualitative interviews with a
21 number of different stakeholders in the city, in the
22 community, we did focus groups with staff and the
23 community advisory committee, and we polled secondary
24 data sources from Georgetown, tiny house village,
08:04 25 HMIS, which is a homeless management information

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08:05 1 systems, the police department, the Navigation Center,
2 and LIHI.
3 And briefly some of the key results that
4 we found from the villagers was that overwhelmingly
08:05 5 participants agreed that they had experienced positive
6 life changes since moving to the village. This
7 included health, stability and social changes for a
8 lot of people who have not had positive increases in
9 their lives before this. A large majority of the
08:05 10 villagers said their lives were better than before and
11 95 percent of respondents reported that they would
12 leave Licton Springs Village if permanent housing

13 became available but unfortunately there is no
14 permanent housing available within the city.

08:05 15 >>>: So from staff we were really
16 impressed by their ability to manage unexpected
17 problems with super limited resources, including
18 domestic violence issues, extreme medical problems,
19 that a lot of the residents have, hoarding and trash.

08:06 20 They didn't even have dumpster service in the village
21 until six months into the project. But they've
22 managed those issues really, really well, even given
23 super limited resources. One way that they do that is
24 they meet weekly as staff members, even though they're

08:06 25 working all these different shifts, to problem solve

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08:06 1 together and work out issues that have been arriving
2 in that model, seems to be working really well. We
3 also looked at publicly available crime data from the
4 police department for the N3 beat and there was no
08:06 5 change in crime. There's general trending crime we're
6 at peaks in the summer and dips in the winter, so we
7 had one summer to look at of data but whether we did
8 compare it there was no difference between the summer
9 before Licton Springs and the summer after links, and,
08:06 10 in fact, the winter when Licton Springs was there
11 crime was lower than it was the winter before.

12 We've also found that a lot of volunteers
13 and people in the community have contributed a lot to

14 the success of the village. There's not a lot of data
08:07 15 on what volunteers have given, but we know that
16 individual volunteers have donated hundreds of hours
17 and more than \$2,500 of their own money to the success
18 of the village. So it's obvious that certain
19 community members are really passionate about making
08:07 20 this work and it really shows, and it has been working
21 thanks to the input from the community.

22 Are we out of time?

23 GEORGE: So is this Marilyn?

24 Well, let's have one more and then we

08:07 25 really --

44

08:07 1 >>>: We're not all going.

2 A. She's our last.

3 GEORGE: All right.

4 >>>: Thank you.

08:07 5 GEORGE: We appreciate you did this work.

6 Is this public?

7 >>>: We do have copies of our executive

8 summary to hand out. It is 10 pages of information so

9 still a large summary.

08:07 10 >>>: They're on the table.

11 GEORGE: All right. So last of the

12 group. We appreciate the work but we also want to

13 make sure everyone has a chance to speak.

14 >>>: I'll be quick.

08:07 15 We also compared the homeless management
16 information system between Licton Springs Village and
17 Nickelsville Georgetown to see which populations are
18 being served and if Licton Springs is fulfilling its
19 goal to serve the underserved populations, and we did
08:08 20 find that people of color specifically people who
21 identify as black or African-American and American
22 Indian/Alaska Native, were more likely to live at
23 Licton Springs Village compared to Nickelsville
24 Georgetown. We also found that more than half,
08:08 25 59 percent, of people at Licton Springs Village moved

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08:08 1 to permanent housing, which we think is a testament to
2 success.

3 And we did a brief cost comparison
4 between Licton Springs Village and the Navigation
08:08 5 Center, which is also a low barrier shelter. And we
6 found that the average operation cost per bed per
7 night was only \$28 for Licton Springs Village compared
8 to \$65 for the navigation center. Meaning that
9 they're able to accomplish so much with few resources,

08:09 10 which we think is a testament to the great work
11 they're doing.

12 >>>: Thank you.

13 GEORGE: Thank you.

14 GEORGE: Executive summaries are on the
08:09 15 table. Thank you.

16 Marilyn Sullivan and Jim Sullivan.

17 Signed up separately.

18 >>>: Well, yeah.

19 >>>: He was parking.

08:09 20 GEORGE: But you have four minutes

21 between you.

22 >>>: Okay. We may give some of our time

23 to our neighbor.

