

From: [Pearl.](#)
To: [CCHIC Mailbox](#)
Subject: I registered for #4 but my name wasn't called so here are my comments.
Date: Monday, April 4, 2022 6:44:14 PM

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Although Madison has listed homeless as a protected class, I feel it does not go far enough. Many other cities such as Chicago, Baltimore, Washington, D.C, and Knoxville have a Homeless Bill of Rights including the state of Illinois.

While volunteering with people who are homeless, I've heard many complaints regarding systems working against them. One complaint at Reindahl was that service providers were documenting where people were staying, living, and putting their name on lists without their consent. #6 of the proposed Bill of Rights would cover protections regarding the right to confidentiality and protections from disclosure of records and information. The other big complaint is that belongings were thrown away in multiple problematic ways such as that service providers were telling trash teams or park rangers that they could throw away individual's items without consulting with the individual, items were being thrown away without being tagged, or even while still be occupied while being tagged "abandoned". #7 would hopefully make the city put into place new policies regarding an individual's personal property and the privacy to that property. In addition, many people who are homeless have received tickets for panhandling. #8 would hopefully cover things as self-employment such as vending and panhandling.

We ask that the city pass the basic rights that should be protected to our homeless/unhoused neighbors, friends, and family. We need to learn from other communities that have a homeless/unhoused Bill of Rights and protect our most vulnerable populations. I ask that you move to send this to the Common Council right away for a vote before we have similar problems this summer, especially after the hotel program ends.

Pearl Foster
she/her/hers

"Be the change you wish to see in the world" - Mahatma Gandhi "Veganism is not about giving anything up or losing anything; it is about gaining the peace within yourself that comes from embracing nonviolence and refusing to participate in the exploitation of the vulnerable" Gary L. Francione **GO VEGAN!**

"Don't compromise yourself. You are all you've got." - Janis Joplin