

## Communication from Public

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**Date Submitted:** 07/28/2019 10:10 AM

**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** The high rents, and laws which allow rent-controlled building to be stripped from the community, are huge contributors to the current and ever-increasing homeless situation. The situation is further escalated by the fact we have a divided community. One part has been there for generations and have held tight to what they either inherited or bought when prices were affordable; one part working all day long and paying every penny to rent and expenses to keep up appearances with nothing to show for what they earn except for constant debt; and a third who are investors and run a community like a in and out burger with hotels and hostels and air bnb. Yet all the rage from the latter two groups falls upon the homeless whom fell through the cracks., many of whom are displaced factory workers or homemakers. The fact is, the system provides no alternative to them, but quickly condemns them. Having homeless 'litter' the sidewalks with their presence is not easy for anyone to bear. It is a slap in the face to those who slave away to live in the area, and are often two paychecks away from the same situation, and a big kick in the ass to those experiencing it and hard to overcome the obstacles to move forward. High rents also make it difficult for services that exist to even serve these areas , as the teams have to drive there for they can't afford to rent there and are scorned away through the investors. However, when people at least get the dignity to own a car to use to simply be able to close a door and lock it to have their own space to sleep in, it is a simple step up from the streets. It allows a safe zone for their thoughts and better rest at night. An RV or van gives them a home and therefore a sense of purpose. Dignity has a chance over sorrow, anger, and despair which beacon mental illness. We are a society full of hypocrisy. Since the 80's I have heard about funding and policies to prevent and assist the homeless. But the situation keeps getting worse and there's no end in sight. We at least owe this population the dignity and comfort to rest at night and contain their lives. We should be actively working with them to get a means to section 8 or other programs. These people already have a basic shelter . The shelters should be used for those lving actually on the stree.t And prevention should begin with skills instilled from early on in schools and communities to prevent this tide of disgrace, compassion needs to be cultivated to correct the situation, and

laws controlling rents and profits off peoples lives need to be capped.