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
it. The second thing, there are comment cards here.

Did I say it? I said --

You can take a comment card, you can
write down your comments, and either drop it in the

very fancy box we have back there or hand it to one of
us. You can also tell us -- you can -- there's a
phone number on your agenda that you can call and
leave a message. Or you can grab one of us right now
and tell us what you're thinking and we'll write down
the notes. So we really wanted this to be an
inclusive process because it's important that we're
connecting with the community when we're talking about
the future of the Myers Way encampment. So on the
back of your agenda you can see we have some of the
frequently asked questions, and so one of the
questions is how are your comments going to be used.
And we're going to listen, carefully, to what you have
to say.

It's really important, again, that we
take all the comments so we've got folks that are also
sending us comments electronically. We'll summarize
those. And then we will use all of those in the
decision-making process.

Once we make our decision, that will be
posted on the Seattle -- the homelessness@seattle.gov
website on the blog. Is everyone aware that we have

that blog?

>>>: No.

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

we send an e-mail out to everybody who signed in to

let you know when that is posted.

Some of the things that we considered

when we're deciding about repermitting the encampment,

we look closely at the outcomes of the camp. Are

folks who are living in the camp getting the services

that they need? Are they getting into Haug? Is it

truly a pathway into housing? That's really important

to us. And we look at that through our data

collection, and so we keep track of how many people

are coming in and if they're going into housing, and

that's one of the important things that we work

closely with LIHI, the Low-Income Housing Institute,

on tracking that information.

We also look at the physical property.

Is there anything happening to the property, because

the property isn't always owned by the City or whoever

the owner is, so if it's City Light -- who owns this

property? FAS, I believe. Is there anything -- is

there deterioration to the property that would make it

unsuitable for the future?

And then also are there any unforeseen
impacts directly attributed to the camp? And then we make that decision and then go forward.

So I want to jump right into hearing from you, so I'm going to start calling names, and then we can just -- George {Scarola}, our excellent assistant here, will be taking -- giving you the microphone, and we're going to do two minutes each. So we really want to make sure we have a chance to hear from everybody, and

Tom [Van Bronkhorst] from the Department of neighborhoods here is going to be giving you a little sign you can when you're getting close on your time. Okay?

So the first person that I have here is Aaron Garcia, and then I have Charlie right behind him.

All right. Good evening, everyone.

My name is Aaron Garcia. I'm a resident of White Center. I Work for the White Center development association. I've been on the community advisory council for the last year. I wanted to come here tonight to, I guess, give my support for renewing the lease for one year. I've seen the ups and downs for Camp Second Chance over the course of the last year, and they're hitting their stride, and I really want to make sure that we support them. But a couple of things that I want to emphasize about this is I really feel strongly that the residents of Camp Second Chance
should be partners -- should have co-signing abilities in the contract negotiation and they should be looped in and it shouldn't just be LIHI alone. It's very important for I think them to have that kind of ownership and representation.

I also want to recognizes that I think a lot of folks a lot of frustration around the unsanctioned part of the other side of the freeway, and I get that, and I think we -- we should direct the resources that we need to solve that.

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

But we should be making sure that we're giving them -- we're giving all the residents who are experiencing homelessness the support that they need so that we can get housing. And I know in the housing crunch that we're in, that's very hard to do because the solution that we hear over and over and over again is there needs to be more affordable housing and there isn't. There isn't those units in Seattle. So until we can solve that end factor, I'm not sure how we're going to reach part of the solution. So thank you for my two minutes. That's all I have.

(Applause.)
LISA: Charlie?

>>>: Hello, everyone. My name is Charlie Omana, and I am the chair of the Highland Park Action Committee, and I'm here to kind of represent Highland Park's views on this issue. We sent a letter to the director of the Human Services Department, Catherine Lester, requesting that Camp Second Chance -- a renewal be reconsidered. Basically in the past 10 years this is the third encampment that has taken up space within Highland Park's boundaries, and we feel that our community, which is historically kind of a working class community, has been asked to take most of the burden on this issue, whereas other neighborhoods in West Seattle have not. While I personally am ambivalent about the camp's continued presence here, I know that a lot of my community members are, you know, against a renewal. One concern that I have is that the camp establish itself in July of 2016, so as of now it is about a year and eight months at the site. And four months it will be two years. So allowing it to stay another year would, in fact, have allowed this camp to be in this place for two years and eight months. I'm not sure if the City will take that into consideration when attempting to renew Camp Second Chance's contract or the contract with LIHI, but I hope it will,
because I think that that's more than enough time to kind of find other localities for this camp to kind of move around the city so that other neighborhoods can also feel the impact of this crisis that the City is facing.

