

From: [Gary Runde](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony for Mayor Wheeler's New (latest) Plan for several large Outdoor Shelters
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 2:22:06 PM

Greetings

I am submitting Testimony on behalf of Southwest Neighborhoods Inc.

We find Mayor Wheeler's Plan for several large Outdoor Shelters consistent with the feedback we recently submitted (Sept 29th) to the Shelter-to-Housing-Continuum Part 2 Project

I have highlighted out final feedback items as it is 100% consistent with the new approach Mayor Wheeler and Commissioner Ryan are Proposing

We have a member on our SWNI LUC who has experienced homelessness, and after all of us on the SWNI LUC noticed the painfully progress towards siting and establishing the small Safe Rest Villages, this individual proposed we add to our feedback for S2HC2 that the City should take a larger approach to the Outdoor Shelters. We all agreed and added it to our Public Testimony.

In closing, SWNI Land Use Committee and SWNI Board have endorsed this feedback.

Regards:
Gary Runde
SWNI Land Use Chair

+++++ SWNI Formal Letter to BPS regarding
S2HC2 +++++

September 29, 2022
RE: SWNI Board Motion on Shelter to Housing Continuum
To Donnie Oliveira, Director, Bureau of Planning & Sustainability:

The SW Neighborhoods, Inc. voted to endorse these comments by the SWNI Land Use Committee, which has reviewed the Proposed Draft of changes to City Ordinances designed to allow for more timely locating and approval of future sites for Outdoor Shelters (Safe Rest Villages). We recommend

setback allowances be cut back from 20 feet to 15 feet (not to 5 feet as proposed) and that street-facing Sightlines firmly impose a requirement for 6-foot high fencing minimums.

SWNI recognizes that 5-foot setbacks have become common for sides of adjacent building, and in

some housing developments for backyards. However, these setbacks generally envision a one-to-one neighbor arrangement, not a one-to-many neighbor relationship created by an adjacent Outdoor Shelter. We feel appropriate setbacks will minimize noisy vocal interactions, excessive lights, and noise (by either party) could easily arise, and severely reducing the safety and security that the residents of Outdoor Shelters highly value.

We want to emphasize sightlines for such facilities to be obscured by vegetation (L-series code) or by Fencing (F-series code) that must be 6 feet tall. The street-facing proposal is only 3-foot tall fencing or shrubs, and is NOT consistent with the current utilization of 6-8 foot tall fencing completely surrounding the two most recent Safe Rest Villages and the high priority being placed on individual safety and security.

The SWNI LUC did not take issue with the relaxed use of parking lots for future Safe Rest Villages.

However, we strongly suggest that if a very large unutilized commercial parking lot is located, that

City consider it (despite leasing costs) for a larger-resident-capacity "first-point-of-contact" Safe Rest

Village to compliment the rest of the S2HC Strategy

Thank you,

Steve Mullinax, President
SWNI Board of Directors
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Cc. Commissioner Carmen Rubio