

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Please stop the tear down of encampments!

From: Samantha Richarz

Date: Thu, Jul 30, 2020 at 3:56 PM

Subject: Please stop the tear down of encampments!

To: <brenda.johnson@hamilton.ca>

Cc: <hclc.cjch@gmail.com>, <info@keepingsix.org>, <info@hamsmart.ca>

Dear Brenda,

I am asking you as a member of your ward to please stop the tear down of downtown encampments. It is wholly unfair to destroy and displace the lives of countless homeless people struggling during a pandemic without proper housing for them to move into.

Destroying these encampments with no plan is inhumane and deeply irresponsible.

I would love you to support the following actions:

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

Thank you,
Samantha