Another thing that I want to mention is that there is a lack of affordable housing in Seattle, and that is due to just the economic factors at play. Unfortunately, we can't make the land values decrease barring some act of nature. So I'm not sure that it's necessarily incumbent upon Seattle to take on the burden of creating affordable housing here. I think a regional approach would be much more sound. So thank you.

LISA: Thank you.

(Applause.)

So Rebecca Massey is next.

Rebecca? And then after Rebecca is Stacey Lenny.

Hi. My name is Rebecca Massey, and I'm a camper at Camp Second Chance, and I would just like to tell you that I think this is a viable solution for the first step of solving homelessness.

I mean, it has provided a safe alternative to living alone and homeless. I can personally tell you that when I first came to Seattle I was living under the Seattle bridge, and I was involved in two sweeps, and
both of which are scary and unsettling, and this camp
has offered me a chance at stability and being able to
make the next step. I've gotten a full-time job after
establishing residency in this camp.

(Applause.)

I feel like this camp is offering a
chance for other people to do that as well, and
offering a sense of community to people. So people
are less lonely and feel like they're working towards
a positive change in their lives.

(Applause.)

Hi. So my name is Stacey Lenny,
and I used to work on the mobile medical van, I used
to work with Reach. I worked with a lot of homeless
people. I don't do that anymore. I actually live in
this neighborhood. And I'm really proud of Camp
Second Chance and I'm proud of being a neighbor of
Camp Second Chance, and I hope it stays. I think it's
a good part of our neighborhood. I'm really concerned
about the un -- the -- the people who are outside of
the camp, who aren't allowed to really be there, and I
think that it does a lot of damage, and I think it
sullies the reputation of Camp Second Chance. I wish
we could come together as neighbors and as a -- as
city members, everyone, and just try to clean that up
a little bit.

(Applause.)

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

my friends here, they're a little anxious, and I want
to make sure that their needs get recorded somewhere.

They really like electricity. Okay? This is a
helpful thing. They really like being able to stay
there. Okay? So moving would be a hardship for our
really vulnerable people who are staying there. Who
are just getting on their feet, and they really don't
need to have another -- find another place to stay,
maybe or maybe not be able to move in there, all new
people to learn. It's a lot. It's a lot of factors
here. They like having Porta-Potties. Wouldn't we
all? Okay, I got 30 seconds.

If you haven't been there and are really
frustrated with the place, please just go check it
out. They're nice people, they're lovely. Check it
out, see the kitchen, see what they need. I'm sure we
can all pitch in.

(Applause.)


And then after Jack we have Diane --

yeah. Thank you.

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

except I'm a camper at Camp Second Chance. I'm
struggling with credit debt, and trying to gather up

enough money so I could maybe own my own place.

(Applause.)

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

I've been to many of these meetings, in support of

Camp Second Chance. And I'm also a neighbor of the

mess that's across the street. I wear two hats. I'm

on the board of directors as the vice president of

South Park Senior Center, so I see it from a third

view. Many of the people who live at the camps and

across the street, we feed four times a week. Because

there's not enough food or anything else. I believe

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

thing. It fits our neighborhood. It's changed and

the evolution has been positive, and we would like to

keep it that way. I think renewal is important

because there is no housing that can take 50 or 60

people tomorrow, when you close this camp, or if you

should close the camp, and just -- where are you going

to send them? That's my greatest concern. And the

biggest issue that we have in this city is we don't

have enough housing. I think we spend far too much

money in our budget on studies. There are successful

programs all over this country. We should be looking

at some of those programs and saying, this works here.

How could we adopt this here instead of spending five
million dollars for a new study, when we could spend money for housing and services. You must have both if you want these people who are living and residing in these camps to be able to raise themselves up high enough to leave and go on to a productive part of society, which is what I'm sure every single one of them staying in a camp wants. I can't imagine anything less.

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

(Laughter.)

LISA: Brandi Jackson and then Patrick Louisiana money.

>>>: I am also a camp per at Camp Second Chance, and before I got there I was in an overnight shelter at the Catholic Community Services, and I did not get the services I needed through them. I'm in the process of trying to get my children back from CPA foster care, and I am going to tell you right now, Camp Second Chance is the safest place I've felt I've been since I've been in my own situation. And I just thank everybody at Camp Second Chance, everybody at LIHI, and I thank Arrowhead Gardens and our whole community for being there. Thank you.

(Applause.)
Hello. My name is Pat LeMoine.

I live on Myers Way, and Seattle is basically turned Myers Way into their human dumping ground.

