

From: Jesikah Leeper <leeper.jesikah@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 1:20 PM
To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba <district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Don't Eliminate Camping - Our Homeless Community Members Need It

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear committee members:

I understand that you have a resolution before you to end camping in the city of Madison. Right now there is an (under) estimated over 200 people sleeping in tents, cars and campers throughout the city. If the resolution were to pass, there are not enough spaces in shelter to accommodate everyone and there are waiting lists for those who qualify to get into hotels. Many do not qualify because they are not older or have one of the 7 CDC underlying conditions. Please do not pass this resolution breaking up encampments that goes against CDC recommendations. We should not be criminalizing homelessness and making existing without a home illegal until there is sufficient shelter and hotel space to accommodate everyone seeing a place to get 8 hours of sleep.

From: Gregory Gelembiuk <gwgelemb@wisc.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 1:39 PM
To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: in opposition to resolution ending temporary encampments in city parks

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear PSRC, EOC, and BPC members,

I am writing in opposition to a resolution that is coming before you, which would rescind Emergency Order #2 and direct city staff to enforce ordinances against encampments in city parks. I am told that currently, there are well over 200 people sleeping in tents, cars and campers throughout the city (and I believe that is a gross underestimate). There are not enough spaces in shelters to accommodate everyone and there are waiting lists for those who qualify to get into hotels. Many do not qualify because they are not older or have one of the seven CDC underlying conditions.

Please do not pass this resolution. Given the disruptions caused by this pandemic, many people who have never before experienced homelessness are now homeless. That includes an immediate family member of mine, who at times is now sleeping in his car. At one point he had symptoms of potential Covid and PHMDC arranged temporary accommodations in a hotel, but

he had to leave when the test result came back negative. We should not be criminalizing homelessness and making existing without a home illegal until there is sufficient shelter and hotel space to accommodate everyone.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gregory Gelembiuk

From: Anne Reynolds <atreynol@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 1:48 PM

To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba <district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>

Cc: Brenda Konkel <brenda@machonehealth.org>

Subject: Resolution on encampments

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Dear Committee member,

I understand that you have a resolution before you to end camping by people who are experiencing homelessness in the city of Madison. I hope you will oppose this resolution because there are not enough spaces in shelter to accommodate the estimated 200 people living in tents, cars and campers. There are waiting lists to enter hotels. During this pandemic, the CDC recommends that encampments remain where they are, with adequate restroom facilities and access to hand hygiene materials.

We should not be criminalizing homelessness in our City. Please do not approve this resolution.

Thank you,
Anne Reynolds
Board member
MACH OneHealth

From: Wendy Mukluk <ekelana@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 1:48 PM

To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba <district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Continue allowing camping in parks

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please continue allowing homeless people to camp in city parks. there aren't enough other places for people to go. until there are enough places to go, at least have the parks continue being an emergency place to stay. thank you.

-wanda ashman
640 crandall st
madison, wi 53711-1837
(608) 233-6912

From: Jesse Dirkman <jesse.dirkman@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 1:53 PM
To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba <district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Temporary Camping - Don't Criminalize Homelessness

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

I'm writing to encourage you NOT to end the temporary camping allowances. Folks are struggling right now. Criminalizing their temporary shelters will do nothing to solve the problems Madisonians are facing; it just adds one more problem to their plates. Seeing tents in parks in the city does make me uncomfortable - it is difficult to be confronted with human suffering that I would rather pretend is not happening. But this is not a reason to make public camping illegal - it gives me the opportunity to examine those feelings and think about what I am doing, or what I should be doing, to bring about a world without that kind of suffering.

The way to solve homelessness is to provide housing, not to make it illegal to be poor.

Thank you,
Jesse Dirkman

From: Adam Kleman <a.kleman@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 2:14 PM
To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba <district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Resolution 62393

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hi,

I live in downtown Madison and I urge you to **not support** Resolution 62393 to rescind emergency order #2 ending encampments in parks.

Before any ending of encampments we should be asking (1) if the alternatives are as plentiful and accessible as the resolution makes them seem and (2) why people are not taking advantage of them yet. If there are other issues (mental health, substance use) that prevent people from utilizing "more humane housing" options, our efforts should focus on treating those causes, not simply removing people.

Have people in encampments been turned away from other housing options? Do they trust other options? Do they think other options will be more temporary (how many people will be living in hotels after CARES funding ends)? This resolution seems to assume that everyone living in an encampment has simply decided they like it better than "more humane" housing.