24 But anyway --

08:09 25 >>>: We all live together.

46

08:09 1 >>>: As much empathy as I have for the

2 situation, I really do understand how it's helping

3 those who want to help themselves, and I appreciate

4 what they're accomplishing. However, I totally

08:09 5 disagree with the statistics that have been coming in.

6 Maybe it's because what I've heard is a lot of it's

7 going from 84th north. I live between 85th and south

8 of Green Lake Avenue north and in between Highway 99

9 and Atwood. Our crime rate has increased tenfold.

08:10 10 Car prowls, assaults, drug activities, needles. Not

11 only car prowls but going into people's garages, going

12 into people's homes, going into their yards, and

13 one -- which I can't substantiate, but it was reported

14 even assaulted with a gun as she was getting off the

08:10 15 bus walking to her home.

16 Now, if increase hasn't happened, I don't

17 know where you're getting your statistics, because
18 it's on a daily basis and it's happening all the time.

19 Now, we called the police, we provided

08:10 20 video to the police, because several of our neighbors

21 have video cameras and recordings of everything going

22 on and providing it to the police. Nothing happens.

23 No response. The crime isn't -- the dollar value may

24 not be enough for them to investigate, but still we

08:11 25 have the individuals on tape and nothing happens.

47

08:11 1 Very disappointing.

2 >>>: This would be Wayne Gray?

3 >>>: No, I'm Marilyn.

4 >>>: We live next door, in the same

08:11 5 neighborhood.

6 >>>: My name is Pete.

7 So to start I'd like to say how much I

8 respect the work of all the individuals that are

9 involved in the program and the community overall.

08:11 10 There are a lot of people who need the help and I

11 applaud those folks that have come here tonight. For

12 those of you at Licton Springs with the intention to

13 improve, I wish you the best on your ongoing path.

14 This is also a topic, of course, that is divisive and

08:11 15 it's also something that's emotional. My purpose is

16 to bring a qualitative perspective of someone who is

17 living in the Licton Springs area and not assessing it

18 from afar. So I live at 85th and Stone so just south
19 of most of the conversation tonight. And my original
08:12 20 feeling about the encampment was hesitant optimism.
21 My hope was that the promises made to us would better
22 the neighborhood for people less fortunate another
23 chance at a good life. It all start when my car was
24 prowled. Shortly after we found needles next to our
08:12 25 garage. Then we had someone that I would assume was

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08:12 1 homeless or near that area walk into our yard, start
2 yelling at us for beer while we ate dinner with our
3 family. Our direct neighbors have had people defecate
4 in their yard and they've a had their items stolen. I
08:12 5 did however have a nice conversation with a woman who
6 was going through my recycle bin looking for
7 magazines. That is my personal experience, but when
8 you scroll through our next door, which is an app
9 where pretty much keeps our neighborhood connected, or
08:12 10 you look at our FAQ group, what you're going to see is
11 videos, photos and statements about everything from
12 stolen packages to needles, car prowling, armed
13 robberies and police chases with gunfire. From what I
14 understand, there's been a rising number of of
08:12 15 emergency services to the area due to incidents with
16 our homeless population and even worse those that feed
17 off of that situation. The data that has been shared
18 on FAQ, which I believe you're going to get a snapshot

19 here in a second, I'll leave that, is showing that as
08:13 20 well.
21 1 our biggest strengths in the area is
22 compassion. That's one of the reasons I used to live
23 in New York and I came out here and I've stayed here.
24 I believe that everyone that wants help deserves the
08:13 25 help. But I worry that this -- the examination that

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08:13 1 we have is clouding our ability to see that it's
2 making the area for the people that live here
3 inhospitable. So all I want to say is that at one
4 point I did want to see the successful and I would
08:13 5 have been okay with the renewal. I'm not there
6 anymore. I can't support it.

