

**THANK YOU FOR VISITING
SHARE/WHEEL'S
LICTON SPRINGS VILLAGE
(a staffed, low-barrier Tiny House community
at 8620 Aurora Ave N)!**

OUR WISH LIST:

TOP FIVE NEEDS:

- BLANKETS
- BIKE RACKS AND BIKE LOCKS
- LARGE, LIDDED PLASTIC OR METAL BINS
- TOWELS AND SHOWER/HYGIENE SUPPLIES
- FOOD—HOT BREAKFASTS or LUNCHESES or produce/bread/pastries/
canned goods/non-perishables & SPICES/CONDIMENTS;
check out our meal calendar at www.sharewheel.org

Sandwiches

Canned Food

Coffee, Sugar, Creamer, Milk, Juice

Hotdogs, Lunchmeat, Cheese, Soups, Chili

Condiments and Spices

Folding or Outdoor Chairs

Tables

Plastic Garbage Bags

Plastic Utensils, Serving Utensils, Paper Plates & Bowls, Napkins/Paper Towels

Hand Tools

And, FUNDING to cover our costs—our website has a PayPal Button!

SHARE/WHEEL

www.sharewheel.org

(206) 956-0334

lictonsprings@sharewheel.org

**SHARE is now on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/share_shelters](https://twitter.com/share_shelters)
and Facebook: www.facebook.com/shareselters**

**TO REPORT & SOLVE A PROBLEM
WITH SHARE/WHEEL'S LICTON SPRINGS VILLAGE
Please contact SHARE/WHEEL directly:**

- Report the problem directly to SHARE/WHEEL. This must be done by calling or writing the SHARE/WHEEL Office and speaking or writing to Michele Marchand, SHARE/WHEEL Organizer. The office phone number is (206) 956-0334.
Our mailing address is P.O. Box 2548, Seattle, WA 98111-2548.
Our email address is lictonsprings@sharewheel.org
- If the problem is the responsibility of Licton Springs Village or one of its participants (as described in "Our Promise to Our Neighbors" and the SHARE/WHEEL Code of Conduct), we will solve it.

NOTE: You are always welcome to come meet us!

Please drop by SHARE/WHEEL's Licton Springs Village. Ask for the Staff Person on duty. You are welcome to ask us questions there directly at any time. We will be delighted to give you a tour of the camp, or describe any details you are curious about. We would also be greatly appreciative of suggestions.

Registering of problems or complaints, however, cannot be done at the site. It must be done through the method described above.

OUR PROMISE TO OUR NEIGHBORS

**Neighbors will see the property we are using, and the neighborhood we are in, being treated respectfully, with regular litter pickups.

**Neighbors will not see us panhandling, purchasing liquor, loitering, or being boisterous in the neighborhood.

**Drug dealing, using, and other illegal activity that is difficult to control in vacant lots at night will be eliminated from our Village. We will discourage, by our presence and calling 911, any illegal activity we see anywhere in the neighborhood.

**When we leave at the end of our permit period, the area we used and the neighborhood will be in as good a condition as we found them.

Our greatest strength is a reputation for being responsible in our operations. The entire SHARE/WHEEL community of 11 shelters, Storage Lockers, Tent City3, Tent City4, Tent City5 Interbay and other efforts will not tolerate losing this strength and reputation over Licton Springs Village. Neighbors have our word that if they first contact SHARE/WHEEL directly over a pattern of problems that are our responsibility, we will solve it.

What is SHARE/WHEEL?

- SHARE is Seattle Housing and Resource Effort (co-ed).
- WHEEL is the Women's Housing, Equality and Enhancement League.
- We are partner organizations of homeless and formerly homeless men and women.
- All of our efforts are self-managed; run by the homeless members themselves.
- We are King County's largest shelter network, with 11 indoor shelters & four outdoor communities--TC3, TC4, TC5 Interbay & Licton Springs Village (low-barrier).
- In addition to shelters and organized outdoor communities, we facilitate a Storage Locker Program and a Housing-For-Work Program called SHARE2.
- We are not a social service organization; we are a self-help group.

SHARE'S POWER LUNCH: This is self-governance at work, with lunch. This is where SHARE members do the work of the organization. The SHARE Power Lunch is held every Saturday at noon at rotating locations, and are open to any SHARE member or homeless person. Meeting locations are posted by Friday on the SHARE Office door (alley between 3rd & 2nd off Stewart). Call (206) 448-7889 for SHARE-related functions.

