

Matthias, Isaac L

From: Wegleitner, Heidi <Wegleitner.Heidi@countyofdane.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 6:29 PM
To: All Alders
Subject: Remove Penalty Enhancers that Target People Experiencing Homelessness

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Good evening,

I write in strong support of item 79504, the ordinance amendment to remove penalty enhancers for persons trespassing and possessing certain items associated with a lack of safe and stable housing. Many thanks to Alder Figueroa-Cole for her leadership and the co-sponsors Alders Bennett, Govindarajan, Martinez-Rutherford, and Rummel.

I chair the Health and Human Needs Committee of the Dane County Board and we recently received a [presentation](#) and [report](#) from our staff regarding car camping and strategies to better support unsheltered folks in our community. Many of the proposed interventions, which also deserve your strong consideration, require significant resources and planning to implement. One of the recommended strategies did not, however, and that is one before you tonight-- repealing laws that criminalize / penalize homelessness. We must continue to work to end the criminalization of homelessness and life sustaining activities, like sleeping. As you have hopefully heard from many already, there are simply not lawful places for people to sleep outdoors in this city. Tacking on penalties to people who already experience many barriers to stable housing is extremely counterproductive.

Please vote yes tonight and work with your colleagues on the council and the county board for more humane solutions to homelessness, including further efforts to decriminalize homelessness and expand supportive services and permanent affordable housing opportunities.

Thanks for your service and attention to my email,

Heidi

Heidi M. Wegleitner
Dane County Supervisor, District 2
608-333-3676

Sent Securely via TLS from County of Dane by **Proofpoint**

Matthias, Isaac L

From: Carey Wegener <Keaghry0824@outlook.com>
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2023 3:06 PM
To: ayor@cityofmadison.com
Cc: All Alders
Subject: Proposal to allow the homeless to sleep on private property without owner permission

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Good afternoon,

I absolutely oppose this, on the grounds that it is a safety concern and privacy violation. Who is going to be responsible if a homeless individual hurts or kills someone or gets hurt themselves? Are the homeowners going to be held responsible to pay the medical expenses for someone they didn't give permission to be on their private property?

CW

Sent from my Boost Samsung Galaxy A03s

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