

From: [Magnolia Ferreyra](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Fwd:
Date: Monday, May 11, 2026 5:03:43 PM
Attachments: [Letter of support \(1\).docx](#)

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Magnolia Ferreyra** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, May 11, 2026 at 2:50 PM
Subject: Re: Ayúdenos a proteger los servicios para pequeños negocios en Vancouver
To: Kimberly Quiroz <[REDACTED]>

On Fri, May 8, 2026, 11:26 AM Kimberly Quiroz <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hola,

La Cámara Metropolitana Hispana necesita su apoyo. La Ciudad de Vancouver está actualmente evaluando cómo distribuir fondos comunitarios para el próximo año, y es muy importante que escuchen directamente de los pequeños negocios y emprendedores a quienes servimos.

No aprobar los fondos recomendados para HMC para el próximo año pudiera significar recortes o incluso la eliminación de algunos de nuestros programas y servicios aquí en Vancouver. Por eso necesitamos su ayuda para asegurar que estos fondos continúen y podamos seguir apoyando a nuestra comunidad empresarial.

Adjuntamos una carta como ejemplo. Si desea usarla, por favor siéntase con la libertad de firmarla y enviarla, o utilizarla solamente como referencia y agregar cualquier otra información sobre cómo HMC le ha ayudado. También sería muy útil compartir un poco sobre su negocio y el impacto que este apoyo ha tenido para usted y su familia.

Puede enviar la carta al siguiente correo:

council@cityofvancouver.us

Si es posible, le pedimos enviarla hoy o a más tardar el domingo.

Adicionalmente, si desea apoyar aún más, puede asistir en persona al City Hall ([415 W 6th St, Vancouver, WA 98660](#)), [piso 1](#), sala Aspen, este próximo lunes 11 de mayo a las 6:00 p.m., y compartir un mensaje breve (aproximadamente dos minutos) frente a la alcaldesa y el concejo para apoyar a la Cámara Hispana. Allí estaremos.

Muchas gracias de antemano por su apoyo y por ayudarnos a seguir sirviendo a nuestra comunidad.

Kimberly Quiroz

Senior Business Developer

Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber

360-450-4380 ext. 512 | Hispanicmetrochamber.org

[4400 NE 77th](#) Ave. Vancouver Wa 98662 Suite: 275



Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I am writing to share how support from the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber (HMC) has made a difference in my business and to express my support for continued investment in small business programs in the City of Vancouver.

With support from HMC, I was able to start my business, and navigate requirements. Their support has been consistent and accessible, especially as a small business owner.

Because of this, I have been able to open my doors.

Small businesses like mine benefit greatly from trusted, community-based organizations like HMC. Continued funding for this type of support helps businesses stay open, grow, and contribute to the local economy.

I respectfully encourage the City of Vancouver to continue investing in programs that support small businesses and expand access to technical assistance.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to our local business community.

Sincerely,

Parakata Monarca(Magnolia Ferreyra)

Estimada Alcaldesa y Miembros del Concejo,

Le escribo para compartir cómo el apoyo de la Cámara Metropolitana Hispana (HMC) ha hecho una diferencia en mi negocio y para expresar mi apoyo a que la Ciudad de Vancouver continúe invirtiendo en programas para pequeños negocios.

Con el apoyo de HMC, pude iniciar mi negocio y entender los requisitos necesarios. Su apoyo ha sido constante y accesible, especialmente como pequeño empresario.

From: [Sassy Blue](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: A quien corresponda.
Date: Monday, May 11, 2026 4:12:47 PM

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Estimada Alcaldesa y Miembros del Concejo

Le escribo para compartir cómo el apoyo de la Cámara Metropolitana Hispana (HMC) ha hecho una diferencia en mi negocio ya que desde el día primero que fuimos a pedir una asesoría con la cámara nos ayudaron y nos dijeron los pasos que teníamos que hacer para comenzar nuestro pequeño negocio en la ciudad de Vancouver.

Por lo que considero que es muy importante tener al apoyo de la HMC en la ciudad para los negocios como el mío que necesitamos este tipo de lugares que son importantes para personas que no saben por dónde empezar tengan las herramientas.

Con el apoyo de HMC, pude iniciar mi negocio y entender los requisitos necesarios también Kimberly Quiroz (senior business adviser) nos a guiado a cumplir estos requisitos. Su apoyo ha sido constante y accesible, especialmente como pequeño empresario Gracias a esto, pude comenzar mi negocio en marzo de 2026 y hasta la fecha sigo recibiendo asesorías por parte de HMC.