STORAGE LOCKERS: Located on the corner of Westlake and Mercer (in the alley behind the Guitar Center). Lockers are open weekdays from 6:30-8:30 AM and weekends from 7-9 AM. Call (206) 623-0390 during locker open hours for more information.

SHARE2: SHARE2 is a Housing-for-Work program. In exchange for 8-10 hours of work weekly and a nominal monthly utility co-payment, participants are housed in one of three SHARE2 houses. SHARE2 screenings are done after the SHARE Power Lunch each week, when there are openings.

WHEEL: WHEEL is the women-only partner organization to SHARE. WHEEL has its own office and phone (206) 956-0334. WHEEL's women-only organizing meetings are held at 1 PM Mondays at Mary's Place Day Center (9th/Stewart) and 1 PM Thursdays at Angeline's Day Center (3rd/Lenora). Among WHEEL's many projects are a large, low-barrier, staffed women's shelter, a self-managed day organizing and arts project (the Women's Empowerment Center), and efforts to give dignity to the deaths of homeless people: Women in Black silent vigils, and the Homeless Remembrance Project. Much more information is at the WHEEL page on the SHARE/WHEEL website, or by visiting www.homelessremembrance.org, www.fallenleaves.org, or Homeless Remembrance Project on Facebook.

Description of the Organization:

SHARE and WHEEL are self-organized, democratic, grassroots organizations of homeless and formally homeless individuals. SHARE was founded in 1990 and WHEEL was founded in 1993. For 26 years we have been working to eradicate homelessness, educate the community, and empower homeless people.

We practice self-management because it acknowledges and promotes the innate dignity of each person. All major decisions are made organizing meetings that all members are encouraged to attend, participate, and vote in.

SHARE/WHEEL is the national leader in breaking down attitudinal & unconstitutional legal barriers to Tent Cities, of which we organize two, as well as Seattle's largest network of indoor shelters, all self-managed. Recognized leaders within SHARE can enhance that role by participating in our SHARE2 housing for work program, which provides extra support for struggling shelters, enabling them to become successful in self-management.

Together, SHARE and WHEEL educate our community about the causes and effects of homelessness, build bridges with homed people to address those issues, and actively lobby to change policies that oppress homeless people.

Organizational Accomplishments

Up to 400 people each night find safety, shelter, dignity, and respect in our 11 self-managed shelters, low-barrier women's shelter and three Tent Cities. Our shelters are predominantly in church halls, with partnerships stretching back to the early '90s.

Tent City3 was founded in 2000 and operates in the Greater Seattle area. Tent City4 was founded in 2004, after years of struggle, community education, and negotiation. Overcoming initial intense public opposition, we negotiated with King County to define and establish land use standards for temporary homeless encampments. In the process we were able to build bridges with the community, leading to the establishment of Eastside Cares and Greater Seattle Cares, coalitions of religious and lay people that provide practical, fundraising, and lobbying support for Tent Cities.

Tent City5 was founded in November 2015 and operates in a remarkable partnership with the City of Seattle, on City land, with some City financial support. This, too, occurred after years of struggle, advocacy and public education.

WHEEL has had many victories over two decades, and now operates a large, low-barrier Women's Shelter (at Trinity Episcopal Parish, 8th/Cherry) and the Women's Empowerment Center, a self-managed day organizing, arts, and education center for homeless and formally homeless women (on Sundays at the Recovery Café 2022 Boren). Together with Mary's Place, WHEEL co-sponsors Women in Black vigils whenever homeless people die outside or by violence in King County. And, WHEEL facilitates the Homeless Remembrance Project and its two intertwined parts: a beautiful "Tree of Life" sculpture and gathering place in Victor Steinbrueck Park (north of Pike Place Market), and bronze "Leaves of Remembrance" with names in Right of Way locations throughout the city.

Organizational Membership

Membership in SHARE/WHEEL is open to all homeless and formally homeless adults. Membership is defined as participation: we do not have dues or formal membership lists. We are active throughout greater Seattle, with participants from throughout King County. Our self-

managed shelters and SHARE2 houses are located in 13 Seattle neighborhoods. Tent City 3 moves quarterly within Seattle, Tukwila, Shoreline, and unincorporated South King County. Tent City 4 moves quarterly between locations in suburban cities in North and East King County, including Bothell, Kirkland, Woodinville, and Bellevue.