7 Thank you.

8 GEORGE: Next up is to William.

9 >>>: Well, I'm Marilyn Sullivan. Very
08:13 10 briefly, I disagree with the statistics too, because
11 we've given up calling. The police didn't respond so
12 many times that nobody even bothers to call anymore
13 when cars are broken into or we find needles. It's
14 just too overwhelming. But we've lived here 25 years
08:14 15 at '84th and Stone, I -- I don't know whether to
16 assess it to Licton Springs opening. All we know is
17 in the last year crime has increased tenfold, and
18 maybe it isn't the residents or people who aspire to
19 reside there. I don't know. I just hope we can work

08:14 20 together as a community, because it's a problem that
21 affects all of us. And I am very sorry for the Parks
22 Department, who gets the brunt of a lot of the
23 cleanup. Can homeless people be paid? Can the
24 City -- we spend all -- \$34 million. Can't we help

08:14 25 pay homeless people, give them a living by paying them

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08:14 1 a wage to help get involved in the cleanup of garbage?

2 Wouldn't that be a good job? Rather than having park
3 employees do it? Anyway, thank you for your time.

4 GEORGE: Thank you.

08:15 5 William Gray?

6 >>>: Hi. My name is William Gray. I am
7 a data scientist so I crunch numbers for a living: I
8 want to speak about crime. So first of all, I'd like
9 to thank a the men and women in blue. You guys have a

08:15 10 hard job. That said, I disagree with some of your
11 numbers. So Seattle Police Department has million
12 police reports on line.

13 So Seattle Police Department has

14 1 million police reports online. I decided to scrape

08:15 15 that data and throw it into a pie chart to do a little
16 analysis. The findings are pretty astounding. So
17 when I look at police beat, police beat N3, which is
18 where the camp is, actually led the city of Seattle in
19 crime increase from Cal Dan year 2016 to 2016.

08:16 20 Here's a chart showing N3. So crime in

21 N3 is up. I also cited to make a plot density map,
22 Seattle police reports actually showed police reports
23 at the 100 block level. When looking at narcotics,
24 narcotics increases went from no areas of red to a
08:16 25 bright red area between 85th and 90th.

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08:16 1 The density for other property crime,
2 which is theft. Again, that same area, crime has
3 shown a marked increase in the homeless camp area.
4 Still one property, again, it's right in the Nesbitt
08:16 5 area.

6 And finally, car prowls. Car prowls have
7 markedly increased in that area. So the anecdotal
8 evidence that residents have, the anecdotes about
9 crime increasing, the statistics back it up. The data
08:16 10 backs it up.

11 Crime increased from under 2000 in 2016
12 to over 4200 reports for police beat N3 in 2017.
13 Looking at the data, I can't recommend that the permit
14 be renewed.

08:17 15 GEORGE: Thank you. Amy Hagopian is next .

17 And then the next person would be Stacey

18 Malmow. Stacey Malmow?

19 >>>: I already spoke.

08:17 20 GEORGE: Great. Thank you.

21 And then John Wisdom.

22 >>>: Thank you.

23 Can you hear me in the back?

24 I'm Amy Hagopian. I teach public health

08:17 25 at the University of Washington, mostly to graduate

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08:17 1 students, and I'm very proud of my students who did

2 the project on Licton Springs during winter quarter.

3 I've been teaching at the university since the 1990s,

4 and have done projects with share wheel over that

08:17 5 time. I've often had students go visit the homeless

6 encampments, and I'm not sure that we in Seattle quite

7 appreciate how unique we are in having this amazing

8 system and structure of sanctioned homeless

9 encampments that are organized and self-governed in

08:18 10 this really remarkable way.

11 Some of you may have been noticing the

12 epidemics of hepatitis A and other infectious diseases

13 in big cities around the country, largely traceable.

14 Their origins to homeless populations. And I think

08:18 15 the reason Seattle has been fairly lucky in this

16 regard, despite our skyrocketing numbers of homeless

17 people, is because of these organized homeless

18 encampments with sanitation and other services that

19 people get from the city and do organize for

08:19 20 themselves. I think it's just this amazing system

21 that we have that no other city can point to. And it

22 makes us unique and I think it has helped keep us all

23 safer.

24 Thank you.

08:19 25 GEORGE: Stacey. Stacey Mal mow.

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08:19 1 >>>: She spoke.

2 GEORGE: Oh. I'm sorry. That threw me

3 off.

4 John Wisdom.

08:19 5 >>>: I'm John Wisdom, I speak out

6 Seattle. I also live in the neighborhood, and I've

7 seen the contacts of both sanctioned and unsanctioned

8 encampments in the neighborhood, and I have to agree

9 with the others who have said that we've seen a

08:19 10 massive increase in crime, and incivility in the

11 neighborhood, and it's something that we don't feel

12 like we're in sync with what we're being told.