Negocios como el mío se benefician mucho de contar con organizaciones comunitarias de confianza como HMC. Continuar invirtiendo en este tipo de apoyo ayuda a que los negocios se mantengan abiertos, crezcan y contribuyan a la economía local.

Respetuosamente, les animo a seguir invirtiendo en programas que apoyen a los pequeños negocios y amplíen el acceso a asistencia técnica.

Gracias por su tiempo y por su compromiso con nuestra comunidad empresarial.

Atentamente

Freshview cleaning services LLC

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I am writing to share how the support of the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce (HMC) has made a difference in my business. From the very first day we went to the chamber for advice, they helped us and guided us through the steps we needed to take to start our small business in Vancouver.

Therefore, I believe it is very important to have the support of the HMC in the city for businesses like mine that need these kinds of resources, which are essential for people who don't know where to begin to have the tools they need.

With the support of the HMC, I was able to start my business and understand the necessary requirements. Kimberly Quiroz (senior business adviser) has also guided us in meeting these requirements. Her support has been constant and accessible, especially for a small business owner.

Thanks to this, I was able to start my business in March 2026, and to this day I continue to receive guidance from the HMC.

Businesses like mine benefit greatly from having trusted community organizations like the HMC. Continuing to invest in this type of support helps businesses stay open, grow, and contribute to the local economy.

I respectfully encourage you to continue investing in programs that support small businesses and expand access to technical assistance.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to our business community.

Sincerely, Freshview Cleaning Services LLC

From: [Rosalba Quiroz](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Petición de apoyo para la Cámara M Hispana (HMC)
Date: Monday, May 11, 2026 3:18:59 PM

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Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I am writing to share how support from the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber (HMC) has made a difference in my childcare business and to express my support for continued investment in small business programs in the City of Vancouver.

With support from HMC, I was able to start my daycare and navigate the requirements needed to open and operate. Since then, they have continued to support me over the years as I manage and grow my business. Their guidance has been consistent and accessible throughout my journey as a childcare provider.

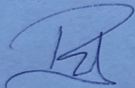
Because of this, I have been able to remain open and continue providing care to families in my community.

Childcare providers like me benefit greatly from trusted, community-based organizations like HMC. Continued funding for this type of support helps increase access to childcare, support working families, and strengthen our local economy.

I respectfully encourage the City of Vancouver to continue investing in programs that support small businesses and expand access to technical assistance.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to our local business community.

Sincerely, Rosalba Quiroz Viveros



From: [Darcy Hoffman](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Miriam Halliday](#)
Subject: Support for HMC + CDBG Funding
Date: Monday, May 11, 2026 2:45:01 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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To the Honorable Mayor and Members of the Vancouver City Council,

I am writing in strong support of continued Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber's (HMC) technical assistance and small business support programs in the City of Vancouver.

Through Workforce Southwest Washington (WSW's) partnership with HMC, we have seen firsthand the organization's effectiveness in reaching and supporting small businesses that are often underserved by traditional business assistance systems. HMC has become a trusted and highly effective partner in engaging and supporting the small business community throughout our region.

HMC serves a wide range of small businesses across industries including childcare, construction, food services, janitorial services, retail, and many other essential businesses that help keep our local economy moving. Many of the businesses and local establishments our community frequents today have remained open, stabilized, or grown with the support and guidance of HMC.

Beyond technical assistance, HMC has become a trusted advocate for small businesses. Through community roundtables, direct outreach, and ongoing engagement with entrepreneurs, HMC consistently gathers feedback from business owners and helps elevate the real challenges small businesses are facing. This has allowed HMC to foster and create a strong ecosystem for entrepreneurs who often lack access to traditional business resources and networks. It also equips WSW with necessary information to better inform and shape our own workforce development programs to better support the communities HMC serves.

Programs such as HMC's Asset Protection initiative have provided culturally responsive and bilingual support to business owners navigating financial uncertainty, legal concerns, operational challenges, and long-term business sustainability. HMC meets businesses where they are and helps connect them to the tools, education, and resources needed to remain operational and resilient.

At a time when many small businesses continue to face economic pressures, continued investment in HMC through CDBG funding is critical. HMC's work not only supports individual businesses, but also strengthens neighborhoods, preserves jobs, activates commercial corridors, and contributes to the long-term economic health of the Vancouver community.

I encourage the City of Vancouver to continue supporting HMC's technical assistance

programs so they can continue their important role in supporting and advocating for small businesses throughout our region.



