

06:19 1 SEATTLE, WASHINGTON; TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018

2 6:45 P.M.

3 --o0o--

4

06:45 5 >>>: So, again, for those who didn't

6 hear, my name is Lisa Gustaveson. I work for the

7 Human Services Department at the City of Seattle. I

8 see a lot of familiar faces here from the CAC

9 meetings. And what we're -- we're very pleased that

06:4610 you're here tonight. I'm going to have my colleague

11 introduce herself, and then I'm going to tell you a

12 little bit about the format and then we'll go from

13 there.

14 SOLA: Good morning, everyone. I'm Sola [Plumacher].

06:4615 I work for the city of Seattle as a strategic advisor.

16 Thanks for having us here tonight.

17 LISA: So in it we're really hear to

18 listen, and there's a few different ways that we can

19 do that. So for some folks they like to come up and

06:4620 take the microphone and give public testimony. We are

21 all for that. We've got a transcriber here, who is

22 taking down every one of my words. Now, is he going

23 to be able to edit my Boston accent? We will see.

24 THE REPORTER: Nope.

06:4625 LISA: But that's one way that you can do

06:46 1 it. The second thing, there are comment cards here.

2 Did I say it? I said --

3 You can take a comment card, you can

4 write down your comments, and either drop it in the

06:46 5 very fancy box we have back there or hand it to one of

6 us. You can also tell us -- you can -- there's a

7 phone number on your agenda that you can call and

8 leave a message. Or you can grab one of us right now

9 and tell us what you're thinking and we'll write down

06:47 10 the notes. So we really wanted this to be an

11 inclusive process because it's important that we're

12 connecting with the community when we're talking about

13 the future of the Myers Way encampment. So on the

14 back of your agenda you can see we have some of the

06:47 15 frequently asked questions, and so one of the

16 questions is how are your comments going to be used.

17 And we're going to listen, carefully, to what you have

18 to say.

19 It's really important, again, that we

06:47 20 take all the comments so we've got folks that are also

21 sending us comments electronically. We'll summarize

22 those. And then we will use all of those in the

23 decision-making process.

24 Once we make our decision, that will be

06:47 25 posted on the Seattle -- the homelessness@seattle.gov

06:48 1 website on the blog. Is everyone aware that we have
2 that blog?

3 >>>: No.

4 >>>: No? Okay. We will make sure that

06:48 5 we send an e-mail out to everybody who signed in to
6 let you know when that is posted.

7 Some of the things that we considered
8 when we're deciding about repermitting the encampment,
9 we look closely at the outcomes of the camp. Are

06:4810 folks who are living in the camp getting the services
11 that they need? Are they getting into Haug? Is it
12 truly a pathway into housing? That's really important
13 to us. And we look at that through our data
14 collection, and so we keep track of how many people

06:4815 are coming in and if they're going into housing, and
16 that's one of the important things that we work
17 closely with LIHI, the Low-Income Housing Institute,
18 on tracking that information.

19 We also look at the physical property.

06:4820 Is there anything happening to the property, because
21 the property isn't always owned by the City or whoever
22 the owner is, so if it's City Light -- who owns this
23 property? FAS, I believe. Is there anything -- is
24 there deterioration to the property that would make it

06:4925 unusable for the future?

4

06:49 1 And then also are there any unforeseen

2 impacts directly attributed to the camp? And then we
3 make that decision and then go forward.

4 So I want to jump right into hearing from

06:49 5 you, so I'm going to start calling names, and then we

6 can just -- George {Scarola}, our excellent assistant here, will

7 be taking -- giving you the microphone, and we're

8 going to do two minutes each. So we really want to

9 make sure we have a chance to hear from everybody, and

06:4910 Tom [Van Bronkhorst]from the Department of neighborhoods here is going

11 to be giving you a little sign you can when you're

12 getting close on your time. Okay?

13 So the first person that I have here is

14 Aaron Garcia, and then I have Charlie 0 man a right

06:4915 behind him.

16 >>>: All right. Good evening, everyone.

17 My name is Aaron Garcia. I'm a resident of White

18 Center. I Work for the White Center development

19 association. I've been on the community advisory

06:5020 council for the last year. I wanted to come here

21 tonight to, I guess, give my support for renewing the

22 lease for one year. I've seen the ups and downs for

23 Camp Second Chance over the course of the last year,

24 and they're hitting their stride, and I really want to

06:5025 make sure that we support them. But a couple of

5

06:50 1 things that I want to emphasize about this is I really

2 feel strongly that the residents of Camp Second Chance

3 should be partners -- should have co-signing abilities
4 in the contract negotiation and they should be looped
06:50 5 in and it shouldn't just be LIHI alone. It's very
6 important for I think them to have that kind of
7 ownership and representation.

8 I also want to recognizes that I think a
9 lot of folks a lot of frustration around the
06:51 10 unsanctioned part of the other side of the freeway,
11 and I get that, and I think we -- we should direct the
12 resources that we need to solve that.

13 But it shouldn't paint Camp Second Chance
14 in such a negative light, especially in the light of a
06:51 15 lot of the success that I've seen over the course of
16 the year.

17 But we should be making sure that we're
18 giving them -- we're giving all the residents who are
19 experiencing homelessness the support that they need
06:51 20 so that we can get housing. And I know in the housing
21 crunch that we're in, that's very hard to do because
22 the solution that we hear over and over and over again
23 is there needs to be more affordable housing and there
24 isn't. There isn't those units in Seattle. So until

06:51 25 we can solve that end factor, I'm not sure how we're

6

06:51 1 going to reach part of the solution. So thank you for
2 my two minutes. That's all I have.

3 (Applause.)