13 >>>: Louder.

14 >>>: But one of the things I'd like to

08:20 15 add to what Elizabeth said earlier is that we were

16 talking about the cost of the encampment and we were

17 told that it's a good deal for us, but I thought math,

18 and it looks like it's between 7 and \$800 per month

19 per resident, and that doesn't count all of the other

08:20 20 services that are being had and all the extra police

21 officers that have to be counseled the encampment. So

22 it doesn't sound like a very good model, especially

23 when we're talking about the fact that it doesn't even

24 meet the minimum requirements for a building code in

08:20 25 Seattle. And they're not temporary, they're

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08:20 1 permanent. And we just keep moving one encampment

2 around from one place to another, and impacting

3 neighborhoods. It's just not the right strategy. So

4 I cannot support more encampments like this that don't

08:20 5 meet code and don't have people moving through them to

6 recovery.

7 Thank you.

8 GEORGE: Michael Tapper already spoke?

9 >>>: Yes.

08:20 10 GEORGE: All right. And then the next

11 person -- Jennifer Coates also spoke?

12 Jennifer Coates?

13 >>>: That's me. My husband will speak.

14 >>>: Hi, guys. Hey, out of everybody on

08:21 15 the City Council, who lives anywhere near this area?

16 At all.

17 Within -- or whoever is here from the

18 City. How far away do you live?

19 LISA: I don't live in that district.

08:21 20 No, I live in Interbay.

21 >>>: How far away do you live?

22 >>>: I'm in Wallingford.

23 >>>: Great. So, I mean, 30 minutes in

24 this traffic. All that I'm saying is that there is a

08:21 25 drastic increase in crime and there is a drastic

08:21 1 decrease in people from the City caring about this
2 area. There are people that are disinterested, they
3 don't care, they're pushing their agenda, and,
4 frankly, they don't care. There's large areas that go

08:22 5 vacant, there's a lot of RVs, there's a lot of people
6 that within their rights, absolutely, but I walk up
7 and down Aurora to go to my gym, and I had to choose
8 to go, hey, I probably shouldn't wear flip-flops
9 because I'm going to kick a needle.

08:22 10 Now, is that my responsibility to report
11 it on an app? No, that seems ridiculous to me. What
12 seems reasonable is to have the City come in and clean
13 up the mess that they've made by opening this area to
14 rampant homelessness. You talk about an increase in

08:22 15 hepatitis. Sure, that's a real concern. That is a
16 public safety concern. Now, are we lucky? Luck is
17 not a good strategy. Being prepared and making
18 proactive decisions to end these things is a real
19 strategy. Just going, oh, we got it this week. No,

08:23 20 that's not a strategy.

21 So please, you know -- I support
22 everybody that's in Licton Springs. I hope they do
23 their best. Being homeless for 10 years, that is
24 not -- that's not reasonable. I went to school

08:23 25 full-time. I work full-time at the same time, to make

08:23 1 my life and my family's life better. If I can do it,
2 anybody else can do.

3 I'm sorry. What was that?

4 >>>: I --

08:23 5 >>>: No, no, not you. Her.

6 No, this is okay.

7 GEORGE: We're not having a dialogue.

8 >>>: We can have a dialogue.

9 GEORGE: Thank you. Your comments are

08:23 10 well taken. So thank you.

11 The next person is Susan Lawrence.

12 >>>: Hi. I'm a member of the Aurora

13 Licton Urban Village, and if anybody would like to

14 work on community things, please see me afterwards

08:23 15 much that's what we're here for.

16 I just want to make a comment. I'm not

17 saying that the crime hasn't increased. I live here

18 too, and, yeah, there's -- it's not getting better.

19 But I do think we need to step back and just keep in

08:24 20 mind whether the crime is a direct result of the

21 people in the homeless encampment or not. It may or

22 may not be, but just because two things are happening

23 at the same time doesn't necessarily mean they are

24 directly caused. So just keep that in mind.

08:24 25 And I would like to ask the people who

08:24 1 are working in the camp if the permit is renewed, what

2 can we as a community do more to help you? And so
3 I -- if somebody wants to take the rest of my two
4 minutes to answer that.