Decision-Making Process

Participants at weekly community meetings make all decisions in SHARE and WHEEL; virtually everyone present is low-income. Every participant who attends has an equal vote; paid staff has none. The SHARE Power Lunch is held at rotating program sites every Saturday, and the WHEEL community meetings are on Mondays at the WHEEL Women's Empowerment Center. Decisions that affect both SHARE and WHEEL must be agreed on at both meetings. The SHARE Board of Directors meets with the Power Lunch.

SHARE has a nine-member Board of Directors and WHEEL has a ten-member Executive Committee, elected by participants from among participants. There are no term-limits; the community meetings can replace any elected member at any time. These elected groups study issues and make recommendations at the community meetings.

There are a number of standing ad-hoc committees to address particular problems and projects: a Finance Committee, a Vehicle Maintenance Committee, a committee addressing the Safe Harbors Computer Tracking, committees to prepare for meetings such as those with City Council members, etc. These committees consist of low-income participants with a staff facilitator, and carry out directives set by the community meetings. Actions taken by committees are always subject to review at the weekly community meetings.

Both SHARE and WHEEL depend on individual participants holding each other accountable. Any member may file an incident report or grievance against a staff member, someone in an elected position, or anyone delegated to do a task for the community. Grievances are reviewed at by-weekly meetings and at the weekly community meeting.

SHARE/WHEEL

P.O. BOX 2548

SEATTLE, WA 98111-2548

www.sharewheel.org

SHARE: (206) 448-7889 shelters@sharewheel.org

WHEEL (206) 956-0334 wheelorg@yahoo.com

**SHARE is now on Twitter: www.twitter.com/share_shelters
and Facebook: www.facebook.com/shareshelters**

Tiny House Village Outcomes – 2017

LIHI, in partnership with Nickelsville, SHARE, and Camp Second Chance

In 2017, Tiny House Villages provided shelter to 843 people.

All Tiny House Villages exits = 529

Permanent	143	27%
Transitional	12	2%
Shelter/Hotel	97	18%
Reunited with Family	49	9%
Employed	115	22%

BALLARD total exits = 79

Permanent	9	11%
Transitional	3	4%
Shelter/Hotel	15	19%
Reunited with Family	4	5%
Employed	18	17%

GEORGETOWN* total exits = 54

Permanent	17	31%
Transitional	0	0%
Shelter/Hotel	12	22%
Reunited with Family	3	6%
Employed	17	16%

INTERBAY total exits = 144

Permanent	31	22%
Transitional	7	5%
Shelter/Hotel	21	15%
Reunited with Family	23	16%
Employed	35	19%

LICTON SPRINGS* total exits = 26

Permanent	13	50%
Transitional	0	0%
Shelter/Hotel	6	23%
Reunited with Family	4	15%
Employed	1	1%

OTHELLO total exits = 122

Permanent	32	26%
Transitional	2	2%
Shelter/Hotel	26	23%
Reunited with Family	7	6%
Employed	25	14%

MYERS WAY* total exits = 77

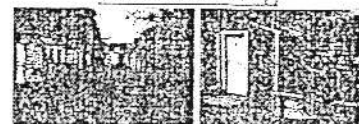
Permanent	26	34%
Transitional	0	0%
Shelter/Hotel	16	16%
Reunited with Family	6	8%
Employed	12	12%

THV 22ND & UNION total exits = 27

Permanent	15	56%
Transitional	0	0%
Shelter/Hotel	1	4%
Reunited with Family	2	7%
Employed	7	17%

For More info on Tiny Houses:

www.LIHI.org



*These three villages were opened in 1st and 2nd quarter of 2017 and include unsheltered homeless people referred by the City's Navigation Team.