4 LISA: Charlie?

06:52 5 >>>: Hello, everyone. My name is
6 Charlie Omana, and I am the chair of the
7 Highland Park Action Committee, and I'm here to kind
8 of represent Highland Park's views on this issue. We
9 sent a letter to the director of the Human Services
06:5210 Department, Catherine Lester, requesting that
11 Camp Second Chance -- a renewal be reconsidered.
12 Basically in the past 10 years this is the third
13 encampment that has taken up space within Highland
14 Park's boundaries, and we feel that our community,
06:5215 which is historically kind of a working class
16 community, has been asked to take most of the burden
17 on this issue, whereas other neighborhoods in West
18 Seattle have not. While I personally am ambivalent
19 about the camp's continued presence here, I know that
06:5220 a lot of my community members are, you know, against a
21 renewal. One concern that I have is that the camp
22 establish itself in July of 2016, so as of now it is
23 about a year and eight months at the site. And four
24 months it will be two years. So allowing it to stay
06:5325 another year would, in fact, have allowed this camp to

7

06:53 1 be in this place for two years and eight months. I'm
2 not sure if the City will take that into consideration
3 when attempting to renew Camp Second Chance's contract
4 or the contract with LIHI, but I hope it will,

06:53 5 because I think that that's more than enough time to
6 kind of find other localities for this camp to kind of
7 move around the city so that other neighborhoods can
8 also feel the impact of this crisis that the City is
9 facing.

06:5310 Another thing that I want to mention is
11 that there is a lack of affordable housing in Seattle,
12 and that is due to just the economic factors at play.
13 Unfortunately, we can't make the land values decrease
14 barring some act of nature. So I'm not sure that it's

06:5415 necessarily incumbent upon Seattle to take on the
16 burden of creating affordable housing here. I think a
17 regional approach would be much more sound. So thank
18 you.

19 LISA: Thank you.

06:5420 (Applause.)

21 >>>: So Rebecca Massey is next.

22 Rebecca? And then after Rebecca is Stacey Lenny.

23 >>>: Hi. My name is Rebecca Massey, and

24 I'm a camper at Camp Second Chance, and I would just

06:5425 like to tell you that I think this is a viable

8

06:54 1 solution for the first step of solving homelessness.

2 I mean, it has provided a safe alternative to living

3 alone and homeless. I can personally tell you that

4 when I first came to Seattle I was living under the

06:55 5 Seattle bridge, and I was involved in two sweeps, and

6 both of which are scary and unsettling, and this camp
7 has offered me a chance at stability and being able to
8 make the next step. I've gotten a full-time job after
9 establishing residency in this camp.

06:5510 (Applause.)

11 >>>: Thank you.

12 I feel like this camp is offering a
13 chance for other people to do that as well, and
14 offering a sense of community to people. So people

06:5515 are less lonely and feel like they're working towards

16 a positive change in their lives.

17 (Applause.)

18 >>>: Hi. So my name is Stacey Lenny,

19 and I used to work on the mobile medical van, I used

06:5620 to work with Reach. I worked with a lot of homeless

21 people. I don't do that anymore. I actually live in

22 this neighborhood. And I'm really proud of Camp

23 Second Chance and I'm proud of being a neighbor of

24 Camp Second Chance, and I hope it stays. I think it's

06:5625 a good part of our neighborhood. I'm really concerned

9

06:56 1 about the un -- the -- the people who are outside of

2 the camp, who aren't allowed to really be there, and I

3 think that it does a lot of damage, and I think it

4 sullies the reputation of Camp Second Chance. I wish

06:56 5 we could come together as neighbors and as a -- as

6 city members, everyone, and just try to clean that up

7 a little bit.

8 (Applause.)

9 >>>: I only have two minutes but some of

06:5610 my friends here, they're a little anxious, and I want

11 to make sure that their needs get recorded somewhere.

12 They really like electricity. Okay? This is a

13 helpful thing. They really like being able to stay

14 there. Okay? So moving would be a hardship for our

06:5715 really vulnerable people who are staying there. Who

16 are just getting on their feet, and they really don't

17 need to have another -- find another place to stay,

18 maybe or maybe not be able to move in there, all new

19 people to learn. It's a lot. It's a lot of factors

06:5720 here. They like having Porta-Potties. Wouldn't we

21 all? Okay, I got 30 seconds.

22 If you haven't been there and are really

23 frustrated with the place, please just go check it

24 out. They're nice people, they're lovely. Check it

06:5725 out, see the kitchen, see what they need. I'm sure we

10

06:57 1 can all pitch in.

2 (Applause.)

3 LISA: Jack Imus. Jack Imus.

4 And then after Jack we have Diane --

06:58 5 yeah. Thank you.

6 >>>: I don't really have much to say

7 except I'm a camper at Camp Second Chance. I'm

8 struggling with credit debt, and trying to gather up
9 enough money so I could maybe own my own place.

06:5810 (Applause.)

11 >>>: I'm Diane, and I live next door.

12 I've been to many of these meetings, in support of
13 Camp Second Chance. And I'm also a neighbor of the
14 mess that's across the street. I wear two hats. I'm

06:5815 on the board of directors as the vice president of

16 South Park Senior Center, so I see it from a third
17 view. Many of the people who live at the camps and
18 across the street, we feed four times a week. Because
19 there's not enough food or anything else. I believe

06:5920 that this camp should remain. I think it's a good

21 thing. It fits our neighborhood. It's changed and
22 the evolution has been positive, and we would like to
23 keep it that way. I think renewal is important
24 because there is no housing that can take 50 or 60

06:5925 people tomorrow, when you close this camp, or if you

11

06:59 1 should close the camp, and just -- where are you going

2 to send them? That's my greatest concern. And the
3 biggest issue that we have in this city is we don't
4 have enough housing. I think we spend far too much

06:59 5 money in our budget on studies. There are successful

6 programs all over this country. We should be looking
7 at some of those programs and saying, this works here.
8 How could we adopt this here instead of spending five

9 million dollars for a new study, when we could spend
06:5910 money for housing and services. You must have both if
11 you want these people who are living and residing in
12 these camps to be able to raise themselves up high
13 enough to leave and go on to a productive part of
14 society, which is what I'm sure every single one of
07:0015 them staying in a camp wants. I can't imagine
16 anything less.

17 So we need to refocus what our priorities
18 are, support these people where they are, and get them
19 back into society where they truly want to be.

07:0020 (Applause.)

21 LISA: Brandi Jackson and then Patrick
22 Louisiana money.

23 >>>: I am also a camp per at Camp Second
24 Chance, and before I got there I was in an overnight
07:0025 shelter at the Catholic Community Services, and I did

12

07:00 1 not get the services I needed through them. I'm in
2 the process of trying to get my children back from CPA
3 foster care, and I am going to tell you right now,
4 Camp Second Chance is the safest place I've felt I've
07:01 5 been since I've been in my own situation. And I just
6 thank everybody at Camp Second Chance, everybody at
7 LIHI, and I thank Arrowhead Gardens and our whole
8 community for being there. Thank you.
9 (Applause.)