08:24 5 GEORGE: Thank you.

6 Let's keep moving along and maybe at the
7 end if we have a moment we can come back to that
8 question.

9 The next person is Rachel. Is that Long.

08:24 10 Rachel?

11 Long. Okay.

12 And then Tonya Warner said maybe. You
13 have a minute to think about it.

14 Rachel. Thank you.

08:25 15 >>>: So I'm a social worker in the city

16 of Seattle, and I actually work in the neighborhood.

17 I have for the past about four years. And I really

18 appreciate the comment from eight love that just

19 because two things are happening at one time does not

08:25 20 necessarily mean that they're directly related to each

21 other. And the comments I'm hearing tonight, I'm not

22 trying to shoot anybody's opinions down or your

23 perspectives, but I think that we also have to

24 remember that, again, two things don't happen at --

08:25 25 I'm getting lost. Lost it. Two things happening at

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08:25 1 the same time. Not necessarily related. But that it

2 sounds like from the community, I'm hearing that of

3 more frustration with things that are happening versus
4 the encampment directly. And so not being able to
08:26 5 make those direct correlations between the increase in
6 crime and the encampments, I think we're talking about
7 data, you need more data to support that idea as well.

8 GEORGE: Thank you.

9 Tonya Warner.

08:26 10 Antonio Dennis.

11 And then Pam Falcon.

12 >>>: Hello, everyone. I'm actually from
13 Seattle, born and raised, went to Roosevelt high
14 school, graduated from --

08:26 15 GEORGE: Could you speak up.

16 >>>: I've been out here doing a little
17 research myself, and I've seen exactly what people are
18 talking about. It's been a little messy. I've seen
19 a change, whereas I'm not even close to being -- I

08:27 20 don't know really -- I'm just disgusted, pretty much.

21 The thing is, everyone's got the same. Aural people
22 don't have the same agenda. Some don't want to be
23 where they're at. You know, myself, you know, I'm in
24 the process of -- I'm an HR member. American health

08:27 25 resources. Okay? And I'm in the process of

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08:27 1 presenting a healthy team as well as develop bigger
2 and better home housing. HR provides me that make
3 transition that much easier. Such as if you say you

4 need help, get involved and become a member, you get
08:27 5 the electrical, gas, food, clothing, credit.
6 Schooling. Come from students to, you know, starting
7 up all over again if you want to go in. Stuff is
8 happening. Construction jobs, got hurt, you know,
9 boom. Imagine, you know, you're doing things you're
08:28 10 not used to. And everyone does deserve to be looked
11 at individual. Those who make mistakes need to be
12 punished, you know, accordingly. No person should try
13 to just stop something that's positive in the account.
14 You just got to step in and do your job, unbiased.
08:28 15 Just get it together, you guys. We don't give up on
16 people. Give up on yourself. That won't happen. It
17 won't happen, right?
18 Let's get it together, you guys. I
19 just -- we can't do this, can't be seen out here doing
08:28 20 that. I don't care what you do. No meeting around
21 there. Done it for years. You can't stay over here
22 and do that. Left hand, right hand? Come on. Time
23 to stand up, you guys. But you got to be positive,
24 you got to be slick. Sometimes we're not kids.
08:29 25 GEORGE: Thank you.

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08:29 1 So we have just a -- we can take one or
2 two more comments if somebody is not signed up. Come
3 on up.
4 >>>: I signed up.

08:29 5 GEORGE: You signed up? I'm sorry. Come
6 up. You are? I don't know how I missed you.
7 >>>: That's okay. Hi. I'm Amber. You
8 guys can all hear me, right?
9 I live in Licton Springs, one block over
08:29 10 from Nesbit. I've lived in the neighborhood for the
11 past six years. Homelessness is actually very close
12 to me as my father was homeless, my uncle was homeless
13 and committed to Western State, so don't think that
14 the data I'm about to present is -- like I'm not
08:29 15 trying to sound callus but the data does speak for
16 itself. If you look at N3 has increased from 2016 to
17 2017 by 119 percent in overall reported crime.
18 Meanwhile, J1, J2, J3, while they have seen an
19 increase in crime, the actual rate of change of that
08:30 20 increase has been decreasing, whereas N3 almost nearly
21 doubled in the increasing crime between 2016 and 2017.
22 I anecdotally could see this, spoke with my friend,
23 that's why we started investigating the data to see if
24 there was truth to our anecdotal evidence. Jack in
08:30 25 the Box has had to hire security, people are