DARCY HOFFMAN (she/her/hers)

Chief Impact Officer [REDACTED]

www.workforcesw.org

Workforce Southwest Washington

805 Broadway, Suite 412 | Vancouver, WA 98660

Follow us: [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

From: [gabriela mendoza](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Support for Hispanic Metro chamber
Date: Monday, May 11, 2026 1:48:48 PM

No suele recibir correo electrónico de [REDACTED]. [Por qué es esto importante](#)

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I am writing to share how support from the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber (HMC) has made a difference in my business and to express my support for continued investment in small business programs in the City of Vancouver.

With support from HMC, I have been able to strengthen and grow my business while navigating ongoing requirements. Their support has been consistent and accessible, especially as a small business owner.

Because of this, I have been able to continue operating, adapt, and better serve my customers.

Small businesses like mine benefit greatly from trusted, community-based organizations like HMC. Continued funding for this type of support helps businesses stay open, grow, and contribute to the local economy.

I respectfully encourage the City of Vancouver to continue investing in programs that support small businesses and expand access to technical assistance.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to our local business community.

Sincerely,
Gaby

Obtener [Outlook para iOS](#)

From: [Andrea Forstag](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Written Testimony
Date: Monday, May 11, 2026 1:19:14 PM
Attachments: [HMC City of Vancouver.pdf](#)

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Good afternoon,

Please see attached our written testimony.

Thanks!

Andrea Forstag (She/Her/Ella)

Business Development Manager

Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber

(503)222-0280 ext.502 | <https://hmccoregon.com/>

Located in Portland, OR & Vancouver, WA





May 11, 2026

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

The Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber respectfully submits this testimony in support of continued investment in programs and resources that strengthen and stabilize small businesses in our community through CDBG funding.

For the past 32 years, the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber has supported businesses across Oregon and Southwest Washington and today serves more than 700 small businesses. The primary industries served include restaurants, construction, childcare providers, and other professional services.

In alignment with the City of Vancouver's strategic priorities, the Chamber has expanded its efforts to better support the childcare and construction industries through technical assistance, business education, government contracting support, and industry-focused workshops. On June 3, the Chamber will host a childcare industry panel featuring experts who will provide guidance on licensing, operations, and available resources. A construction industry panel is also being planned for October.

Thanks to the support of the City of Vancouver, the Chamber has already seen meaningful success stories, including childcare providers who were able to purchase homes to continue operating and expanding their businesses. These investments create long-term stability not only for business owners, but also for the families and communities they serve.

Small businesses are the backbone of Vancouver's economy, and Latino-owned businesses—one of the fastest-growing segments of the local economy—continue to face significant challenges, including rising operating costs, reduced customer activity, and ongoing economic uncertainty. Many business owners are struggling to remain open, placing jobs, families, and neighborhood commercial corridors at risk.

Through CDBG funding, the Chamber is able to support small business owners in retaining employees, reinvesting in their operations, and continuing to serve their communities. Continued funding is critical to sustaining support for small businesses, especially immigrant- and minority-owned entrepreneurs who play a vital role in strengthening Vancouver's local economy and community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber

From: [PETER BRACCHI](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Share House Pollution, Cleanup Costs, and the Need for a Corrective Plan
Date: Friday, May 15, 2026 4:18:41 PM

Mayor and City Council,

I am submitting this comment for the public record regarding the long-term pollution and repeated public cleanup costs around the Men's Share House neighborhood.

The City already knows the facts. This is not a new issue, and it is not an unknown condition. The City has the photos, the cleanup records, the cost records, the staff response history, and years of documentation showing the same basic problem repeating over and over.

This is not about criminalizing homelessness. It is about recognizing the reality in front of the City's face: repeated garbage, sanitation problems, food-related waste, blocked sidewalks, public-right-of-way impacts, and pollution potential have been allowed to continue for years while taxpayers pay again and again for cleanup.

Compassion does not require the City to ignore pollution. Housing policy does not require the City to tolerate garbage in the street, blocked sidewalks, unsafe sanitation, or repeated exposure to stormwater pathways. Calling this a homelessness issue does not make the pollution disappear.

The City has spent public money responding to the same conditions repeatedly. Cleanup without correction is not a solution. It is an ongoing public cost.

My request is simple: Council should require a corrective plan for the Share House area. That plan should address cleanup costs, sanitation, garbage control, food-waste handling, public-right-of-way access, stormwater exposure, and coordination between Public Works, Public Health, Code Enforcement, Police, and SHARE.

The City should stop treating this as an unavoidable condition and start treating it as a managed public works, public health, ADA, and pollution-control problem.

The public should not be asked to keep paying for repeated cleanups while the City allows the same pollution conditions to continue year after year.