RULES FOR LICTON SPRINGS VILLAGE

GENERAL BEHAVIOR

- NO VIOLENCE
- NO HARASSING (LANGUAGE)
- NO VERBAL ABUSE (INCLUDING WITH STAFF)
- NO THEFT
- NO OPEN/PUBLIC USE OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOL
- NO DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOL

NEIGHBORHOOD (CONSTITUTES ONE MILE RADIUS)

- NO LOITERING
- NO DRUG OR ALCOHOL USE
- NO LITTERING
- NO DUMPSTER DIVING
- NO PARKING VIOLATIONS

WITHIN THE VILLAGE

- MAINTAIN HOUSE AREA
 - KEEP CLEAN; NO HOARDING
 - NO SMOKING IN TINY HOUSES OR DORMS

--OVER--

- ENTRY/EXIT ONLY THRU MAIN GATE ON AURORA
- NO ENTRY WITHOUT STAFF PERMISSION BY RESIDENTS TO STAFF/LIHI OFFICE
 - STORAGE
 - DONATION
- NO VISITS TO OTHER RESIDENTS TINY HOUSE OR DORM
- NO OUTSIDE VISITORS
- NOTIFY OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASE
- UPKEEP OF PERSONAL HYGIENE
- NO SPITTING
- NO URINE BOTTLES

KITCHEN/COMMON AREAS

- CLEAN UP AFTER SELF
- SANITIZE HANDS
- DO NOT LEAVE PROPANE BURNERS OPEN OR ON

SHARE/WHEEL N 88th TINY HOUSE VILLAGE (LOW-BARRIER) MANAGEMENT PLAN 2017

ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND: SHARE and WHEEL are partnered organizations of homeless and formerly homeless men and women dedicated to surviving and solving homelessness, primarily through self-help, self-managed solutions. SHARE (Seattle Housing and Resource Effort) is co-ed and a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. WHEEL (Women's Housing, Equality and Enhancement League) is made up solely of women.

Together SHARE and WHEEL facilitate King County's largest indoor shelter network of 11 indoor shelters and three Tent Cities (Tent City3, Tent City4, and Tent City5 Interbay). In addition, we facilitate the large, low-barrier WHEEL Women's Shelter, the WHEEL Women's Empowerment Center, Storage Lockers, and a SHARE2 Housing-for-Work program at three sites. Our efforts began in 1990.

SHARE/WHEEL is committed to providing survival, safety, dignity, empowerment, and leadership development to homeless people in need of shelter.

Our shelters, our encampments, our other projects and our organization are most often run by participants themselves. SHARE participants determine the policies, rules and operating principles of SHARE, and take responsibility for the day-to-day (and night-to-night) work of running the projects.

N 88TH TINY HOUSE VILLAGE (LOW-BARRIER):

LOW BARRIER (HARM REDUCTION) MODEL DESCRIPTION: The goal of this village is to establish relationships of trust over time with folks who've been in crisis outdoor situations.

The village is designed to be "come as you are," welcoming without pre-condition to people of all abilities, addictions, and backgrounds, and to people with pets, partners and possessions. Sobriety is NOT required to stay at the village. All will be welcome as long as they can be non-violent and cooperative with minimum community expectations. The Village will be a non-judgmental, non-coercive place, and will operate with a practice of gently encouraging participants to reduce potential self-harm.

There will be no public consumption of drug or alcohol on site, but those caught drinking or using will not necessarily be barred (asked to leave), unless their behavior is detrimental to the community or harmful to self or others.

Rule enforcement and operations will be individualized and behavior-based. There will be a reward and graduation system to greater responsibilities among participants.

SHARE and LIHI staff will establish or strengthen working relationships with the Sobering Center other treatment programs to create options and opportunities for participants interested in substance abuse disorder support. SHARE and REACH will work together to coordinate appropriate referrals as needed.

LEADERSHIP and STAFFING: Day-to-day oversight of operations will be managed by a 12-member staff; two staff on duty at any given moment. A full-time LIHI Case Manager will be assigned to this village (See separate Services Plan). And, a trained, long-term

SHARE/WHEEL Organizer will be assigned to general oversight and facilitation of operations.

Staff will be on duty at all times at the front Security Desk (at the main entry), and will assure the village and its members are safe, accountable and responsive.

Staff members will work in four-to-12 hour shifts.

INTAKES: Intake is the process where SHARE staff will engage with new participants for the first time, and collect basic information. Staff will complete the intake process and fill out intake forms with new folks who are referred to the village by the designated referral entities (currently REACH). Staff will provide orientation to new participants, and dormitory or tiny house assignments.