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08:30 1 defecating in our lawns, there are needles behind my
2 bedroom window. There are people having sex in front
3 of people's garages. There -- I walk outside and
4 there is someone trying to steal my grill in the
08:30 5 middle of the day. Also I find people behind the

6 bushes at night while they're shooting up. So I think
7 we really need to take a step back and look at the
8 actual impact that while we are trying to help people
9 that do need help, we need to look at long-term

08:31 10 solutions that are more effective than placing 140
11 people already in a crime laden area on Aurora, you
12 wouldn't put alcoholics in a bar and say, "Hey, let's
13 meet here, right? Likewise, you've just given the
14 tents pimps and drug lords 140 new customers, right?

08:31 15 Like location is key when people are trying to
16 recover. I know this because I have family members
17 who are drug addicts.

18 And then with that said, N3 now leads all
19 of Seattle in terms of total reported crime, as

08:31 20 opposed to last year, where it was in the middle of
21 the pack. So, I mean, if you look at the density map,
22 which I'll figure out how to release with my friend,
23 it's very apparent because the highest density of
24 crime is literally right where Licton Springs is.

08:32 25 It's like a red light bulb. There's really no -- no

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08:32 1 arguing with that data.

2 GEORGE: Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 >>>: Hi. My name is GB, give tan owe

08:32 5 Wolf. And I work at Auroaa commons. That's 8914

6 Aurora Avenue. I invite you to come and visit. I'm

7 there on Wednesday at 10 o'clock in the morning. Come
8 meet the community of people. We'd love to have you
9 there. It's not just for the chronically homeless.

08:32 10 It's for everybody. It's -- they are your neighbors.

11 I have a master's degree. I raised a child. I'm
12 fortunate that I just chose to make a choice to --
13 it's not a choice to have addiction, but I chose to be
14 sober. I'm making that life choice. It's not easy.

08:33 15 Okay? It's not easy.

16 I got -- I'll just be quick. I got
17 pneumonia in January and they took really good care of
18 me over at Ballard, but I also know that -- at
19 Swedish, and I also noticed that when I got back and I

08:33 20 was on the E line, the rapid bus, and I almost
21 fainted, who took care of me? My neighbors. Not you
22 guys. You are my neighbors probably too because I
23 live on 102nd Street in Aurora. Okay? But it was
24 people from the commons. Thank you.

08:33 25 >>>: Good afternoon, ladies and

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08:33 1 gentlemen. My name is John Roberts. I'm a resident
2 of Licton Springs village. Just to share with you
3 this afternoon, it's basically about me and what
4 village has done for me. It's basically given me

08:33 5 stability, given me hope to give hope to the homeless,
6 which I am myself at this particular time, but also I
7 just want you to know that Licton Springs is a

8 beautiful place. It really is. At the beginning of
9 everything that take place in life, it does not always
08:34 10 turn out to be good at the beginning. But give it
11 some time. Give it hope, you know. And I have a lot
12 of resident members here with me that truly believe --
13 they are truly sincerely in their hearts about what it
14 has done for them. We truly, truly love one another,
08:34 15 we truly working with one another to try to become
16 better. And I'm one of those that they call a hope.
17 You understand? They tell me all the time, John, you
18 give hope to a population of hopelessness, and I come
19 a long away. I'm from New Orleans, Louisiana. I come
08:34 20 out of the trainer. I come a long way. I watched
21 many deaths, I watched many people recover. And
22 Licton Springs Village has done a lot for me, and I
23 just want you to know that. And I hope that you
24 consider this program going forward and doing the best
08:35 25 that it can do for everyone that has hope. Thank you.