Respectfully,
Peter Bracchi

From: [PETER BRACCHI](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: 2017 City Share House Encampment Plan Shows Long-Known Sanitation, Cleanup, and Public Right-of-Way Problem
Date: Friday, May 15, 2026 4:46:38 PM
Attachments: [Screenshot 2026-02-25 at 3.00.18 PM.png](#)
[Screenshot 2026-02-24 at 6.48.10 PM.png](#)
[ShareHouse-UEplan.pdf](#)

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am submitting this comment regarding the long-running conditions around the Men's Share House area.

Attached is a 2017 City record obtained through public records titled "Share Homeless Encampment: Draft Options for Post Clean-up City Stance." This document is important because it shows the City understood years ago that the Share House encampment area involved more than homelessness. The City identified garbage, human waste, sidewalk obstruction, camping in the public right-of-way, hardened campsites, and the need for repeated cleanup and enforcement.

The 2017 document discussed two choices: containment or dispersal. It also listed "tolerance thresholds" that included no disposal of human waste or needles except in designated containers, no obstruction of sidewalks during daylight hours, no hardening of campsites, no open fires, and garbage disposal only in designated receptacles.

That was 2017.

Today, the question is not whether the City knows about the problem. The City has known. The issue is whether the City has allowed an unmanaged public right-of-way condition to continue year after year while the public pays for repeated cleanup, garbage response, policing, sanitation impacts, and neighborhood damage.

I am not asking the City to criminalize homelessness. I am asking the City to stop normalizing a condition it already identified as a public health, sanitation, sidewalk access, and cleanup-cost problem nearly a decade ago.

The public record now includes:

- the 2017 City Share House encampment planning document
- City PRA photos documenting conditions in the area
- repeated public cleanup and response costs
- ongoing garbage and sanitation concerns
- blocked sidewalks and right-of-way impacts
- pending questions regarding food service/food distribution, garbage handling, and public health inspection
- stormwater and urban pollution concerns from debris, waste, and long-term outdoor materials

This is not a one-time cleanup issue. It is a long-term management failure.

Council should direct staff to provide a clear public answer:

1. What is the City's current written policy for the Share House area?
2. How much public money has been spent on cleanup, garbage service, toilets, police/code response, and related work in this area since 2017?
3. Who is responsible for ensuring sidewalks, streets, storm drains, and public spaces are protected?
4. What role, if any, does Share's food service or food distribution play in the continued concentration of people, garbage, and sanitation issues around the site?
5. Will the City coordinate with Clark County Public Health and stormwater staff to inspect and document the ongoing conditions?
6. What measurable plan will end the cycle of repeated cleanup without lasting correction?

The 2017 document shows this was a known problem. The City should now explain why, after all these years, the same basic issues continue in front of the public.

Respectfully,

Peter Bracchi
Vancouver, Washington

Attachments / References:

1. 2017 City PRA Document: "Share Homeless Encampment: Draft Options for Post Clean-up City Stance"
2. City PRA photo records / photo collection
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/kk1w49SMp1U3K7wF9>
3. Public photo documentation of the Share House area
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/mTaZHtwTCbzkrm8q7>



From: [Chavers, Tyler](#)
To: [King, Dave](#)
Cc: [Eiken, Chad](#); [Young, Jonathan](#); [Sheehan, Peggy](#)
Subject: Chavers's thoughts on Draft policy for post Share camp cleanup
Date: Friday, February 17, 2017 9:04:00 PM
Attachments: [Draft Options Post Clean-up Stance.docx](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

All,

Based on my experience over the past couple of years I have 2 words, "I agree".

Given enough time and brainstorming I am guessing we could come up with even more options than the two contained in the attached draft, however, in my opinion, these really are the two options we are confronted with.

Either, 1) manage the homeless in place with some aggressive rules which we clearly communicate regularly to the homeless
or 2) deal with the impact in the surrounding area, neighborhoods, etc of dispersal and aggressive enforcement – IF we can even justify the expense of aggressive enforcement. There will be dollar expense of processing arrests, storing property, potential for confrontation/injury/medical to both the homeless and the officers (the same risk we face with any arrest), as well as the social/political cost of making the news, "police declare war on the homeless". Of course, I exaggerate, but only a bit. There will be fallout and it will come with a cost.

Clearly, we are already doing Option 1....by default. The real difference is the sloppy way Option 1 is being done now, and "tightening it up" with the added "strict enforcement of the rules (trash, no hardening of camp sites, etc)", and the communication piece would make it that much better. With clear, consistent, and regular communication I believe we will have buy-in from the majority of the homeless in that area. And, with buy-in, comes compliance with expectations. Only the toughest minority who ignore or fail to comply with the rules would need to be handled by law enforcement via arrest or removal.