07:0110 >>>: Hello. My name is Pat LeMoine.

I live on Myers Way, and Seattle is basically

12 turned Myers Way into their human dumping ground.

13 They refuse to do the things they need to do to house

14 people. I have a pamphlet here which includes some of

07:0115 my concerns and operation fast track. We're -- I

16 showed last year that Seattle could house all of Camp

17 Second Chance in a very short period of time for

18 little more than they're spending on Camp Second

19 Chance right now.

07:0120 Basically I live in a neighborhood that

21 is in a state of terror because of all of the other

22 homeless across the street. Camp Second Chance is a

23 magnet encampment; we were gaining control of the

24 homeless problem until Camp Second Chance arrived. All

07:0225 the other campers say, "Hey, Camp Second Chance, we

13

07:02 1 can live over here too. And Seattle has

2 done nothing really to get them out of there. A

3 little bit here, a little bit there, but nothing

4 permanent. Why? Because Seattle is removing, doing

07:02 5 their sweeps, getting homeless out of the more

6 expensive areas of town and moving them into a poorer

7 area of town, thus creating economic apartheid.

8 It's -- the situation is ridiculous.

9 Like I said, I've got a pamphlet here of all the

07:0210 things that we deal with in the homeless coming into

11 our area, committing crimes, drug deals, and all of
12 the other shenanigans we have going On anyway, thank
13 you very much.

14 (Applause.)

07:0215 >>>: Carol Silver -- Carol.

16 >>>: Hi. I live with him. So basically
17 ditto to what he said. But I look at this as a -- my
18 name is Carol, anyway. I look at this as more of a
19 public health epidemic. I have met people in Camp

07:0320 Second Chance, and, you know, I don't have a problem

21 with people in Camp Second Chance. It's more of we
22 just need to ask what's good for the entire community.
23 Because, like we're truly in this together. We need
24 to know what harm are we doing to the entire community

07:0325 by letting sick desperate people go untreated and

14

07:03 1 unhoused, so either/or, for years. So Seattle has a

2 long shameful history of this, and I expect more from
3 this Seattle. The operation fast track thing, he
4 already went over that, but that's part of it. We've

07:03 5 had the answer since 2013, since the Poppe report came

6 out, and I've also compared and could be drafted some
7 of the medium and low barrier temporary outdoor
8 encampments versus the temporary indoor 24-hour --
9 24/seven shelters with built-in wraparound services.

07:0410 Tents and tiny houses keep individuals

11 out of an already tough housing market longer than

12 necessary. I want to see everybody housed. The ones
13 with roofs are finding jobs and forever housing within
14 30 days. That's just a nutshell version of my
07:0415 assessment of these comparisons.

16 The longer ones are taking 60 and 90.
17 Outdoor managed encampments cannot
18 compete with those numbers request cost more as a
19 result. I would like to encourage people to check out
07:0420 Mary's Place shelters. We are especially proud of our
21 White Center Mary's Place Shelter a few miles south of
22 us, and their general model. They have been wildly
23 successful beyond what we thought possible. Why we
24 continue to keep choosing inferior band-aid solutions
07:0525 is beyond me. My favorite quote is from a German man

15

07:05 1 who once asked -- when he was asked about the amount
2 of taxes he was paying, he said, I don't have a
3 problem with it because I don't want to be a rich man
4 living in a poor country. Especially if the taxes are
07:05 5 spent properly. Everyone has at least basic survival
6 needs met. Seattle and many cities are not spending
7 ahead of the problems but at the end of the problems,
8 which is the most expensive way to -- with the least
9 results. So an ounce of prevention. That's the
07:0510 medical model.

11 LISA: So we've got -- is that Giovanni?
12 And -- oh. And then Mary Ann and Ben.

13 >>>: Hi. I'm Giovanni. I was a camper
14 at Camp Second Chance for less than 90 days. As
07:0615 humans we chip and crack, but we should not be
16 forgotten. In Japan they have an ancient art, it's
17 centuries old but it is beautiful. They fill the
18 cracks with powdered gold. Giving it a second chance
19 at making it more valuable than it was before. That
07:0620 is exactly what Camp Second Chance does, so as you
21 leave here today, I want one final note of advice.
22 Most of our problems can be solved by one foot, the
23 foot that separates your forehead from your heart.
24 When you think about this camp think with your head
07:0625 but act with a heart. We all deserve a second chance.

16

07:06 1 (Applause.)

2 >>>: Hi. I'm Mary Ann McChord, and I'm
3 up here today primarily to ask for some answers to
4 some questions. In the newspaper they will talk about
07:06 5 going through the navigation system, going through how
6 many people are going into housing, so what I would
7 ask of the City is to provide a public numbers,
8 monthly, quarterly, I don't know how it can be done,
9 but I think it would be fair for us to understand
07:0710 where our tax dollars are going and how many people
11 are really being helped, because I truly believe that
12 I don't want to live in a society that doesn't help my
13 neighbor. I don't want my neighbor[], to tell you the

14 truth, I don't want them in a tiny little house. I
07:0715 want them to have a roof over their head, I want them
16 to have running water, I want them to have a bathroom,
17 a place to shower, and I certainly -- I have spoken
18 several times to my own council woman about this. I
19 want services. I want services for them to take them
07:0720 from whatever situation they are now into something
21 that -- thank you -- I won't talk that long. That
22 will allow them to -- I hate to use the word
23 productive, but to be in that situation that they can
24 survive, and so that is what I was hoping for, and if
07:0825 we can get that data so that we can support these

17

07:08 1 services and understand where our taxes are going and
2 who we're helping and how we're helping them, I think
3 that would be helpful. Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

07:08 5 >>>: Ben Colette.