They refuse to do the things they need to do to house people. I have a pamphlet here which includes some of my concerns and operation fast track. We're -- I showed last year that Seattle could house all of Camp Second Chance in a very short period of time for little more than they're spending on Camp Second Chance right now.

Basically I live in a neighborhood that is in a state of terror because of all of the other homeless across the street. Camp Second Chance is a magnet encampment; we were gaining control of the homeless problem until Camp Second Chance arrived. All the other campers say, "Hey, Camp Second Chance, we can live over here too. And Seattle has done nothing really to get them out of there. A little bit here, a little bit there, but nothing permanent. Why? Because Seattle is removing, doing their sweeps, getting homeless out of the more expensive areas of town and moving them into a poorer area of town, thus creating economic apartheid.

It's -- the situation is ridiculous.

Like I said, I've got a pamphlet here of all the things that we deal with in the homeless coming into
our area, committing crimes, drug deals, and all of
the other shenanigans we have going on anyway, thank
you very much.

(Applause.)

>>>: Carol Silver -- Carol.

Hi. I live with him. So basically
ditto to what he said. But I look at this as a -- my
name is Carol, anyway. I look at this as more of a
public health epidemic. I have met people in Camp
Second Chance, and, you know, I don't have a problem
with people in Camp Second Chance. It's more of we
just need to ask what's good for the entire community.
Because, like we're truly in this together. We need
to know what harm are we doing to the entire community
by letting sick desperate people go untreated and
unhoused, so either/or, for years. So Seattle has a
long shameful history of this, and I expect more from
this Seattle. The operation fast track thing, he
already went over that, but that's part of it. We've
had the answer since 2013, since the Poppe report came
out, and I've also compared and could be drafted some
of the medium and low barrier temporary outdoor
encampments versus the temporary indoor 24-hour --
24/seven shelters with built-in wraparound services.
Tents and tiny houses keep individuals
out of an already tough housing market longer than
necessary. I want to see everybody housed. The ones
with roofs are finding jobs and forever housing within
30 days. That's just a nutshell version of my
assessment of these comparisons.

The longer ones are taking 60 and 90.
Outdoor managed encampments cannot
compete with those numbers request cost more as a
result. I would like to encourage people to check out
Mary's Place shelters. We are especially proud of our
White Center Mary's Place Shelter a few miles south of
us, and their general model. They have been wildly
successful beyond what we thought possible. Why we
continue to keep choosing inferior band-aid solutions
is beyond me. My favorite quote is from a German man
who once asked -- when he was asked about the amount
of taxes he was paying, he said, I don't have a
problem with it because I don't want to be a rich man
living in a poor country. Especially if the taxes are
spent properly. Everyone has at least basic survival
needs met. Seattle and many cities are not spending
ahead of the problems but at the end of the problems,
which is the most expensive way to -- with the least
results. So an ounce of prevention. That's the
medical model.

LISA: So we've got -- is that Giovanni?
And -- oh. And then Mary Ann and Ben.
Hi. I'm Giovanni. I was a camper at Camp Second Chance for less than 90 days. As humans we chip and crack, but we should not be forgotten. In Japan they have an ancient art, it's centuries old but it is beautiful. They fill the cracks with powdered gold. Giving it a second chance at making it more valuable than it was before. That is exactly what Camp Second Chance does, so as you leave here today, I want one final note of advice. Most of our problems can be solved by one foot, the foot that separates your forehead from your heart. When you think about this camp think with your head but act with a heart. We all deserve a second chance.

(Applause.)

Hi. I'm Mary Ann McChord, and I'm up here today primarily to ask for some answers to some questions. In the newspaper they will talk about going through the navigation system, going through how many people are going into housing, so what I would ask of the City is to provide a public numbers, monthly, quarterly, I don't know how it can be done, but I think it would be fair for us to understand where our tax dollars are going and how many people are really being helped, because I truly believe that I don't want to live in a society that doesn't help my neighbor. I don't want my neighbor[ ] to tell you the
truth, I don't want them in a tiny little house. I want them to have a roof over their head, I want them to have running water, I want them to have a bathroom, a place to shower, and I certainly -- I have spoken several times to my own council woman about this. I want services. I want services for them to take them from whatever situation they are now into something that -- thank you -- I won't talk that long. That will allow them to -- I hate to use the word productive, but to be in that situation that they can survive, and so that is what I was hoping for, and if we can get that data so that we can support these services and understand where our taxes are going and who we're helping and how we're helping them, I think that would be helpful. Thank you.

(Applause.)

>>>: Ben Colette.