*** Note, I do NOT believe we need to or should tell the homeless they are allowed to camp there. Rather, I would simply imply that IF they follow the rules then we will not make the move or tear down every single day – BUT that we will need to do major camp cleanups every 4 to 6 weeks for health and sanitation reasons. This allows us the discretion of employing the Unlawful Camping/Storage Ordinances if we need to use them as a tool in the field.*

As far as the Cons for Option 1 – here is my rebuttal.

1- this area is ALREADY an unofficial established camp, and we don't need to make it official. We will simply establish rules for which we won't make them tear down their sites every day. If word of mouth had not already brought more to the area, I doubt we are going to see any more than we currently do. The numbers have been steady at about 35 to 40 since last fall.

2- the enforcement has already been different in this area than out in the parks, trail systems, private property, river front, etc. Again, I think we get around this issue by not officially allowing camping, we simply "reward" good behavior (strict rule following) with letting them leave their site up. But, we need to make it strict to send a message – any violations mean getting cited or arrested and having all the stuff

removed (stored).

3- I don't like changing enforcement behavior based on what people might think, because most of the time they are wrong. The City is not enabling camping. These are homeless people with no other options for the most part. Many are getting transitioned out of the lifestyle, slowly, and 1 or 2 at a time. The system is simply overwhelmed. Voters taxed themselves \$42 million to help the homeless, of course that is going to look like enabling to some....so what? And, again, there is no new baseline.....we are ALREADY there. Any changes would be different and garner attention from social service, media, etc.

4- we have already gotten away with less than one trip around the block weekly to remove the solid waste. AND, there is a new program just starting up which will alleviate some of that as well. We will still need to make regular trips down there to remove waste, enforce the rules, and keep them 'conditioned' to regular sanitation move outs. We will not be doing this more frequently, if anything, will be doing it less frequently.

As far as Option 2 – moving to this option would be moving away from Option 1, which we are currently doing, but not well. Option 2 would make a handful of people happy, while making dozens and dozens of other people unhappy. Whereas Lincoln Place took 30 of the worst-of-the-worst off the street and housed them in one place, so does the encampment around Share House. If we disperse them we will deal with more calls for service regarding trespassing, unwanted, disturbances, etc all over the area – Hough Neighborhood, Esther Short, downtown businesses, the parks, parking garages, business bathrooms, lobbies, restaurant tables and booths, etc. And, that would just be the daytime issues. At night they would return to their camps wherever they can hide them away from public view....or in public view creating more calls for service. We will simply chase the same issue around all over the place....as we were doing a couple of years ago before they concentrated around the Share House. I can speak more to this in person....too much to type.

Probably the most poignant point in the whole draft is the last Con in the Option 2 column. Yes....the homeless will return to the Share House area....no matter what. There is right-of-way there, and they know they can camp in the right-of-way. Short of aggressive enforcement we will not keep them from setting up there at night.....which is perfectly legal....and they will be there in the morning to deal with.

I am all for Option 1 as written or as edited, tweaked, and finalized.

As Lou in the Columbian pointed out....Homelessness is a complicated issue,
Tyler

Tyler Chavers | N.P.O.
Neighborhood Police Officer - District 1



Vancouver Police Department – West Precinct
605 E Evergreen Blvd Vancouver, WA 98661-3812
P: (360) 487-7447 | C: (360) 518-2310 | F: (360) 694-1621
www.cityofvancouver.us | www.cityofvancouver.us/socialmedia



From: King, Dave
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:49 AM
To: Chavers, Tyler
Subject: FW: Share Encampment Follow-up

Thoughts?

From: Lester, Mike
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 8:38 AM
To: Foster, Amy; King, Dave
Subject: FW: Share Encampment Follow-up

Amy & Dave,

Could I get some thoughts from you on this?

Mike

From: Eiken, Chad
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Potter, Bronson; Crawford, Lenda; Holmes, Eric; Young, Jonathan; McElvain, James; Lester, Mike; Carlson, Brian
Subject: Share Encampment Follow-up

All,

We are tentatively targeting February 23/24 as the dates for the next big clean-up (pending confirmation from Ops). This will be a major event similar to the Fall 2015 action, where notices will be posted, campers will be interviewed and possessions documented, debris will be removed, and unclaimed property will be tagged and stored. We will be involving service providers to be there in a supportive role. I'll be convening the same group that worked on the previous operation next week to coordinate functions such as street closures and debris management.

The real reason for this email though is to get your feedback on the attached draft strategy options for the encampment beginning on Day Zero after the clean-up. There are two strategies outlined: 1) Containment, and 2) Dispersal. Either approach has benefits, as well as potentially significant downsides, but I think unfortunately we are in the position of choosing the least worst option.