6 >>>: Hi. My name is Ben, and I agree
7 with everybody here, that the people in Camp Second
8 Chance deserve more. They deserve more than
9 substandard housing. That's a fact. It's a fact that

07:0810 was outlined in the Barbara Poppe and associates report
11 manner three years ago. A report that the City of
12 Seattle paid good money for. And then thoroughly
13 ignored. Creation of tiny homings is a noble idea,
14 but at the end of the day you're creating whole

07:0815 neighborhoods of substandard housing. That's not
16 appropriate. That's just not the way things sure
17 done. The City of Seattle needs to get their act
18 together and deal with things correctly. We need
19 services and we need to get people into those
07:0920 services. We need shelters to take care of people who
21 are not housed. We need to deal with this situation
22 in an appropriate fashion instead of creating
23 substandard housing and continuing our long tradition
24 of encampments that have proven not to work time and
07:0925 time again. Our homeless percentages just keep going

18

07:09 1 up. What we're doing is not working. We have to have
2 new solutions. As much as I love Camp Second Chance
3 and what they do, it's not the right way to deal with
4 things. The City of Seattle needs to focus on real
07:09 5 solutions. They need to take the advice of the
6 Barbara Poppe and associates report, Focus Solutions
7 reports that they paid good money for. They need to
8 get people through those services and back into
9 housing.

07:0910 Now, as far as Camp Second Chance is
11 concerned, I do have concerns with Camp Second Chance.
12 One of my primary concerns, which I've been told
13 they're dealing with, I didn't have the chance to go
14 to the last meeting or two, is participation in the
07:1015 local neighborhood. When I've gone to the meetings,

16 the topic that comes up time and time again is why
17 will they not call the police when they see crimes in
18 the neighborhood. When they hear the gunshots across
19 the street, and we hear, well, we don't want to
07:1020 involve ourselves. Well, the neighbors don't want to
21 involve themselves, either, but we call the police
22 anyway. That's what participating in a community
23 means. So that's my piece on Camp Second Chance.
24 That would be my primary concern with Camp Second
07:1025 Chance, is they need to involve themselves a bit more

19

07:10 1 in the local community. Call the police when they see
2 crimes and when they see us out picking up trash, join
3 us. I understand that's also been happening a bit
4 lately. So thank you.

07:10 5 (Applause.)

6 >>>: Michelle Back sick.

7 Oh, Michelle. Of course.

8 >>>: Hi. I'm Michelle, and I'm also a

9 resident at Camp Second Chance. I would just like to

07:1110 say I -- when I initially became homeless and the
11 reason why I became homeless was because the place I
12 was staying at would jeopardize my sobriety. I
13 have -- I'm a recovering alcoholic and when I
14 initially became homeless I stayed in shelters, I
07:1115 stayed on I-5 and U District, and now Camp Second
16 Chance. And Camp Second Chance has -- I'm

17 extraordinarily safe there. I don't have to worry
18 about anybody coming in intoxicated. That would
19 jeopardize my sobriety, that would trigger me. It's
07:1120 afforded me the opportunity to, you know, have
comraderie, as well as a stable place to look for
22 employment, to look for a clean and sober housing,
23 et cetera. And I understand, you know, some of the
24 concern, but if our contract wasn't renewed, it would
07:1125 certainly not light a fire under the City you know

20

07:11 1 what to all of a sudden like create more housing, you
2 know. And it would just create more problems for us.
3 And, you know, we're trying to do the best we can, and
4 I think anybody who has visited the camp sees that we
07:12 5 run an excellent operation, and anybody who hasn't, I
6 offer a handout to please come and visit it. We're
7 more than happy to have visitors. Thank you.
8 (Applause.)
9 >>>: Ron Legacy. Followed by Chris

07:1210 Bautista.

11 >>>: My name is Ron Legacy. I'm a local
12 business area in the area, down on 9th. I've been
13 visiting Camp Second Chance for about a year and a
14 half now. I know what it's like to be homeless.
07:1215 Seven years ago I was homeless and lost everything,
16 and had to start over. Was able to start a business,
17 and now we're using that to get back to Camp Second

18 Chance. I have visited quite a few homeless
19 encampments around the area to try to help out. Eric
07:1320 has put together a community of people that care, that
21 love and that want to help people get their life back
22 together. Like Giovanni said, that broken pottery,
23 when you're homeless, it's almost in panic mode. How
24 do I survive? When you have people like this
07:1325 surrounding you, that's how you can get back up.

21

07:13 1 That's how you can start your business, that's how you
2 can work, that's how you can pull it all back
3 together.

4 So I say renew it.

07:13 5 (Applause.)

6 >>>: Hello. My name is Christopher
7 Bautista. I used to live right up on top of the hill,
8 in Highland Park, right next to the elementary school.
9 I've also lived in Burien, rented a four bedroom
07:1310 house, had 10 cars parked in the driveway. I was a
11 union ironworker. My whole family is ironworkers. I
12 became homeless because of an injury, and I've been
13 homeless for about four years now, due to this injury,
14 have not been able to get the proper services until I
07:1415 got to Camp Second Chance, LIHI was there, there's a
16 lot of great people helping me out. Alls I can say is
17 if you do close down Camp Second Chance, you're going
18 to have more people in the woods, you're going to push

19 more people to doing drugs, more people to drinking, a
07:1420 lot of bad things will happen if we don't have these
21 tiny houses to live in till we can get back on our
22 feet. And I didn't have anything prepared to say, but
23 I just wanted to get up and say that. Thank you very
24 much. God bless everybody in this room.

07:1425 (Applause.)

22

07:14 1 LISA: Mary Fleck. Did you want to
2 speak? Yes?

3 >>>: Hi. I'm with the Seattle Green

4 Spaces Coalition, and I want to say that Camp Second

07:15 5 Chance has been good neighbors. I have gone there a
6 few times to talk with people about the land that they
7 live in, and everybody's been very curious about
8 where -- what is the wetland? Where do we live? And
9 they want to learn about the plants and they

07:1510 participated with us this past summer with the we'd
11 inventory, walking around and learning what's there.
12 I also have seen very good attitude on keeping things
13 clean, on keeping no trash around, and really I
14 commend the people who have been such good neighbors

07:1515 at Camp Second Chance.

16 I do feel that the City has let us down,
17 and the City has let us down because while Camp Second
18 Chance might be doing its part, there's continuous
19 trash along the roadway, there is dumping of materials

07:1620 that are hazardous to people, to health lives and to
21 the watershed. And the City has also let down the
22 people at Camp Second Chance because you deserve much
23 better. And I'm sorry. And you deserve much better
24 than tiny houses that don't have heat, electricity,
07:1625 water, and I I am blower the City to do what it needs

23

07:16 1 and expedite care for you as you've been caring for
2 the neighborhood.
3 Thank you.
4 (Applause.)

