

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: On the surface, the program to be established by Park's motion seems to have the welfare of both the currently unhoused and housed residents at heart. But some of the language makes me worry that its focus is mainly the happiness of the currently housed residents. It may be my own failure of imagination, but I cannot understand what streets exist that are neither residential nor commercial, nor devoted to sensitive uses ["sensitive uses" is not defined]. Unless, that is, you mean industrial, which would result in putting children living in RVs at great risk for intake of lead and other harmful substances. It would mean ghettoizing the poor. And, since unhoused people are disproportionately black would mean ghettoizing people of color, who make up What appears to be the goal of this motion is to identify one area in each district in which to have all RV dwellers in the district park their vehicles. I suspect that this area will be far away from the delightful places to live in the district. Far from the beach, the canals, the jobs and services unhoused people are already connected to. When a person or family first becomes unhoused, they often move into a vehicle and stay in the community they were housed in. A large percentage of RV dwellers are people who have recently lost housing, people who cannot afford the high rents, and disabled people living on fixed incomes. Let's be humane and keep them in their neighborhoods The motion does not offer to the public information about a previous attempt to assess "the feasibility and cost of waste pumping services (CF 15-1138-S27)." It would be nice to know the results of this assessment before deciding on a program. I assume that the Housing and Homelessness Committee and the Transportation Committee have the data. This data is important in order to assess whether we could have more humane smaller Safe Parking areas sprinkled throughout the districts. In response to surveys, people living in RVs have stated that they would be happy to leave their vehicles for permanent housing. Permanent and long-term transitional housing is what we need to focus on. In the meantime, Safe Parking areas with sanitation services must be created near the areas where the unhoused currently live, work, and receive health treatment. Please don't stigmatize all the homeless because of the actions of some. We need to start with a Care First approach - not exile them to a far-away industrial wasteland.