Please review this so we can have a follow-up discussion on this early next week.

Thanks, Chad

Share Homeless Encampment: Draft Options for Post Clean-up City Stance

February 7, 2017

Option 1: Containment of Encampment		Option 2: Dispersal of Encampment	
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Confine camping area to South side of 12th St. between Lincoln and King Streets, and the West side of Lincoln between 12th and 13th Streets ▪ Allow for camping in public right-of-way and, in exchange for campers adhering to strict rules, allow tents to stay up during the day and commit to a period where the camp will not be displaced. ▪ Improve collection of garbage/human waste ▪ Prevent/reduce items from being collected/stored ▪ Establish Tolerance Thresholds* (e.g. Prevent “hardening” of campsites with pallets and other materials, reduce collections of materials/bikes, ensure tents and RV’s do not block vehicle travel ways, etc.) *See next page ▪ Communicate Tolerance Thresholds to Campers ▪ Enhanced enforcement including dispersal of camp would be triggered if boundary or tolerance thresholds are exceeded 	Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Disperse encampment following major clean-up of area by City ▪ Stake-off planter areas to discourage campers from returning ▪ Strict enforcement of VMC time periods for camping through added VPD/Code/Law resources ▪ Strict enforcement of camping in vehicles in and around Share ▪ Discourage Share and other groups from providing food to campers not housed at the shelter
Pros	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Compassionate approach allows for some camping with minimal disturbance (e.g. allow tents to stay up during the day to minimize disruption and stress such during bad weather) ▪ Recognizes reality that campers likely to stay for foreseeable future ▪ May be more in line with realistic resources to enforce VMC 	Pros	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Relieves area around Share from negative impacts of increasingly permanent-looking encampment ▪ Responds to political/neighborhood pressure to “do something” ▪ Clear communication from City to Campers regarding standard of enforcement ▪ Consistency in enforcement with other areas of the city ▪ Less attractive to secondary criminal activity that might otherwise occur in the area if there are numerous vulnerable campers ▪ Reduces concentration of solid waste, including human waste ▪ Easier to stay on top of the situation
Cons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Officially establishes a camp; may attract other campers by word of mouth ▪ One area of concentrated campers would have a different level of enforcement than in rest of city – VPD consistency concerns ▪ City acceptance of a new ‘baseline’ – may be harder to roll back; City seen as “enabling” homeless ▪ Accumulation of solid waste and debris means more frequent clean-ups by city 	Cons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pushes campers to other areas of city, potentially impacting more neighborhoods ▪ More difficult for service providers to contact and help homeless who need counseling, medical assistance, or permanent housing ▪ City potentially viewed as being dispassionate, particularly if camp is dispersed when weather is bad ▪ Campers may return anyway which may necessitate a more heavy-handed approach (e.g. citations, arrests, etc.)

Share Homeless Encampment: Draft Options for Post Clean-up City Stance

February 7, 2017

DRAFT Tolerance Thresholds for Establishing a Limited Encampment

Premise: City would allow a limited encampment to remain in place without tents having to be dismantled daily, provided the below standards are observed:

- Tents may be placed in public rights-of-way (off of the street) along the south side of W. 12th Street between Lincoln and King Streets, and along the west side of Lincoln Street between 12th and 13th Streets only
- No hardening of campsites (e.g. with pallets, building materials, etc.)
- No tents or possessions shall be placed in the vehicle travel lanes or parking spaces
- No disposal of human waste/needles except in designated containers
- No open fires
- No collection of materials (e.g. bikes, building materials, etc.) that cannot reasonably be transported by an individual
- No obstruction of sidewalks during daylight hours
- No camping in vehicles, campers, trailers, etc.
- All garbage shall be disposed of in designated receptacles

City reserves the right to remove the encampment should the above rules not be followed by the campers, and upon reasonable notice to the campers

From: [Eiken, Chad](#)
To: [Chavers, Tyler](#)
Subject: Re: Chavers's thoughts on Draft policy for post Share camp cleanup
Date: Saturday, February 18, 2017 2:39:04 PM

Thanks Tyler, excellent comments - I appreciate your insight. I think that's where we might end up. Chad

From: Chavers, Tyler <Tyler.Chavers@cityofvancouver.us>
Date: February 17, 2017 at 9:04:52 PM PST
To: King, Dave <Dave.King@cityofvancouver.us>
Cc: Eiken, Chad <Chad.Eiken@cityofvancouver.us>, Sheehan, Peggy <Peggy.Sheehan@cityofvancouver.us>, Young, Jonathan <Jonathan.Young@cityofvancouver.us>
Subject: Chavers's thoughts on Draft policy for post Share camp cleanup

All,

Based on my experience over the past couple of years I have 2 words, "I agree".