07:16 5 LISA: So that was the last person that
6 signed up to speak. Is there anyone else?
7 >>>: Well, I just want to make sure I
8 can get my actual questions into the permit record
9 or --

07:1610 LISA: Do you want to e-mail Tom or --
11 >>>: I can just read them.

12 LISA: You want to get it in --

13 >>>: Yeah, I -- both.

14 LISA: If you e-mail them, we can put

07:1715 them into the record. Or if you want to read them,
16 you can read them.

17 >>>: And I'd like to say something also.

18 LISA: Sure.

19 >>>: Okay. Hi. Sorry to do this again,

07:1720 but the other one was more just from the heart

21 philosophical. These are just unanswered questions.

22 Basically -- oh, God. Sorry.

23 Neighbors have been asking -- I compiled

24 these from my neighbors. They've been asking about

07:1725 the financial structures of Camp Second Chance

24

07:17 1 advisory committee, Camp Second Chance themselves,

2 LIHI, related parties, how many volunteers, paid

3 employees -- I'll e-mail this and make sure they get

4 it, but pretty hard questions that we've been asking

07:17 5 for quite some time. The City has -- has the city

6 ever ordered a financial outcome-based comparison of

7 the outdoor sanctioned encampment models versus the

8 low barrier. I'm not going to go through the whole

9 thing, but essentially we're missing the minutes from

07:1810 the last four Camp Second Chance meetings so we don't

11 feel like we really have enough information to vote by

12 April 5th, so that's part of the issue.

13 Anyway, they've just been wanting the

14 statistics on things. I'm just trying to nutshell

07:1815 this.

16 And why the -- the former mayor, Ed

17 Murray, thought this was a good idea to put vulnerable

18 sober people across the street from some of the most

19 well known out-of-control encampments in the woods is

07:1820 just beyond me.

21 Anyway, or maybe it was someone else's

22 idea -- I don't know. And why didn't the city embrace
23 the advice given in the PERC report, and one of the
24 official plans for the parcels, because I know we were
07:1825 working on that with green spaces before. And what

25

07:18 1 about the official report on the toxins being dumped
2 into the -- was it into the JTF, into the potable
3 drinking water, or the surrounding wetlands on the
4 west side of Myers Way in the fall of 2017, and did
07:19 5 the EPA get involved and was there a fine incurred,
6 and if so, what was the amount, and is that why the
7 fencing went up and the RVs were finally removed in
8 the fall. Last one is is anyone following up on the
9 misappropriations of the donated if understand to Patacara
and what was the amount, who is overseeing
11 the nonprofits who do business with all sanctioned
12 encampments, and if we don't have any real oversight
13 besides our attorney d our state attorney, what is
14 stopping any of the non -- any nonprofit from

07:1915 misappropriating funds from vulnerable homeless
16 groups, and if we don't have answers to these
17 questions, then we continue to cobble together
18 unproven systems with no oversight, it starts to look
19 like all agencies are involved in homelessness

07:1920 industrial complex, and that's what my neighbors are
21 saying. So if we can't continue --

22 LISA: Okay, we're going to wrap it up.

23 I want to give other people a chance. Thank you. And
24 just e-mail them to us.

07:2025 >>>: That's pretty much it.

26

07:20 1 LISA: Did you want to speak also?

2 >>>: Yeah. Hi. My name is Kim Powers.

3 I'm a REACH case manager, and I am working in Camp

4 Second Chance. I'm a health therapist, I'm a chemical

07:20 5 dependency counselor. I get people hooked up with

6 medical, mental treatment. I also go across the the

7 street and try to help those folks also, so it's not

8 that people aren't in there trying to really change

9 things. It's just that it's very difficult. You said

07:2010 Mary's place. They only take women and children. The

11 majority of the folks that we're seeing are single

12 adults, very, very, very difficult to find any housing

13 for.

14 Camp 2nd Chance is a community, they all

07:2015 support and help each other. When people are in the

16 woods as they are across the street, it's very

17 difficult to go from there directly into some housing.

18 But to be able to step up into 2nd chance, get

19 yourself situated, kind of take a deep breath, decide

07:2120 what you want to do, be able to go work again, you

21 know, stay clean, you know, it's a way to get really

22 stable, and then you can move people from there into

23 permanent housing. But anybody that's just out there,

24 you know, how do you go find a job when you're dirty?

07:2125 You can't, you know. And so I can't tell you how

27

07:21 1 wonderful experience it's been for me to work with

2 people at Camp Second Chance, because they really are

3 trying to go, and I would do whatever I could do help

4 any of those guys move on to other housing if it was

07:21 5 available, but there isn't any. But also know that

6 I'm across the street doing the best I can also.

7 >>>: Would you tell us how often you

8 visit and what's a typical kind of a case? I mean,

9 how do you get somebody who is just coming in and then

07:2110 get them into housing? How does that kind of look?

11 >>>: Well, the way that -- with Camp

12 Second Chance itself, I go over there at least two or

13 three times a week. If I'm driving by or I'm across

14 the street, I stop in. Many of them are now going to

07:2215 the public health clinic where I was situated or

16 they're going to -- so I'll see them there. I see

17 them, you know, at the food banks. I see them

18 everywhere. I'm part of the community also. So it

19 might be that, for instance, somebody has untreated

07:2220 mental health issues, they're having trouble getting

21 someplace, I'll be able to get them there, get them

22 there, support them, get them into the clinic.

23 Across the street, because I don't go in

24 by myself but I go in with some of the -- I've got

07:2225 the Navigation Team here. I go in, and I introduce

28

07:22 1 myself. I know lots of them already because I've been

2 in the field long enough that I know them, they know

3 me, and then I start working with them. Come up,

4 let's try to get you some health provider. Let's see

07:22 5 what we can do on housing. A lot of them, if they could

6 get clean and sober, getting people into treatment is

7 very difficult. They have to go through all of these

8 different steps. So probably across the street what I

9 basically do is try to get a relationship going so

07:2310 that I can help them get out so they can get clean and

11 sober and then they can go into Camp Second Chance and

12 be part that of community. But getting clean as very

13 difficult thing, and people getting moved around makes

14 it even more unstable, more stress, they become -- you

07:2315 know, they lose more. So anyway, there's -- I'm out

16 there, so if . . .