REACH will be working with the local area providers including Aurora Commons to identify homeless residents of that area who may be appropriate referrals into the Village.

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES: SHARE Staff will be responsible for intakes, resource-sharing, keeping the peace (security), and community-building and development.

Some internal project positions and responsibilities will be shared with participants. These may include:

- **Kitchen Coordination and Maintenance:** Maintain kitchen & pantry to Health Department specifications; assure fair distribution of donated food items.
- **Taking and Tracking Donations:** Maintain the donation tent and assures fair distribution of donations.
- **Neighborhood Security Walkabouts and Litterbusters** (trash pickup).

VISITOR POLICY: Prearranged tours, drop-offs of donations and food are very welcome. Campers may not have "guests" or personal visitors on-site.

SECURITY PROTOCOLS: Staff will take referrals, "keep the peace," answer queries, monitor who comes into and exits the Village, and do perimeter checks, neighborhood patrols and cleanup on an established schedule.

There is only one point of access (main entry) on Aurora Avenue N.

SHARE staff and participants will conduct regular Neighborhood Watch Patrols to a two-block radius. These patrols are conducted by orange-vested staff and participants. These workers will call 9-11 if they witness illegal behavior or problems in the surrounding community.

SHARE has a good 20-year relationship with the Seattle Police Department (SPD), and works closely with them as needed to keep the peace in our projects. We will call for SPD intervention if there are problems that require their assistance, ie if someone who's been barred is refusing to leave. SPD notify us if there are problems in the surrounding neighborhood, if there are security concerns, or if they have questions about our operations.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROTOCOLS: SHARE has an excellent 20-year relationship with the King County Department of Public Health. Staff will schedule and participate in regular (Quarterly) walkthroughs by Public Health Department workers. During our Planning Process SHARE will meet with Public Health Department staffpeople and review their best-practices suggestions. Staff will complete harm reduction and trauma-informed care training from Health Care for the Homeless. Staff will also receive training on Narcan use and distribution from REACH.

SHARE has an established plan to address proper food handling and trash management as recommended by the Seattle/King County Department of Public Health, to limit the spread of communicable disease and food-borne illness. In addition, SHARE will manage rodent abatement procedures as needed with a licensed pest control provider.

FIRE DEPARTMENT PROTOCOLS: SHARE has an excellent 20-year relationship with the Seattle Fire Department, who regularly check on our operations. We will walk through the site with them as we set up—as is our normal practice—to assure our aisles, exit/egress paths, smoking area and electrical setup meet their expectations. We will schedule and participate in more regular walkthroughs, as the Fire Department desires. We provide fire extinguishers sufficient to the size of the village (including one per each tiny house), and make sure they're checked and serviced regularly.

DECISION-MAKING AND ORGANIZATIONAL OVERSIGHT: SHARE participants determine the policies, rules and overall operating principles of SHARE. Each SHARE/WHEEL site (including this new village) holds a weekly on-site House Meeting to discuss problems, agree and act on solutions, and to share information.

In addition, SHARE's weekly organizational business meeting, known as the Saturday Power Lunch, provides participants from each SHARE location the opportunity to report on site operations and participate in decision-making for the whole organization.

REFERRALS, RESOURCE-SHARING, and ON-SITE SERVICES:

Case Managers and Outreach Workers: SHARE's partners, LIHI, will initially provide one FTE case manager for this low-barrier village. Another will be added as additional funding is secured. S/he provides on-site information and referral services, employment counseling, and will assist participants with housing (and other) applications, and resources for addition/other issues. The on-site LIHI Case Manager will be working closely with participants on her/his caseload to share and help participants access resources. Case Management staff will have a private meeting tiny house for this purpose. See attached LIHI Services Plan.

On-Site Services: SHARE's current camps and indoor shelter network will help leverage new resources and will share some of their current on-site services, which include:

- Health Care provided by the King County Mobile Medical Unit.
- Legal assistance and Veterans outreach (providers TBA)
- Housing assessments provided by LIHI and/or Catholic Community Services.

Kitchen: Amenities include a Kitchen Tent (with non-perishable food, a microwave and coffeepot), and the solicitation of hot meals. SHARE will tap its current meal-scheduling support group to assist with the startup meal solicitation and calendar. We will provide one hot midday meal daily—facilitated by Operation Sack Lunch. In addition, SHARE will work with its existing

network of supporters to schedule additional regular hot meals, with a goal of providing hot breakfasts and dinners as frequently as possible.