Hi. My name is Ben, and I agree with everybody here, that the people in Camp Second Chance deserve more. They deserve more than substandard housing. That's a fact. It's a fact that was outlined in the Barbara Poppe and associates report manner three years ago. A report that the City of Seattle paid good money for. And then thoroughly ignored. Creation of tiny homings is a noble idea, but at the end of the day you're creating whole
neighborhoods of substandard housing. That's not appropriate. That's just not the way things sure done. The City of Seattle needs to get their act together and deal with things correctly. We need services and we need to get people into those services. We need shelters to take care of people who are not housed. We need to deal with this situation in an appropriate fashion instead of creating substandard housing and continuing our long tradition of encampments that have proven not to work time and time again. Our homeless percentages just keep going up. What we're doing is not working. We have to have new solutions. As much as I love Camp Second Chance and what they do, it's not the right way to deal with things. The City of Seattle needs to focus on real solutions. They need to take the advice of the Barbara Poppe and associates report, Focus Solutions reports that they paid good money for. They need to get people through those services and back into housing.

Now, as far as Camp Second Chance is concerned, I do have concerns with Camp Second Chance. One of my primary concerns, which I've been told they're dealing with, I didn't have the chance to go to the last meeting or two, is participation in the local neighborhood. When I've gone to the meetings,
the topic that comes up time and time again is why
will they not call the police when they see crimes in
the neighborhood. When they hear the gunshots across
the street, and we hear, well, we don't want to

involve ourselves. Well, the neighbors don't want to
involve themselves, either, but we call the police
anyway. That's what participating in a community
means. So that's my piece on Camp Second Chance.
That would be my primary concern with Camp Second
Chance, is they need to involve themselves a bit more
in the local community. Call the police when they see
crimes and when they see us out picking up trash, join
us. I understand that's also been happening a bit
lately. So thank you.

(Applause.)

>>>: Michelle Back sick.
Oh, Michelle. Of course.

>>>: Hi. I'm Michelle, and I'm also a
resident at Camp Second Chance. I would just like to
say I -- when I initially became homeless and the
reason why I became homeless was because the place I
was staying at would jeopardize my sobriety. I
have -- I'm a recovering alcoholic and when I
initially became homeless I stayed in shelters, I

stayed on I-5 and U District, and now Camp Second
Chance. And Camp Second Chance has -- I'm
extraordinarily safe there. I don't have to worry about anybody coming in intoxicated. That would jeopardize my sobriety, that would trigger me. It's afforded me the opportunity to, you know, have comraderie, as well as a stable place to look for employment, to look for a clean and sober housing, et cetera. And I understand, you know, some of the concern, but if our contract wasn't renewed, it would certainly not light a fire under the City you know what to all of a sudden like create more housing, you know. And it would just create more problems for us. And, you know, we're trying to do the best we can, and I think anybody who has visited the camp sees that we run an excellent operation, and anybody who hasn't, I offer a handout to please come and visit it. We're more than happy to have visitors. Thank you. (Applause.)

>>>: Ron Legacy. Followed by Chris Bautista.

>>>: My name is Ron Legacy. I'm a local business area in the area, down on 9th. I've been visiting Camp Second Chance for about a year and a half now. I know what it's like to be homeless. Seven years ago I was homeless and lost everything, and had to start over. Was able to start a business, and now we're using that to get back to Camp Second
Chance. I have visited quite a few homeless
encampments around the area to try to help out. Eric
has put together a community of people that care, that
love and that want to help people get their life back
together. Like Giovanni said, that broken pottery,
when you're homeless, it's almost in panic mode. How
do I survive? When you have people like this
surrounding you, that's how you can get back up.

That's how you can start your business, that's how you
can work, that's how you can pull it all back
together.

So I say renew it.

Hello. My name is Christopher
Bautista. I used to live right up on top of the hill,
in Highland Park, right next to the elementary school.
I've also lived in Burien, rented a four bedroom
house, had 10 cars parked in the driveway. I was a
union ironworker. My whole family is ironworkers. I
became homeless because of an injury, and I've been
homeless for about four years now, due to this injury,
have not been able to get the proper services until I
got to Camp Second Chance, LIHI was there, there's a
lot of great people helping me out. Alls I can say is
if you do close down Camp Second Chance, you're going
to have more people in the woods, you're going to push
more people to doing drugs, more people to drinking, a
lot of bad things will happen if we don't have these
tiny houses to live in till we can get back on our
feet. And I didn't have anything prepared to say, but
I just wanted to get up and say that. Thank you very
much. God bless everybody in this room.
(Applause.)

LISA: Mary Fleck. Did you want to
speak? Yes?

