

03/28/2016

To whom it may concern,

My name is Andrea and I live on Norwich Ave in North Hills. I live next to the wash. I wish that I could have been there in person so that I could explain the many things that we are dealing with but this meeting time conflicts with my schedule. We have never had an issue with the wash until approximately 2 years ago when the city or county took down a chain link fence that held as a barrier from our brick wall and the wash. This is when the problems started; this is when I began to make calls to the city and the county. I have reported this several times and I get the run around that the city is in charge or the county is in charge of the problem but neither has done anything to fix the problem. That gate should have stayed, as it was supposed to be only temporarily removed in order to cut down a few trees. I'm too afraid to look over my brick wall to see if there is graffiti on it. The homeless encampments have become a serious issue. We have had trash thrown over onto our backyards and we hear people screaming at all hours of the day. We've seen them light a mattress on fire and engage in violent activity. In the past 18 years that my family and I have lived here we have never encountered this problem and it only seems to be getting worse. I ask that you please help us in finding a solution to this problem. The chain link fence off of Chase St. has been cut and it has become free passage for anyone. This is unsafe for all. It is unsafe for the children that try to walk through the wash because they're, it is unsafe for my family and my neighbors because we don't know what kind of individuals are living right behind our backyard. I know many people would like to say that it isn't a problem and that these homeless people need somewhere to live but put yourself in our shoes, would you like them sleeping in your backyard? Lighting mattresses in your backyard? Would you like to wake up to a woman screaming for her drugs to be returned? We need to resolve this problem. It's our neighborhood and I'd like for it to stay safe for my parents and my siblings. I appreciate you taking the time to hear my perspective. I hope we are able to work together and resolve this problem.

Andrea