

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Let the CARE teams do their jobs and stop criminalizing homelessness. The new protocol with the CARE teams has barely been implemented and now it's already being curtailed? This is a terrible use of city resources and is only going to exacerbate a worsening crisis. Sweeps where the homeless population lose ID's, medications, the basic items they need to live just push people farther away. I volunteer with this population and the amount of time people are forced to spend replacing items is mind numbing. How are people supposed to get OFF the streets if they are constantly running in place to maintain their basic humanity. What happened to "leading with services" ? This inhumane practice of sweeps is a terrible use of the police and an under utilization of the CARE teams who know how to help this population. In a city where there simply aren't the shelters needed how can people be helped when the city is constantly pushing the homeless to the fringes and disconnecting them from society and the resources they need? Let me spell it out -- if your ID is taken in a sweep now you can't get receive the benefits you are entitled to, you can't get medical help, you can't replace a prescription. When your documents are thrown away how do you connect to a case manager, how do you get housing. When will this city learn from what IS working and stop this heartless and inefficient cycle that just worsens a crisis that needs solutions?