Bus Tickets: Staff will provide two bus tickets per day to participants, to assist with participants' ability to seek jobs, employment, housing, health care, and other resources.

HMIS Protocols: The LIHI Case Manager will do HMIS surveying and data entry—in an informed-consent fashion—with all participants. Within seven days of intake into the low-barrier camp, new participants will check in with the LIHI Case Manager and complete the HMIS Informed Consent and Demographics forms. Case management participation is not required. All data entry will be done by LIHI. Staff will share the names of exited campers on a weekly basis.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS: SHARE/WHEEL has an excellent track record of providing notice to neighborhoods when we are about to begin operating a shelter or an encampment in a new area. We also have an excellent year-plus track record creating, reporting to, and facilitating a strong and effective Community Advisory Committee for our Tent City5 Interbay encampment.

Neighborhood Notification Leafleting and Meeting: Our process starts with delivering a flyer to the neighborhood within a two-block radius of the new site at least five days before the Community Meeting. The flyer advises neighbors when a new project will be present, and invites them to a neighborhood meeting prior to the project's arrival.

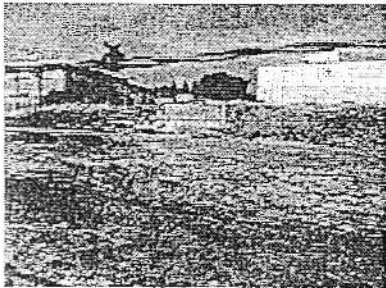
We've attended one large Aurora Community Notification Meeting already, and are glad to facilitate our own, where we can share information and answer questions about operations, and set forth a process of taking complaints and solving them. We will provide clear contact information for folks to make enquiries or to report complaints about our operations.

Community Advisory Committee: With our LIHI partners, we will set up a Committee of no more than seven community stakeholders and will conduct regular check-in meetings. City documents and staff have given suggestions of constituent and stakeholder groups to tap for Community Advisory Committee members, and we will follow these suggestions, being sure to include members of the business, faith community, social service community, and ordinary neighborhood folks in the group. The group will meet monthly to start.

Neighborhood Complaints and Grievances: SHARE/WHEEL promises to solve, in a timely fashion, any neighborhood problem for which we are responsible. Community members who have concerns may write SHARE/WHEEL at P.O. Box 2548, Seattle, WA 98111 or call (206) 448-7889 or (206) 956-0334. A Staff member will investigate these issues swiftly (typically in a one-to-five-day timeframe) and demand accountability if the problem is due to our operations or participants. SHARE/WHEEL has long experience answering and solving such concerns. No neighbor has ever been harmed by a SHARE/WHEEL participant.

Internal Grievance Policy: SHARE's strictly-adhered-to internal Grievance policy assures participants know their rights and how to exercise them. This grievance process is outlined on the back of every incident report form; this ensures that every member of our community is aware of the grievance process. The SHARE Grievance process is participant-led. Staff are present to observe and to provide relevant information. The ultimate arbiter of grievances within SHARE/WHEEL is the Power Lunch, which meets every Saturday.

Seattle police say regulated homeless encampments don't increase crime



Residents in Seattle's Interbay neighborhood will get the chance to weigh in on a plan to build a homeless camp.

By Henry Rosoff SEATTLE —

At a meeting with citizens concerned about a planned homeless encampment on city land, a strategist for Seattle police revealed the department had just finished a look at crime around existing homeless camps. She said stats show there is no increase in crime around regulated camps.

"We didn't see anything for the managed encampments that was different from the regular rise and fall of the crimes in that particular district," Virginia Gleason, a SPD Strategic Advisor.

The announcement came at a meeting at Q Café Monday night where some neighbors expressed concern about a planned encampment on city land off 17th Avenue West near West Bertona Street.

The crowd of about 200 people was split about 50-50. The meeting was far more evenly divided than the crowd of a thousand people in Ballard last week. Most in Ballard were downright angry about the encampment planned for their neighborhood.

At Monday's Interbay meeting there were two things city leaders promised to look into. First, one resident demanded to know how the camps impacted the revenue of local businesses. Second, some longtime residents thought there might be soil contamination concerns at the site picked for the camp.

