
From: justin jarvis

Sent: Friday, December 06, 2013 3:54 PM

To: GREEN, BRENDA

Subject: Comments for Study Session on the Homeless Supportive housing Project on December 10th

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Justin Jarvis and I'm a PhD candidate in economics at the University of California, Irvine. I have been writing my dissertation on the determinants of homelessness, using the Costa Mesa Homeless community as a key data source. Several members have asked me to write a letter in SUPPORT of homeless housing construction. Because I believe that this is a part of the solution, I am sending along a comment.

In my research, I have found that it is clear that a reprieve from the streets (even the brief one that use of the Churches Consortium's Check-in Center provides) leads to improved outcomes for homeless individuals, in many indices. These include health as well as recidivism.

It is my opinion that a supportive housing unit that is rented to both low income as well as homeless tenants is a much better long-term solution for the city than not doing anything.

We also benefit when we help those less fortunate than ourselves. That cannot be forgotten.

Thanks for your consideration.

Justin Jarvis

PhD Candidate, UC Irvine

From: Andrew Richards

Sent: Monday, December 09, 2013 4:16 PM

To: GREEN, BRENDA

Subject: Public Comments for the Study Session on the Homeless Supportive housing Project on December 10th.

Greetings Brenda!

As a pastor in Costa Mesa, I wanted to email you my comments in support of the recommendations outlined in the HOMELESS SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROJECT: DEVELOPMENT MODEL OPTIONS to be presented on Tuesday, December 10th.

Many in our church community have worked alongside of our neighbors who find themselves homeless for quite some time now.

It is my conviction that in order for someone to step into the person they are to become, they need to have a vision, the intention, and the means to make a different life. For our neighbors who are homeless, this can be hugely daunting when there aren't available or affordable housing units. This barrier removes the largest portion of the means of moving out of homelessness – an affordable home.

After the most recent YOU Count initiative, and under recommendations from those working closely with our neighbors who find themselves homeless, we need at least 40 units of housing to accommodate those who desire to make a different life.

It's also worth noting that securing affordable housing is cheaper for the general tax payer as a preventative measure, rather than dealing with emergency situations as they arise.

Thank you for considering my comments, and I'll look forward to hearing about the positive steps that we can take together to see Costa Mesa residents achieve their potential.

With peace today,

Andrew Richards

andrew richards
MISSION pastor