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08:35 1 GEORGE: Thank you.
2 (Applause.)
3 You've spoken once.
4 >>>: It was only for like 30 seconds.
08:35 5 GEORGE: Really quickly, please.
6 >>>: One minute.
7 GEORGE: Timer.
8 >>>: I will say that Licton Springs

9 Village, for those of you that have had crime increase
08:35 10 in your neighborhoods, you talk about things that
11 happen at night, you talk about things that happen in
12 your neighborhoods. Licton Springs Village, have you
13 met the villagers? Have you met the villagers? They
14 are some of the kindest, sweetest, like most helpful
08:35 15 people that I -- that I almost know. When they come
16 to the commons, they help clean up. The villagers are
17 really incredible people, and maybe, like -- I can't
18 explain the rising crime statistics. I do know that
19 homelessness, because of the encampment sweeps
08:36 20 downtown and because of the navigation team, there are
21 more and more people coming up this way. There really
22 are a lot more people that are in -- they're sleeping
23 outside, they're sleeping in doorways outside up this
24 way. But I do know that when people become stable,
08:36 25 when they become housed, their need to be out there

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08:36 1 prowling in people's yards and their areas and in
2 their neighborhoods, that that need to be out there
3 trying to survive goes down. Because they have
4 shelter. And shelter provides much needed stability
08:36 5 for people, and we have seen that happen with over --
6 I mean, at least 20 people that we know from -- that
7 I've known, at least, that have been housed in the
8 village.
9 Thank you.

08:36 10 (Applause.)

11 GEORGE: How can neighbors be helpful?

12 So 30 seconds. 30 seconds, Josh. He's the expert on

13 this.

14 And then Lisa is going to close with how

08:36 15 the City is going to respond tonight.

16 >>>: Well, a couple things. The

17 village -- Licton Springs Village needs food and

18 meals, so if you are interested in donating a meal,

19 anybody that you know, your friends, your neighbors,

08:37 20 an organization that you work with, the church, please

21 reach out to share wheel and Licton Springs Village,

22 and provide a meal. On the share wheel.org, you can

23 go on the website, you can also directly call the

24 village and let them know that you'd like to do that.

08:37 25 They have a meal calendar. Breakfast, you know, lunch

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08:37 1 and dinner. You can do any one of those. You can do

2 weekly, you can do once a month. That's one great way

3 you can help. They also have a donation list that

4 they -- donation they ask for that's also on the share

08:37 5 wheel.org website. And you guys can talk with the

6 residents and the share staff right there. And they

7 can tell you what they -- you know, what they need in

8 the village. There's a whole range of things. And,

9 you know, you could organize a donation drive. So

08:37 10 that's a couple things you can do if you want to get

11 involved in any tiny housework parties, we're
12 organizing those right now. If you are a -- I'm
13 almost done. If you're a carpenter, if you want to
14 help paint, you want to do any of those things, you
08:38 15 can also talk with the community engagement person
16 with LIHI. I help with organizing volunteers, so come
17 and talk with me as well and I can get you hooked up
18 with a great opportunity. Thanks.

19 GEORGE: I want to thank the audience for
08:38 20 the Care and respect they showed to each person
21 speaking. In spite of the fact that people have very
22 different opinions. This was a good way to get them
23 out. So thank you. Lisa is going to summarize.

24 LISA: Sure.
08:38 25 GEORGE: Or close.

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08:38 1 LISA: Again, thank you on behalf of the
2 City. So we are collecting comments -- we're
3 collecting -- oh. Let me go here.
4 So we're continuing to collect comments
08:38 5 through April 5th, and so please, on your agenda, if
6 you didn't get a chance to share with us tonight, send
7 us an e-mail, grab one of the comment cards, but just
8 let us know what you think. As you can see, every
9 word's been transcribed, and so we'll be taking that
08:39 10 as well as all of the e-mails and messages that we've
11 been getting and taking a careful look.

12 We are going to dig in more deeply to the
13 crime data, that's something that we've been looking
14 at and working with SPD on, and so we will be
08:39 15 announcing our decision via the website. When you all
16 came in there was a screen that we showed that -- the
17 Seattle.gov/homelessness website. If you
18 haven't been on it, take a look, and that will be
19 announcing our decision. But honestly, thank you all
08:39 20 for coming out tonight and have a good night.

21 (Applause.)

22 >>>: When is the decision?

23 LISA: The decision -- the week after, so
24 two weeks -- two weeks from now, I believe. We've got
08:40 25 a few of these going on right now, so I should be able

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08:40 1 to answer that.

2 GEORGE: We'll post it. It's about two
3 weeks.

4 Thank you.

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