If housing the people in encampments is the city's goal, we should be using our resources to expand housing options and figuring out the best way to get people to utilize them. Kicking these people out of encampments does nothing to help them, and will only make things worse for them.

Thank you for considering these comments.

-Adam Kleman

From: Claire Gervais <cmgerva@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 2:27 PM

To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba <district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Shelter for homeless

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello everyone

I am writing over my concern for the health and safety of our homeless population and continuing the option of camping. Firstly, I was pleased to see that this population has had a temporary option of camping this summer while shelters have been shut down due to COVID. Now I am concerned as a citizen and physician that they will no longer have this option.

The homeless population is vulnerable to the elements. Having a place to camp with a tent and a place to cook provides our homeless brothers and sisters with some form of safe and healthy living, no matter how minimal. This option should be continued until we

find other solutions to provide housing. This next year will especially be important while the threat of COVID continues to loom and shelter options are closed.

I urge you all to support this equitable option of camping on public property and to continue to work on more permanent solutions to homelessness.

Claire Gervais, MD
UW Department of Family Medicine and Community Health

From: Gisela Wilson <giselawilson@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 2:34 PM

To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba <district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Keep Madison parks open to the homeless

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October 14, 2020

Dear Committee Members,

I understand that you have a resolution before you to end camping in the city of Madison. Right now there is an (under) estimated over 200 people sleeping in tents, cars and campers throughout the city. And the numbers of homeless are likely to increase as long as the economic effects of Covid-19 linger and the government is stingy with its aid.

It is a fact that if the resolution were to pass, there are not enough spaces in shelter to accommodate everyone and there are waiting lists for those who qualify to get into hotels. Many do not qualify because they are not older or have one of the 7 CDC underlying conditions. Please do not pass this resolution breaking up encampments that goes against CDC recommendations.

I understand the concerns of some about the potential for violence at these encampments. However, the risk and violence to the homeless you are seeking to reduce is only going to increase as result of this measure, whether due to official criminalization or by driving these populations further into hiding. Further, although housed residents may feel discomfort as a result of the encampments, keeping them in view serves to remind everyone of our responsibility to motivate our government to act prevent this organized abandonment of human beings.

We should not be criminalizing homelessness and making existing without a home illegal until there is sufficient shelter and hotel space to accommodate everyone seeing a place to get 8 hours of sleep.

Sincerely,

Gisela Wilson, PhD
1244 Morrison
Madison, WI 53703

From: Edward Kuharski <ekuharski@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 2:48 PM
To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba <district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Konkel, Brenda <brendakonkel@gmail.com>
Subject: Emergency Camping in City Parks

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Commissioners & Alders,

I am writing to you today to urge that the Emergency Camping order be continued until alternate housing is available to the campers.

I am the architect and planner for Occupy Madison's proposed second village for 1901 Aberg Avenue, as I was for the existing successful village at 304 N. 3rd Street. We are moving as swiftly as possible, currently limited by neighborhood review/input, City & County approvals, possible funding, and closing on purchase of the property. Building out the village site and 20-some sleeping pods will be the easiest part.

All of this is possible before winter really sets in IF all stakeholders commit to making this a reality on a timely basis.

The park campers are a prime target group for priority in becoming a part of the Occupy community and to become stewards at the second village. In my view it would be quite disruptive of our plans to serve many of the park campers to disperse them. My general observation over 8 years of work on our housing deficit is that there is enhanced safety and vital social support that obtain from self-organized camping villages, be they in parks or elsewhere. Our successful village and the park encampments are both modeled on the form and function of villages from prehistoric times. The risks of anti-social behavior within an encampment are a good deal less than when people camp alone. Agencies and individuals have been able to contact and be of service to the campers much more effectively than if they were scattered.

Thanks for your time and attention to this matter of vital importance to our community.

Warm regards, Ed Kuharski

Edward Kuharski, Architect, AIA, LEED AP
GREEN DESIGN STUDIO
405 Sidney Street
Madison, WI 53703
608/469-5963 mobile
ekuharski@aol.com

"The best way to predict the future is to help create it."

