

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Homeless encampments

From: Katie McCrindle

Sent: July 31, 2020 8:57 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Fwd: Homeless encampments

Greetings,

My name is Katie McCrindle and I am a Ward 1 resident in Hamilton, Ontario.

I am writing to ask that you intervene, and stop the attack on Hamilton's homeless populations with the pending dismantling of the homeless encampments at the First Ontario Centre and the Ferguson Street encampment on July 31, 2020.

I am requesting that:

1. The City not dismantle homeless encampments
2. The City provide interim and permanent housing for encampment residents with necessary supports
3. The City prioritize individuals experiencing homelessness for urgent housing placement
4. The City engage encampment residents in assessing their needs prior to dismantling
5. The City remove barriers in shelters and hotels in order to accommodate the individual needs of encampment residents
6. The City allow for sanctioned encampment sites and/or designate specific parks/public lands where individuals are allowed to set up tents/temporary structures
7. The City allow for a streamlined, low-barrier, accessible process of issuing permits allowing for tents and temporary structures

Dismantling homeless encampments will cause harm to encampment residents and this harm is heightened by the current pandemic.

Allowing citizens to fall into homelessness is a violation of human rights (housing is a human right), but to remove what little they have to call home is insidious and wrong. I know you will do what's right.

Thank you so much for your work and time.

Sincerely,
Katie McCrindle