>>>: Hi. I'm with the Seattle Green
Spaces Coalition, and I want to say that Camp Second
Chance has been good neighbors. I have gone there a
few times to talk with people about the land that they
live in, and everybody's been very curious about
where -- what is the wetland? Where do we live? And
they want to learn about the plants and they
participated with us this past summer with the we'd
inventory, walking around and learning what's there.
I also have seen very good attitude on keeping things
clean, on keeping no trash around, and really I
commend the people who have been such good neighbors
at Camp Second Chance.

I do feel that the City has let us down,
and the City has let us down because while Camp Second
Chance might be doing its part, there's continuous
trash along the roadway, there is dumping of materials
that are hazardous to people, to health lives and to
the watershed. And the City has also let down the
people at Camp Second Chance because you deserve much
better. And I'm sorry. And you deserve much better
than tiny houses that don't have heat, electricity,
water, and I am blow the City to do what it needs
and expedite care for you as you've been caring for
the neighborhood.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

LISA: So that was the last person that
signed up to speak. Is there anyone else?

Well, I just want to make sure I
can get my actual questions into the permit record
or --

LISA: Do you want to e-mail Tom or --

I can just read them.

You want to get it in --

Yeah, I -- both.

LISA: If you e-mail them, we can put
them into the record. Or if you want to read them,
you can read them.

And I'd like to say something also.

Sure.

Okay. Hi. Sorry to do this again,
but the other one was more just from the heart
philosophical. These are just unanswered questions.

Basically -- oh, God. Sorry.

Neighbors have been asking -- I compiled

the financial structures of Camp Second Chance

advisory committee, Camp Second Chance themselves,

LIHI, related parties, how many volunteers, paid

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

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

for quite some time. The City has -- has the city

ever ordered a financial outcome-based comparison of

the outdoor sanctioned encampment models versus the

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

thing, but essentially we're missing the minutes from

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

feel like we really have enough information to vote by

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

Anyway, they've just been wanting the

statistics on things. I'm just trying to nutshell

this.

And why the -- the former mayor, Ed

Murray, thought this was a good idea to put vulnerable

sober people across the street from some of the most

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

just beyond me.

Anyway, or maybe it was someone else's
idea -- I don't know. And why didn't the city embrace
the advice given in the PERC report, and one of the
official plans for the parcels, because I know we were
working on that with green spaces before. And what

about the official report on the toxins being dumped
into the -- was it into the JTF, into the potable
drinking water, or the surrounding wetlands on the
west side of Myers Way in the fall of 2017, and did
the EPA get involved and was there a fine incurred,
and if so, what was the amount, and is that why the
fencing went up and the RVs were finally removed in
the fall. Last one is is anyone following up on the
misappropriations of the donated if understand to Patacara
and what was the amount, who is overseeing
the nonprofits who do business with all sanctioned
encampments, and if we don't have any real oversight
besides our attorney d our state attorney, what is
stopping any of the non -- any nonprofit from
misappropriating funds from vulnerable homeless
groups, and if we don't have answers to these
questions, then we continue to cobble together
unproven systems with no oversight, it starts to look
like all agencies are involved in homelessness
industrial complex, and that's what my neighbors are
saying. So if we can't continue --
LISA: Okay, we're going to wrap it up.
I want to give other people a chance. Thank you. And just e-mail them to us.

>>>: That's pretty much it.

LISA: Did you want to speak also?

Yeah. Hi. My name is Kim Powers. I'm a REACH case manager, and I am working in Camp Second Chance. I'm a health therapist, I'm a chemical dependency counselor. I get people hooked up with medical, mental treatment. I also go across the street and try to help those folks also, so it's not that people aren't in there trying to really change things. It's just that it's very difficult. You said Mary's place. They only take women and children. The majority of the folks that we're seeing are single adults, very, very, very difficult to find any housing for.

Camp 2nd Chance is a community, they all support and help each other. When people are in the woods as they are across the street, it's very difficult to go from there directly into some housing.

But to be able to step up into 2nd chance, get yourself situated, kind of take a deep breath, decide what you want to do, be able to go work again, you know, stay clean, you know, it's a way to get really stable, and then you can move people from there into permanent housing. But anybody that's just out there,
you know, how do you go find a job when you're dirty?

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

wonderful experience it's been for me to work with

people at Camp Second Chance, because they really are

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

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

available, but there isn't any. But also know that

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

Would you tell us how often you

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

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

get them into housing? How does that kind of look?

Well, the way that -- with Camp

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

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

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

the public health clinic where I was situated or

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

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

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

might be that, for instance, somebody has untreated

mental health issues, they're having trouble getting

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

there, support them, get them into the clinic.