17 (Applause.)

18 >>>>: Anyone that hasn't had a chance to

19 speak.

07:2320 >>>>: I just wanted to -- I'm Lisa Herbold.

I'm the council member that represents this

22 district. I'm your neighbor, I live in Highland Park

23 over on 9th. I want to respect that the fact that we

24 aren't answering questions here, we're taking

07:2325 questions and providing answers at a soon later date

07:23 1 in writing. But -- and I'll leave it to the executive
2 to get into the nitty-gritty, but it's not correct
3 that we're not implementing the recommendations of the
4 Poppe report, and I trust HSD and the executive will

07:24 5 explain further how we are implementing those
6 recommendations.

7 I also want to speak to the
8 recommendations coming from the Highland Park
9 Action Committee. I think -- these are

07:2410 recommendations that they made last year, and I do
11 believe that they are due a response to their three
12 requests. Both for the establishment of neighborhood
13 protocols, for the -- the operations of encampments,
14 just, you know, sort of a template document that could

07:2415 be really useful for the other sanctioned encampments
16 throughout the city for our housed neighbors to know
17 how best to troubleshoot along with our unsheltered
18 neighbors in partnership as issues come up. I
19 secondly support their request to get a commitment

07:2520 from the City for a long-term plan for Myers Way, and
21 thirdly, something that I think would address the
22 concerns of a lot of our housed neighbors as it
23 relates to the activity across the street is I really
24 think it's time that we have some established written

07:2525 formal official, all adjectives I can use, protocols

07:25 1 with the I think county sheriff on how we deal with
2 the jurisdictional issues, so, yes, State Patrol, the
3 City, and the King County sheriff, and I really hope
4 that we can figure out a way to do that, because

07:25 5 that's really I think the crux of a lot of the
6 problems, as well as a lot of issues around ongoing
7 cleanup across the street, and I'm constantly working
8 with Seattle Public Utilities on trying to step up
9 their attention to that area. They have -- they have

07:2610 a pilot bag program that they use. They deliver
11 purple bags to the unsanctioned encampments and have
12 agreements to pick them up on a regular basis. I've
13 asked them to consider that location as a location as
14 well. So thank you, and I'm truly humbled by the fact

07:2615 that the residents of Camp Second Chance have come and
16 shared their experiences with us. Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 LISA: Folks that haven't had a chance to
19 talk, do you guys want to speak?

07:2620 If you want to -- there's folks that
21 haven't had a chance, since we have time. Come on up.

22 >>>: So I wasn't planning on speaking.

23 My name is Asia Garden higher. I'm a resident at Camp
24 Second Chance. I'm from Brooklyn, New York. Let me

07:2625 tell you, you will not see anything like Camp Second

07:26 1 Chance in Brooklyn, New York. You see people on the

2 train. You see them -- you talk about, you know, your
3 neighborhood. You don't want to look across the
4 street and see people, you know, the garbage and
07:27 5 people, you know, sleep on the street. Well, imagine
6 coming out your apartment and you're walking down, you
7 see a case, and you see somebody with a needle in
8 their arm. You know what I'm saying? We don't have
9 resources back home like this camp is offering us.

07:2710 This is the first time I've said it. I'm a recovering
11 heroin addict. A year ago I lost my mind. That's
12 really just what happened. Lost my mind. I was in
13 Portland doing some stuff, me and my girlfriend -- my
14 girlfriend and I, we actually came up here sleeping in
07:2715 our car, tried Mary's Place. Not a safe place at all.

16 I just want to say that. Thank you.

17 Not a safe place at all.

18 And my girlfriend actually found Camp

19 Second Chance online, and I want to say, the day

07:2820 that -- I didn't even want to go into the camp. I was

21 like, what is this? I'm not living in a tent, I'm not

22 living in a tiny house, nothing. But the structure,

23 the -- God, the -- I don't know, man. It's an amazing

24 place. Like I say, I wasn't planning on speaking, but

07:2825 just having the people around you, you know, and

32

07:28 1 having people sit there and motivate you every day.

2 They know what you're going through. I have a

3 full-time job right now, you know, making probably --

4 (Applause.)

07:28 5 >>>: John, I just want to say thank you

6 to Eric, Chris, everybody, and -- time.

7 LISA: Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 >>>: Hi. I'm not here to make -- I just

07:2910 want to answer some of the questions that was asked

11 earlier about the trash. I've got -- I can tell you

12 right now, that old man back there, Jim, he goes up

13 and down that highway every day, every morning like

14 loyalty, picking up trash. Me myself, the only reason

07:2915 I ended up homeless because my car broke down. I'm a

16 driver. I do Uber, and I do Amazon Prime now.

17 Without my car I was screwed. Erik and them took me

18 back in. My emotional part -- I'm getting emotional.

19 It irritates me to hear. You're right, they're not

07:2920 doing what they can do. Seattle is not doing what

21 they can do. I was never homeless till I came to

22 Seattle. The expense up here is ridiculous. But

23 we're getting more involved with the community, we're

24 trying to get the police called when we hear shots,

07:2925 like the other day there was a fire down here. First

33

07:29 1 thing --

2 >>>: Two.

3 >>>: First thing we did was call. They

4 asked what to do, and that's what we told 'em to do.

07:29 5 We're trying to get more involved with everybody, but

6 the thing is, though, they got to give people a second

7 chance, you know. Tent cities -- the other tent

8 cities, they catch you doing something wrong, you're

9 going back on the street. They send 'em here, they

07:3010 say, go to rehab, go to doctor, get yourself checked

11 out, and we'll give you a second chance. That's the

12 way it should be. And that's why they call it Camp

13 Second Chance. You know what I mean? Just, for

14 instance, something happened, both of you all end up

07:3015 homeless, I'd rather go to this camp than one of the

16 other camps. There's too much alcohol and drugs.

17 (Applause.)

18 LISA: Okay. David? Come on up.

19 >>>: Thank you.

07:3020 I wasn't going to speak, either, but

21 there is one particular thing that I think needs to be

22 said.

23 >>>: Who are you?