From: Sarah Kdosi <sarah@kdosi.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 2:50 PM

To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba <district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Please protect Madison campers

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Committee members,

I understand that you have a resolution before you to end camping in the city of Madison. Right now there are at least 200 people sleeping in tents, casd, and campers throughout the city. One of these encampments is next door to my apartment, and I find these new neighbors have caused absolutely no disturbance to myself or my community. If this resolution passes, there are not enough spaces in shelter to accommodate everyone. Many do not qualify to even get on the waitlist for hotels as they are not older or do not have one of the 7 underlying conditions recognized by the CDC. Please do not pass this resolution to break up encampments. Doing so would be going against CDC recommendations and would be, in effect, criminalizing homelessness. Instead please us your privilege and power to do everything possible to ensure that all Madisonians have access to safe and affordable housing so that no one finds themselves in the position of needing to put a tent up in a park in the first. These people are my neighbors, I do not want to see them displaced.

Thanks,

Sarah Kdosi (she/her)
kdosi.com

From: Ian Adcock <ian.l.adcock@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 2:57 PM

To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba <district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Rescinding Emergency Order #2 a

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I am writing to you to express my extreme opposition to rescinding Emergency Order #2. No one likes homelessness in their neighborhood, I get it. But kicking people out of the parks while providing nowhere for them to go is cruelty incarnate. Madison's infrastructure for dealing with homelessness has been insufficient for well over a decade; now, during a pandemic and economic collapse, to just tell people to move on somewhere else without providing them

resources is absolutely heartless. Shame on Alders Baldeh and Henak for introducing a resolution that targets the most helpless members of our community while providing no solutions.

Sincerely,

Ian Adcock

From: Amanda Jane Hoffman <amandajhoffman23@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 3:08 PM
To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba <district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: stop murdering homeless people

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

It is absolutely unacceptable to stop homeless people from camping outside when they have no where else to go. You MUST make this right!

Amanda Jane Hoffman
Oakland Ave, Madison, WI

From: Karen Corbeill <kacorbeill@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 3:18 PM
Subject: Do Not Rescind Emergency Order #2: Camping in Parks

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

I am a Madison resident that would like to voice concern about tonight's resolution to rescind the Emergency Order that allows homeless to camp in tents in Madison parks. Homelessness is a major problem in Madison. But trying to pretend it doesn't exist isn't the answer. Banning camping in Madison parks and pushing out homeless individuals will only hurt those people and possibly cause deaths. This is inhumane. They are people and citizens too.

As a citizen I feel it is more important to provide a place for these individuals to survive rather than to attempt to make parks more aesthetically appealing by removing the uncomfortable sight of the existence of the homeless.

Please continue to allow camping in city parks so that the homeless have someplace they can even remotely consider home. It is imperative they have a place to set up camp if it is a means of survival.

Thank you,
Karen Corbeil
81 Lakewood Gardens Ln.

From: Olivia Williams <oliviareneewilliams@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 3:20 PM
Subject: Do not Rescind Emergency Order #2

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Greetings,

I am writing to request that you oppose the motion sponsored by Samba Baldeh and Zachary Henakto rescind Emergency Order #2 which allows encampments in some city parks.

I have noticed the encampments and there is a clear need for more shelter and housing especially as winter approaches. I know city staff are already working on this front to establish a site for a men's shelter and temporary indoor space for winter as the shelter is being built. In the meantime, people need spaces to sleep. Given the dire economic situation these times have wrought, there have not been other options for people. If Emergency Order #2 is immediately rescinded, where will those who need a spot to rest their heads go at night? This resolution is inhumane given the current situation many unhoused and out-of-work Madisonians find themselves in. I have seen no threat posed by the encampments and no adequate reason for this resolution.

I am a member of Affordable Housing Action Alliance and staff of Madison Area Community Land Trust.

Thank you for your time,

Olivia R. Williams, PhD
oliviareneewilliams.com | [Twitter](#)
[MACLT](#) | [EVA](#) | [NASCO](#)

From: Philippa Bergmann <pb.supercherie@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 3:40 PM
To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba <district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: CONTINUE to allow housing-insecure to camp in City Parks!

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear committee members:

I understand that you have a resolution before you to end camping in City parks (and perhaps other City property). You would be going against the will and good conscience of the people by passing such an ordinance right now in the midst of a pandemic and at the VERY TIP of the economic fallout from it. Right now there is an (under)estimated over 200 people sleeping in tents, cars, campers throughout the city. Mutual aid groups have stepped up and are helping this population as best as we can; the City needs to step up with SOLUTIONS FOR THE GROWING POPULATION of the housing-insecure now, NOT PUNISHMENTS.