Across the street, because I don't go in

by myself but I go in with some of the -- I've got
the Navigation Team here. I go in, and I introduce myself. I know lots of them already because I've been in the field long enough that I know them, they know me, and then I start working with them. Come up, let's try to get you some health provider. Let's see what we can do on housing. A lot of them, if they could get clean and sober, getting people into treatment is very difficult. They have to go through all of these different steps. So probably across the street what I basically do is try to get a relationship going so that I can help them get out so they can get clean and sober and then they can go into Camp Second Chance and be part that of community. But getting clean as very difficult thing, and people getting moved around makes it even more unstable, more stress, they become -- you know, they lose more. So anyway, there's -- I'm out there, so if . . .

(Applause.)

Anyone that hasn't had a chance to speak.

>>>: I just wanted to -- I'm Lisa Herbold. I'm the council member that represents this district. I'm your neighbor, I live in Highland Park over on 9th. I want to respect that the fact that we aren't answering questions here, we're taking questions and providing answers at a soon later date
in writing. But -- and I'll leave it to the executive
to get into the nitty-gritty, but it's not correct
that we're not implementing the recommendations of the
Poppe report, and I trust HSD and the executive will
explain further how we are implementing those
recommendations.
I also want to speak to the
recommendations coming from the Highland Park
Action Committee. I think -- these are
recommendations that they made last year, and I do
believe that they are due a response to their three
requests. Both for the establishment of neighborhood
protocols, for the -- the operations of encampments,
just, you know, sort of a template document that could
be really useful for the other sanctioned encampments
throughout the city for our housed neighbors to know
how best to troubleshoot along with our unsheltered
neighbors in partnership as issues come up. I
secondly support their request to get a commitment
from the City for a long-term plan for Myers Way, and
thirdly, something that I think would address the
concerns of a lot of our housed neighbors as it
relates to the activity across the street is I really
think it's time that we have some established written
formal official, all adjectives I can use, protocols
with the I think county sheriff on how we deal with
the jurisdictional issues, so, yes, State Patrol, the
City, and the King County sheriff, and I really hope
that we can figure out a way to do that, because

that's really I think the crux of a lot of the
problems, as well as a lot of issues around ongoing
cleanup across the street, and I'm constantly working
with Seattle Public Utilities on trying to step up
their attention to that area. They have -- they have
a pilot bag program that they use. They deliver
purple bags to the unsanctioned encampments and have
agreements to pick them up on a regular basis. I've
asked them to consider that location as a location as
well. So thank you, and I'm truly humbled by the fact

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

(Applause.)

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

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

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

My name is Asia Garden higher. I'm a resident at Camp
Second Chance. I'm from Brooklyn, New York. Let me
tell you, you will not see anything like Camp Second

Chance in Brooklyn, New York. You see people on the
train. You see them -- you talk about, you know, your neighborhood. You don't want to look across the street and see people, you know, the garbage and people, you know, sleep on the street. Well, imagine coming out your apartment and you're walking down, you see a case, and you see somebody with a needle in their arm. You know what I'm saying? We don't have resources back home like this camp is offering us.

This is the first time I've said it. I'm a recovering heroin addict. A year ago I lost my mind. That's really just what happened. Lost my mind. I was in Portland doing some stuff, me and my girlfriend -- my girlfriend and I, we actually came up here sleeping in our car, tried Mary's Place. Not a safe place at all. I just want to say that. Thank you. Not a safe place at all. And my girlfriend actually found Camp Second Chance online, and I want to say, the day that -- I didn't even want to go into the camp. I was like, what is this? I'm not living in a tent, I'm not living in a tiny house, nothing. But the structure, the -- God, the -- I don't know, man. It's an amazing place. Like I say, I wasn't planning on speaking, but just having the people around you, you know, and having people sit there and motivate you every day. They know what you're going through. I have a
full-time job right now, you know, making probably --

(Applause.)

>>>: John, I just want to say thank you to Eric, Chris, everybody, and -- time.

LISA: Thank you.

(Applause.)

>>>: Hi. I'm not here to make -- I just want to answer some of the questions that was asked earlier about the trash. I've got -- I can tell you right now, that old man back there, Jim, he goes up and down that highway every day, every morning like loyalty, picking up trash. Me myself, the only reason I ended up homeless because my car broke down. I'm a driver. I do Uber, and I do Amazon Prime now.

Without my car I was screwed. Erik and them took me back in. My emotional part -- I'm getting emotional. It irritates me to hear. You're right, they're not doing what they can do. Seattle is not doing what they can do. I was never homeless till I came to Seattle. The expense up here is ridiculous. But we're getting more involved with the community, we're trying to get the police called when we hear shots, like the other day there was a fire down here. First thing --

>>>: Two.