24 >>>: My name is David Baum. I -- thank

07:3025 you. I'm a volunteer -- I volunteer extensively at

34

07:31 1 Camp Second Chance. I've been in the office and

2 helping make the transition to Lehigh.

3 What I want to say is that you've heard

4 the good results, you've heard people talk about what

07:31 5 a safe and stable place the camp is. And how it helps
6 people focus on their own problems to get their lives
7 back on track. There are lots of people who
8 contribute to that, but there's one person in
9 particular who is an extraordinary talent, and an

07:3110 extraordinary man, and that needs to be acknowledged,
11 and that's Eric Davis.

12 (Applause.)

13 >>>: I know there's been controversy
14 around Eric. Is he an angel? No. Am I an angel?

07:3215 Hell, no.

16 But he is skilled. Not only does he have
17 12 years of professional experience as a sobriety
18 counselor, but he is a wise and powerful man, and his
19 influence and his righteousness and his wisdom and his

07:3220 patience that keep that place together and make it
21 something out of the ordinary, a special place that
22 does special good in the world. So let's make sure we
23 understand that. And thank you to Eric.

24 (Applause.)

07:3225 LISA: So is there anyone else that would

35

07:32 1 like to give testimony?

2 >>>: Yeah, I have one more thing I'd
3 like to say.

4 LISA: Did you --

07:33 5 >>>: Pat LeMoine again. Another

6 thing that's been mentioned here is there's no other
7 place for Camp Second Chance to go to. And I just
8 got done working on the Big Bertha tunnel, and I
9 walked by a perfect spot for you guys right next to

07:3310 Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. There is a vacant

11 lot that is nice and flat, it's fenced in, it would be
12 perfect for you guys, it would be close to a lot of
13 work opportunity because you're right next to Seattle
14 Center, and the whole Lake Union area, and if there's

07:3315 a spot for you guys to go to, I think that would be

16 perfect for you. Thank you.

17 LISA: So --

18 >>>: The city of Seattle examined I was

19 told upwards of 80 locations prior to selecting that

07:3320 one, so there should be plenty of areas.

21 LISA: Go ahead.

22 >>>: My name is Crystal Peterson, and

23 I'm a camper here at Camp Second Chance. I used to

24 live under the South Spokane Bridge in Sodo, and I

07:3425 have to say, it sucked. I wasn't doing very good in

36

07:34 1 my court on the things I needed to do, like going to

2 mental health and all of that, and since being at the

3 camp I've actually had structure to do that. I've

4 been doing a lot better in my services and I'm

07:34 5 actually on my way to being able to get a house, and I

6 am currently looking for a job. I have many

7 interviews set up, just none of them have stuck. I
8 wasn't able to really do that underneath the bridge
9 because not being able to keep any clothes clean or I
07:3410 didn't even have a place to charge my phone so that I
11 could hear my alarm to get up for interviews and all
12 that.

13 But this camp, since we've gotten a lot
14 of services and it has progressed a lot since I've
07:3515 been there. And I'm really happy that I chose to be
16 there.

17 (Applause.)

18 LISA: You're going to speak again?

19 >>>: I have one last thing to say.

07:3520 LISA: Okay, one more thing and then
21 we're going to --

22 >>>: You know, if we're moved, it's
23 going to cost a lot of money to move those little
24 houses. The electricity that's been put in, all these

07:3525 other things that are helping us get to the next level

37

07:35 1 will have to be put in place over there. It's going
2 to take a lot longer to get that stuff taken care of.

3 >>>: Rules are rules, my friends.

4 >>>: I'm in construction.

07:35 5 >>>: I hope that everything can work
6 out. Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 LISA: So I wanted to thank you all. Did

9 you have --

07:3610 >>>: Just one -- it's short, 30 seconds.

11 LISA: Okay, we have somebody who hasn't

12 had a chance to speak yet. And we do have a half an

13 hour left, somebody just pointed out, so thank you.

14 >>>: I'm resident and bookkeeper at Camp

07:3615 Second Chance, and I just wanted to say that there are

16 folks talking about moving this camp. You might want

17 to consider the amount of money it would cost to move

18 the camp. You're talking about hiring big forklift to

19 move every house, the only thing that would be left at

07:3620 the camp moved is the honey buckets. So you might

21 want to reconsider moving us. I say renew the permit.

22 (Applause.)

23 LISA: Go ahead, and then Willow, do you

24 want to speak?

07:3625 >>>: Thank you. I just wanted to

38

07:36 1 mention one thing. Your case manager for Camp Second

2 Chance in this whole area isn't really just like a

3 case manager. I mean, she's got -- she's a mental

4 health professional, she's a substance abuse counselor

07:37 5 in the State of Washington. She has a lot of years

6 doing this work. And she works her butted off. It's

7 really hard work. And she's out there by herself.

8 Okay? Full-time. And I just wanted to mention, this

9 is not a job for somebody just getting started in this
07:3710 business, but she gets that wage. But I just wanted
11 to let you know a lot has gone into the people who
12 provide services for the campers, and the campers are
13 amazing.

14 (Applause.)

07:3715 LISA: Willow?

16 >>>: Hi, everyone. My name is Willow
17 Fulton, and I'm a very close nearby neighbor to Camp
18 Second Chance. I'm also the chair of the community
19 advisory committee. And I was just going to listen
07:3820 tonight as well, but I feel kind of compelled to say
21 at least a couple things.

22 So first of all, I support the renewal of
23 the permit for Camp Second Chance. That camp -- so
24 many things that I wanted to say have already been
07:3825 mentioned by my friends and neighbors that support,

39

07:38 1 particularly Aaron Garcia did an amazing job
2 summarizing my thoughts right off the bat, which is
3 great.