Given enough time and brainstorming I am guessing we could come up with even more options than the two contained in the attached draft, however, in my opinion, these really are the two options we are confronted with.

Either, 1) manage the homeless in place with some aggressive rules which we clearly communicate regularly to the homeless

or 2) deal with the impact in the surrounding area, neighborhoods, etc of dispersal and aggressive enforcement – IF we can even justify the expense of aggressive enforcement. There will be dollar expense of processing arrests, storing property, potential for confrontation/injury/medical to both the homeless and the officers (the same risk we face with any arrest), as well as the social/political cost of making the news, "police declare war on the homeless". Of course, I exaggerate, but only a bit. There will be fallout and it will come with a cost.

Clearly, we are already doing Option 1....by default. The real difference is the sloppy way Option 1 is being done now, and "tightening it up" with the added "strict enforcement of the rules (trash, no hardening of camp sites, etc)", and the communication piece would make it that much better. With clear, consistent, and regular communication I believe we will have buy-in from the majority of the homeless in that area. And, with buy-in, comes compliance with expectations. Only the toughest minority who ignore or fail to comply with the rules would need to be handled by law enforcement via arrest or removal.

***Note, I do NOT believe we need to or should tell the homeless they are allowed to camp there. Rather, I would simply imply that IF they follow the rules then we will not make the move or tear down every single day – BUT that we will need to do major camp cleanups every 4 to 6 weeks for health and sanitation reasons. This allows us the discretion of employing the Unlawful Camping/Storage Ordinances if we need to use them as a tool in the field.*

As far as the Cons for Option 1 – here is my rebuttal.

1- this area is ALREADY an unofficial established camp, and we don't need to make it official. We will simply establish rules for which we won't make them tear down their sites every day. If word of mouth had not already brought more to the area, I doubt we are going to see any more than we currently do. The numbers have been steady at about 35 to 40 since last fall.

2- the enforcement has already been different in this area than out in the parks, trail systems, private property, river front, etc. Again, I think we get around this issue by not officially allowing camping, we simply "reward" good behavior (strict rule following) with letting them leave their site up. But, we need to make it strict to send a message – any violations mean getting cited or arrested and having all the stuff removed (stored).

3- I don't like changing enforcement behavior based on what people might think, because most of the time they are wrong. The City is not enabling camping. These are homeless people with no other options for the most part. Many are getting transitioned out of the lifestyle, slowly, and 1 or 2 at a time. The system is simply overwhelmed. Voters taxed themselves \$42 million to help the homeless, of course that is going to look like enabling to some....so what? And, again, there is no new baseline.....we are ALREADY there. Any changes would be different and garner attention from social service, media, etc.

4- we have already gotten away with less than one trip around the block weekly to remove the solid waste. AND, there is a new program just starting up which will alleviate some of that as well. We will still need to make regular trips down there to remove waste, enforce the rules, and keep them 'conditioned' to regular sanitation move outs. We will not be doing this more frequently, if anything, will be doing it less frequently.

As far as Option 2 – moving to this option would be moving away from Option 1, which we are currently doing, but not well. Option 2 would make a handful of people happy, while making dozens and dozens of other people unhappy. Whereas Lincoln Place took 30 of the worst-of-the-worst off the street and housed them in one place, so does the encampment around Share House. If we disperse them we will deal with more calls for service regarding trespassing, unwanted, disturbances, etc all over the area – Hough Neighborhood, Esther Short, downtown businesses, the parks, parking garages, business bathrooms, lobbies, restaurant tables and booths, etc. And, that would just be the daytime issues. At night they would return to their camps wherever they can hide them away from public view....or in public view creating more calls for service. We will simply chase the same issue around all over the place....as we were doing a couple of years ago before they concentrated around the Share House. I can speak more to this in person....too much to type.

Probably the most poignant point in the whole draft is the last Con in the Option 2 column. Yes....the homeless will return to the Share House area....no matter what. There is right-of-way there, and they know they can camp in the right-of-way. Short of aggressive enforcement we will not keep them from setting up there at night.....which is perfectly legal....and they will be there in the morning to deal with.

I am all for Option 1 as written or as edited, tweaked, and finalized.

As Lou in the Columbian pointed out....Homelessness is a complicated issue,

Tyler

Tyler Chavers | N.P.O.

Neighborhood Police Officer - District 1



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From: King, Dave
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:49 AM
To: Chavers, Tyler
Subject: FW: Share Encampment Follow-up

Thoughts?