If the resolution were to pass, there are not enough spaces in shelter to accommodate everyone and there are waiting lists for those who qualify to get into hotels. Many do not qualify because they are not older or have one of the 7 CDC underlying conditions. Please do not pass this resolution breaking up encampments that goes against CDC recommendations. We should not be criminalizing homelessness and making existing without a home illegal until there is sufficient shelter and hotel space to accommodate everyone seeing a place to get 8 hours of sleep.

MY TWO CENTS: Work with local commercial landlords who are clamoring for tenants and increase the number of tiny village communities in this city! Make them the PRIDE of Madison!!! Occupy Madison Tiny Village has been successful for 4 years now and is an exemplar of what these can be. I have lived near the OM Village since its inception and have been to many of their community garden sales and have loved having them in our community! I am BEYOND pleased to see the new village being rapidly assembled at Wiggies parking lot close to my workplace! Much, much more of this please!

And to Alder Baldeh: I have just moved and am now a homeowner in your district. I am beyond disappointed and angry to see that this is a bill you sponsored. I ask for a response from you to my concerns above.

Thank you,

Philippa Bergmann
27 Anniversary Court
Madison, WI 53704

From: Norm Littlejohn <norm.littlejohn@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 3:55 PM

To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Against a camping ban in Madison

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear committee members: I understand that you have a resolution before you to end camping in the city of Madison. Right now there are at least 200 people sleeping in tents, cars and campers throughout the city. If the resolution were to pass, there are not enough spaces in shelter to accommodate this many people, and there are waiting lists for those who qualify to get into hotels. Many do not qualify because they are not older or have one of the seven underlying conditions the CDC has designated that make people more at risk from the Covid-19 virus.

We should not be criminalizing homelessness and making it illegal to exist without a home, especially when there isn't sufficient shelter and hotel space to accommodate everyone seeing a place to get some sleep.

Thank you.

Norm Littlejohn

2209 Cypress Way #16, Madison 53713 • District 14

From: Jeff Turk <vicepresident@friendsofthestatestreetfamily.org>

Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 4:02 PM

To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba

<district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>

Cc: Board of Directors <boardofdirectors@friendsofthestatestreetfamily.org>; Beth Maglio <outreach@friendsofthestatestreetfamily.org>

Subject: Temporary Permissible Encampments

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

On behalf of FSSF I would like to address concerns we have regarding ending temporary encampments within the city. I don't want to make any assumptions of why this is being considered. My question is what will happen if and when you end this? Do you have a plan for these displaced individuals who have no place to go?

Encampments may not be the ideal solution during normal times. However, where are the resources or the plan to work with and help this growing population of homeless folks, displaced due to the economic shifts in recent months? From our perspective, the encampments provide at the very least, a centralized location where we can do outreach to provide help in our limited capacity. Forcing them out of the permissible encampments will most likely cause a scattering throughout the city. Grass roots organizations such as ours are doing everything we can to address the needs of these people. We feel ending the permissible encampments at this time, along with potentially ending the hotel stays of dozens of families on January 1, is a disaster waiting to happen - if there is no plan to address the shelter needs of this population during the winter months.

Does the city have a plan?

Jeff Turk

President, Board of Directors

Friends of the State Street Family

PH: 608-515-4825

Website: www.friendsofthestatestreetfamily.org

Outreach Line: 608-535-9394 (Voice to Text)

From: Philippa Bergmann <pb.supercherie@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 4:15 PM

To: PD PSRC <PDPSRC@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Equal Opportunities Commission <EOC@cityofmadison.com>; Baldeh, Samba <district17@cityofmadison.com>; Albouras, Christian <district20@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Re: CONTINUE to allow housing-insecure to camp in City Parks!

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear all,

I am new to District 17 and look forward to getting to know Alder Baldeh. I see that he is hoping to increase funding to get some of these homeless into our vacant hotels, however he is putting the cart before the horse. Penalizing those who must sleep in cars, campers, and tents is obviously not the thing to do first! This will only decrease their access to resources (advocacy groups and mutual aid groups ARE providing necessary services to these encampments) and increase the dangers of homelessness to those affected and increase risk to the City at large by making a growing in-need population LESS supported and their needs less visible.

Thank you,

Philippa Bergmann
27 Anniversary Court
Madison, WI 53704