4 But this camp creates a situation where
07:38 5 people can, as somebody else said, step out of a very,
6 very, very difficult situation to where stepping
7 directly to a job, to a house, to what people expect
8 them to have, is an impossible step. I agree with a
9 lot of concerns my other neighbors that we need more,

07:3810 we need better, people need full-time housing, we need

11 cross -- we need cross department attention to these

12 things. Those things don't exist yet, though. At

13 least not at the level that we need them. In the

14 meantime, we need to meet the basic human needs of our

07:3915 friends and neighbors. These folks are on my

16 doorstep. I agree that other neighborhoods should

17 kind of share that load, but I am not willing to kick

18 somebody off of my doorstep so that somebody who I

19 think deserves to pay for it has them on their

07:3920 doorstep. They are here, I want to help them here. I

21 think we can do that well. I also think the community

22 that happens within the camp and with the neighbors

23 and supporters that have come and met the campers is

24 one of the most amazing things that I've seen, and I

07:3925 really appreciate that. And I think that we can

40

07:39 1 continue that and continue to support these folks and

2 meet their basic needs in this place. It's also --

3 would be, as a few people said, a huge cost and a

4 waste of money to move the camp at this time. Thanks.

07:40 5 (Applause.)

6 >>>: All right. I wanted to talk again

7 because I heard some of the things -- like contrary

8 things. I hear camp going around, and I don't know

9 who came up with camps in the first place, but they're

07:4010 good. But what Camp Second Chance is doing is it's

11 involving. It's not a camp anymore. They've got tiny

12 homes. Those are --

13 >>>: Substandard housing.

14 >>>: In YouTube standards, they're the

07:4015 next step, from what I see.

16 And Camp Second Chance can grow, it can

17 improve the neighborhood. Imagine more Camp Second

18 Chances, instead of homeless people.

19 >>>: It's a nightmare.

07:4120 >>>: Instead of homeless people, imagine

21 people actually in tiny homes, that aren't doing

22 drugs.

23 >>>: It's in Brazil, man.

24 >>>: Nobody interrupted you.

07:4125 >>>: All right.

41

07:41 1 Yeah, I'm good.

2 (Applause.)

3 LISA: So -- did you want to speak? You

4 haven't had a chance to speak yet.

07:41 5 >>>: Just very quick.

6 How about if we move, you can stay at

7 Stacey creek, nine days, move every 90 days. And do

8 you feel for 90 days.

9 >>>: No.

07:4110 >>>: No, thanks.

11 >>>: Nobody should move every 90 days.

12 LISA: Sir, did you want to speak?

13 >>>: Yes.

14 LISA: Come on up.

07:4215 >>>: My name is Steve Buckminister, and

16 I'm a member of the construction community, and if

17 you're familiar with us, we've constructed

18 everything -- all homes, all bridges, all roads.

19 Construction people have done it. No apologies since

07:4220 I've done it. Only construction people. Right?

21 In fact, if you had to rely on

22 politicians, we'd all be living in caves.

23 (Applause.)

24 >>>: I really want to -- I'm nervous.

07:4225 I really want to tell you about a new

42

07:42 1 21st century way of doing things. Okay?

2 It's by this charity that the

3 construction community has formed, called the able to

4 campus. And its sole goal is to train and teach

07:43 5 individuals who are homeless and disadvantaged so that

6 they can step into productive and practical and

7 financially rewarding jobs and lives. Okay?

8 And it was just founded, again, by the

9 construction community. And we would like to -- oops.

07:4310 Sorry. 30 seconds.

11 We would like to be involved with the 2nd

12 chance, we would like to use that as a prototype

13 camp -- campus, not a camp, but a campus, and we would
14 like to put a facility there, a library, a teaching
07:4415 facility, and if anybody would like to talk to me
16 about it, my name is Steven Buck minister. My
17 telephone number is (425) 919-8690.

18 Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

07:4420 LISA: Okay. Well, anyone else?

21 I want to make sure I give everybody a
22 chance.

23 So did you have a chance to speak yet?

24 >>>: I have not.

07:4425 LISA: U. not. So yes, please.

43

07:44 1 >>>: So I sense that there's kind of --

2 we've been looking at this as two options, either
3 renew the permit for a year or don't, and I -- my name
4 is Miriam. I'm a neighbor. Hi, everyone.

07:44 5 And also from Brooklyn. Hello. Yeah.

6 And I wonder if those aren't the only
7 options. What if some middle -- true compromise, a
8 middle ground, is a six-month renewal with some
9 conditions applied. Improved security, improved --

07:4510 more regular trash pickups, increase in the number of

11 social -- I know you've worked so hard. You should
12 not be out there alone. There should be more people
13 helping.

14 (Applause.)

07:4515 >>>: Is there something we can do
16 besides just approve or not approve for renewal,
17 because I feel like that's -- that's the spirit of
18 community and compromise, where we can talk about real
19 solutions that will make everyone mostly happy. Happy

07:4520 not a hundred percent happy, but getting closer. I'd
21 like to encourage everyone to think a little more
22 broadly than just yes/no. Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 LISA: So I -- did you want to speak
07:4525 again? I want to make sure I'm fair here.

44

07:45 1 >>>: I'll defer. That's good.

2 LISA: Okay.

3 So I wanted to say thank you to all of
4 you for coming out. I especially want to give a shout

07:46 5 out to our City staff that are here. If you have a
6 chance, you can swing by and say hello.

7 (Applause.)

8 LISA: We've got folks from SPD, we've
9 got folks from public utilities, we've got folks from

07:4610 the parks, we've got folks from human services, and
11 then in the way back corner we have our folks from the
12 Low-Income Housing Institute as well as Camp Second
13 Chance. Josh [Castle] waving there is the person that you want
14 to speak to if you want to volunteer, get involved.

07:4615 But really thank you. This is really
16 important that we hear from everyone. All opinions
17 and all voices. If you didn't get a chance to speak
18 and you want to give us some feedback, send us an
19 e-mail. Or grab one of the cards and jog a little
07:4620 note, but go ahead and do that, and thank you very
21 much for coming out.
22 >>>>: Maybe get an extension if the eight
23 questions I asked do not get back to the community in
24 time. I mean, that's just something I feel like if I
07:4725 didn't know them and I live on Myers Way, call 9-1-1

45

07:47 1 all the time, and so all of my neighbors are wondering
2 about that. So I don't feel like two more weeks -- if
3 you can get back to us in a timely fashion, everyone
4 gets the word and then they can put -- but I feel like
07:47 5 that's really --

6 LISA: So some of the questions that you
7 asked, I know we've provided answers to, so we'll get
8 back with you on those.

9 >>>>: Right. We need to get them to
07:4710 everyone so they can vote.

11 LISA: Sounds fair enough. Well, thank
12 you all for coming. Have a great night.

13 (Applause.)

14
15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25