From: Lester, Mike
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 8:38 AM
To: Foster, Amy; King, Dave
Subject: FW: Share Encampment Follow-up

Amy & Dave,

Could I get some thoughts from you on this?

Mike

From: Eiken, Chad
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Potter, Bronson; Crawford, Lenda; Holmes, Eric; Young, Jonathan; McElvain, James; Lester, Mike; Carlson, Brian
Subject: Share Encampment Follow-up

All,

We are tentatively targeting February 23/24 as the dates for the next big clean-up (pending confirmation from Ops). This will be a major event similar to the Fall 2015 action, where notices will be posted, campers will be interviewed and possessions documented, debris will be removed, and unclaimed property will be tagged and stored. We will be involving service providers to be there in a supportive role. I'll be convening the same group that worked on the previous operation next week to coordinate functions such as street closures and debris management.

The real reason for this email though is to get your feedback on the attached draft strategy options for the encampment beginning on Day Zero after the clean-up. There are two strategies outlined: 1) Containment, and 2) Dispersal. Either approach has benefits, as well as potentially significant downsides, but I think unfortunately we are in the position of choosing the least worst option.

Please review this so we can have a follow-up discussion on this early next week.

Thanks, Chad

From: [Eiken, Chad](#)
To: [Sheehan, Peggy](#); [Chavers, Tyler](#); [King, Dave](#)
Subject: Share Encampment
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 8:45:37 AM

Hi Peggy, Tyler and Dave,

Yesterday I met with Eric, Lenda, Brian, Chief McElvain, Chief Lester, Bronson, and Jonathan to discuss what the City's stance will be following the clean-up, e.g. will we "embrace" the encampment, or require dispersal and make it difficult for the campers to move back in? It was a good discussion, with pros and cons of various approaches being debated. In the end, we decided that the best approach would be to take a firmer stance on enforcing the camping ordinance. While there is an understanding that this may push some campers into other locations that will cause other issues, this is seen as being the most defensible.

Probably the biggest change is that the campers would be required to take down their tents/camps during the day, or be cited. VPD and Code would make contact with the campers about once a week, though not on the same day of the week – as resources permit. The thought is that if campers have to dismantle their camps periodically, they won't be able to collect as much "stuff" or harden the campsites. The ordinance would also be applied consistently citywide, which had been another concern.

I'll be sending out an email to the broader group that will be involved in the clean-up, but wanted you to know first what the management team decided regarding "after the clean-up." I really appreciate your comments on what we should do, which helped inform the discussion.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks, Chad

From: [PETER BRACCHI](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Council meeting 5/18 Climate Action Framework: Request to Include Sharehouse Area as Implementation Test Case
Date: Monday, May 18, 2026 10:53:30 AM

Mayor and City Council,

For tonight's Climate Action Framework discussion, I ask the City to look at the Men's Share House / Share Hot Meals area as a real-world test of whether the Climate Action Framework is moving from policy language to implementation.

The staff memo says the updated Climate Action Framework should focus on public health, resilience, visible community benefits, indirect impacts, natural systems, and clearer responsibility between City departments and partners. Those are exactly the issues that have existed around the Sharehouse area for years.

This is not mainly a greenhouse-gas issue. It is an urban resilience, public health, ADA access, stormwater source-control, sanitation, and accountability issue.

For approximately eight years, the area around 1115 W. 13th Street and nearby downtown sidewalks and streets has had recurring problems involving:

blocked sidewalks and ADA access concerns

garbage, food waste, and sanitation issues

dumpsters and portable toilets in or near public right-of-way

repeated cleanup activity and public cost

stormwater pollution concerns from street debris and waste

unclear responsibility between the City, HART/VPD, Public Works, Code, Share, and Clark County Public Health

If the City's climate plan is supposed to produce visible and tangible benefits for the community, this area should not be left out. The public can "see and feel" this problem every day.

I respectfully ask Council to direct staff to include the Sharehouse area as a Climate Action Framework implementation case study or pilot project, with a written corrective plan that includes:

clear lead responsibility

coordination with Clark County Public Health

storm-drain and street source-control measures

a garbage, food waste, and sanitation management plan

ADA sidewalk and right-of-way protection

measurable reporting on cleanup events, costs, tons removed, complaints, and corrective actions

The City already has years of notice and records on this issue. The Climate Action Framework should not only address broad climate goals; it should also address the street-level public health and environmental conditions that continue year after year.

Please include this comment in the public record for tonight's meeting.

Respectfully,

Peter Bracchi
Vancouver, Washington