>>>: First thing we did was call. They
asked what to do, and that's what we told 'em to do.

We're trying to get more involved with everybody, but

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

chance, you know. Tent cities -- the other tent
cities, they catch you doing something wrong, you're
going back on the street. They send 'em here, they

say, go to rehab, go to doctor, get yourself checked

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

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

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

instance, something happened, both of you all end up

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

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

(Appause.)

LISA: Okay. David? Come on up.

>>>: Thank you.

I wasn't going to speak, either, but

there is one particular thing that I think needs to be

said.

>>>: Who are you?

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

you. I'm a volunteer -- I volunteer extensively at

Camp Second Chance. I've been in the office and

helping make the transition to Lehigh.

What I want to say is that you've heard

the good results, you've heard people talk about what
a safe and stable place the camp is. And how it helps people focus on their own problems to get their lives back on track. There are lots of people who contribute to that, but there's one person in particular who is an extraordinary talent, and an extraordinary man, and that needs to be acknowledged, and that's Eric Davis.

(APplause.)

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

Hell, no.

But he is skilled. Not only does he have 12 years of professional experience as a sobriety counselor, but he is a wise and powerful man, and his influence and his righteousness and his wisdom and his patience that keep that place together and make it something out of the ordinary, a special place that does special good in the world. So let's make sure we understand that. And thank you to Eric.

(APplause.)

LISA: So is there anyone else that would like to give testimony?

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

LISA: Did you --

>>>: Pat LeMoine again. Another
thing that's been mentioned here is there's no other place for Camp Second Chance to go to. And I just got done working on the Big Bertha tunnel, and I walked by a perfect spot for you guys right next to Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. There is a vacant lot that is nice and flat, it's fenced in, it would be perfect for you guys, it would be close to a lot of work opportunity because you're right next to Seattle Center, and the whole Lake Union area, and if there's a spot for you guys to go to, I think that would be perfect for you. Thank you.

LISA: So --

>>>: The city of Seattle examined I was told upwards of 80 locations prior to selecting that one, so there should be plenty of areas.

LISA: Go ahead.

>>>: My name is Crystal Peterson, and I'm a camper here at Camp Second Chance. I used to live under the South Spokane Bridge in Sodo, and I have to say, it sucked. I wasn't doing very good in my court on the things I needed to do, like going to mental health and all of that, and since being at the camp I've actually had structure to do that. I've been doing a lot better in my services and I'm actually on my way to being able to get a house, and I am currently looking for a job. I have many
interviews set up, just none of them have stuck. I wasn't able to really do that underneath the bridge because not being able to keep any clothes clean or I didn't even have a place to charge my phone so that I could hear my alarm to get up for interviews and all that.

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

(Applause.)

LISA: You're going to speak again?

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

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

>>>: You know, if we're moved, it's going to cost a lot of money to move those little houses. The electricity that's been put in, all these other things that are helping us get to the next level will have to be put in place over there. It's going to take a lot longer to get that stuff taken care of.

>>>: Rules are rules, my friends.

>>>: I'm in construction.

>>>: I hope that everything can work out. Thank you.

(Applause.)
LISA: So I wanted to thank you all. Did you have --

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

LISA: Okay, we have somebody who hasn't had a chance to speak yet. And we do have a half an hour left, somebody just pointed out, so thank you.

>>>: I'm resident and bookkeeper at Camp Second Chance, and I just wanted to say that there are folks talking about moving this camp. You might want to consider the amount of money it would cost to move the camp. You're talking about hiring big forklift to move every house, the only thing that would be left at the camp moved is the honey buckets. So you might want to reconsider moving us. I say renew the permit.

(Applause.)

LISA: Go ahead, and then Willow, do you want to speak?

>>>: Thank you. I just wanted to mention one thing. Your case manager for Camp Second Chance in this whole area isn't really just like a case manager. I mean, she's got -- she's a mental health professional, she's a substance abuse counselor in the State of Washington. She has a lot of years doing this work. And she works her butted off. It's really hard work. And she's out there by herself.

Okay? Full-time. And I just wanted to mention, this
is not a job for somebody just getting started in this business, but she gets that wage. But I just wanted to let you know a lot has gone into the people who provide services for the campers, and the campers are amazing.

(Applause.)

LISA: Willow?

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

So first of all, I support the renewal of the permit for Camp Second Chance. That camp -- so many things that I wanted to say have already been mentioned by my friends and neighbors that support, particularly Aaron Garcia did an amazing job summarizing my thoughts right off the bat, which is great.

But this camp creates a situation where people can, as somebody else said, step out of a very, very difficult situation to where stepping directly to a job, to a house, to what people expect them to have, is an impossible step. I agree with a lot of concerns my other neighbors that we need more,
we need better, people need full-time housing, we need

cross -- we need cross department attention to these

Those things don't exist yet, though. At

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

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

friends and neighbors. These folks are on my
doorstep. I agree that other neighborhoods should

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

somebody off of my doorstep so that somebody who I

think deserves to pay for it has them on their

doorstep. They are here, I want to help them here. I

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

that happens within the camp and with the neighbors

and supporters that have come and met the campers is

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

really appreciate that. And I think that we can

continue that and continue to support these folks and

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

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

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

(Appause.)

All right. I wanted to talk again

because I heard some of the things -- like contrary

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

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

good. But what Camp Second Chance is doing is it's
involving. It's not a camp anymore. They've got tiny homes. Those are --

>>>: Substandard housing.

>>>: In YouTube standards, they're the next step, from what I see.

And Camp Second Chance can grow, it can improve the neighborhood. Imagine more Camp Second Chances, instead of homeless people.

>>>: It's a nightmare.

>>>: Instead of homeless people, imagine people actually in tiny homes, that aren't doing drugs.

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

>>>: Nobody interrupted you.

>>>: All right.

Yeah, I'm good.

(Applause.)

LISA: So -- did you want to speak? You haven't had a chance to speak yet.

>>>: Just very quick.

How about if we move, you can stay at Stacey creek, nine days, move every 90 days. And do you feel for 90 days.

>>>: No.

>>>: No, thanks.

>>>: Nobody should move every 90 days.
LISA: Sir, did you want to speak?

>>>: Yes.

LISA: Come on up.

>>>: My name is Steve Buckminster, and I'm a member of the construction community, and if you're familiar with us, we've constructed everything -- all homes, all bridges, all roads. Construction people have done it. No apologies since I've done it. Only construction people. Right?

In fact, if you had to rely on politicians, we'd all be living in caves.

(Applause.)

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

I really want to tell you about a new 21st century way of doing things. Okay?

It's by this charity that the construction community has formed, called the able to campus. And its sole goal is to train and teach individuals who are homeless and disadvantaged so that they can step into productive and practical and financially rewarding jobs and lives. Okay?

And it was just founded, again, by the construction community. And we would like to -- oops.

Sorry. 30 seconds.

We would like to be involved with the 2nd chance, we would like to use that as a prototype.
camp -- campus, not a camp, but a campus, and we would like to put a facility there, a library, a teaching facility, and if anybody would like to talk to me about it, my name is Steven Buck minister. My telephone number is (425) 919-8690.

Thank you.

LISA: Okay. Well, anyone else?

I want to make sure I give everybody a chance.

So did you have a chance to speak yet?

>>>: I have not.

LISA: U. not. So yes, please.

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

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

And also from Brooklyn. Hello. Yeah.

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

more regular trash pickups, increase in the number of social -- I know you've worked so hard. You should not be out there alone. There should be more people helping.
(Applause.)

>>>: Is there something we can do besides just approve or not approve for renewal, because I feel like that's -- that's the spirit of community and compromise, where we can talk about real solutions that will make everyone mostly happy. Happy not a hundred percent happy, but getting closer. I'd like to encourage everyone to think a little more broadly than just yes/no. Thank you.

(Applause.)

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

>>>: I'll defer. That's good.

LISA: Okay.

So I wanted to say thank you to all of you for coming out. I especially want to give a shout out to our City staff that are here. If you have a chance, you can swing by and say hello.

(Applause.)

LISA: We've got folks from SPD, we've got folks from public utilities, we've got folks from the parks, we've got folks from human services, and then in the way back corner we have our folks from the Low-Income Housing Institute as well as Camp Second Chance. Josh [Castle] waving there is the person that you want to speak to if you want to volunteer, get involved.
But really thank you. This is really important that we hear from everyone. All opinions and all voices. If you didn't get a chance to speak and you want to give us some feedback, send us an e-mail. Or grab one of the cards and jog a little note, but go ahead and do that, and thank you very much for coming out.

>>>: Maybe get an extension if the eight questions I asked do not get back to the community in time. I mean, that's just something I feel like if I didn't know them and I live on Myers Way, call 9-1-1 all the time, and so all of my neighbors are wondering about that. So I don't feel like two more weeks -- if you can get back to us in a timely fashion, everyone gets the word and then they can put -- but I feel like that's really --

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

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

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

(Applause.)