The city of Seattle is already spending more than \$100,000 to remediate the site planned for Ballard.

- See more at: <http://www.kirotv.com/news/news/residents-weigh-proposed-homeless-camp-seattles-in/nmLxQ/#sthash.zlBxtaiw.dpuf>

EXPERIENCE TRUMPS FEAR OF HOMELESS CAMPS

Danny Westneat
Seattle Times staff columnist

The signs in Ballard these days suggest a community under siege.

"Speak Up Ballard!" says one business marquee. "Don't Tell Ballard to Shut Up," says another.

From my part of town — one that has faced the same issues that have Ballard boiling — I'd like to wave a sign back at them that reads: "Ballard! It's Not That Bad."

What has Ballard in full roar is the city's plan to put a temporary homeless encampment on a scrubby City Light lot on Northwest Market Street. Residents have packed two meetings, mostly in opposition, and a remarkable 1,482 have signed an online petition calling on the city to reconsider the camp.

"I want to keep Ballard safe," reads one of the hundreds of messages on the petition. "A homeless encampment should not be three blocks from an elementary school."

Well, some Ballardites are still hacked off about being annexed to Seattle — and that happened more than a century ago. So nobody tells Ballard what to feel.

But as someone who has lived near two homeless camps in recent years, I do think the camps themselves are getting a bad rap.

A tent city of about 50 tents moved onto my street in



See > WESTNEAT, B7

Westneat

FROM B1

Madrona a few summers back. Then, in 2013, Nickelsville camped for a year across the street from my kids' middle school. That camp wasn't three blocks away à la Ballard — it was on the same block as Washington Middle School.

In both cases, nothing happened.

Yes, there were plenty of concerns. I went to a meeting at St. Therese Catholic Church before tent city moved in there and neighbors raised some of the same issues as they have in Ballard.

But the leaders of the camp ex-

up kids there for school, and wrote a column about it because I was shocked kids were living in unheated shacks in such a rich city. That ended when the families with kids were moved into real apartments — where I'm happy to report they are still living today.

The camps are not pretty. But beyond that, my sense was they had almost no negative impact on the neighborhood.

That's not to say they had no impact at all. When the tent city was on my street, for instance, a couple of homeless guys staying there started showing up at our weekly pickup-basketball games in the St. Therese church gym.

plained they have strict quiet time from 9:30 p.m. to 3 a.m. They had a two-person security team 24/7. They gave us the camp cellphone number to call at any time if we had any problems.

The Nickelsville camp of about 40 people across from our 1,200-student middle school was sandwiched between a 60-unit senior living center and a children's playground — so it was hardly isolated in an industrial area. Yet it remained mostly invisible.

There were some complaints about the smoke from their campfires in the winter. I got to know camp a bit after I noticed a Seattle Public Schools yellow bus pickin-

At first we went easy on them, because heck, they were homeless. But within a few minutes the guy I was guarding had blown by me in old tennis shoes for two easy layups.

He got the better of me even after I went at him full-tilt. By the end of the night I had forgotten he was homeless. I hope he forgot, too, at least for a few trips up and down the court.

Over time we got to know him a bit. He was working odd jobs and thinking of moving to Oregon for construction job. He loved our weekly games. When I was home sore and recuperating on the couch, I wondered about how he

did it, down the street lying in a tent on a wooden pallet.

One night he didn't show. We went over to the tent city to look for him, but he had moved on. We never heard where he ended up.

Maybe it's not rational, but this is what I think of when I see Ballard protesting. You start out with preconceived notions, maybe some worries about crime or trouble in the neighborhood. But what might end up mattering most may be how you got your butt kicked in basketball.

Danny Westneat's column appears Wednesday and Sunday.
Reach him at 206-464-2086 or
dwestneat@seattletimes.com

Seattle
Times
3/10/18

A record number of homeless people died in King County in 2017

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"Every human being deserves to be treated with dignity," says Anitra Freeman of WHEEL/Women in Black. The group stands vigil for homeless people who die outside or by violence in King County. (Bettina Hansen & Lauren Frohne / The Seattle Times)

A new report shows that not only were homeless deaths in 2017 higher than in any other year, but there have been more deaths in the last six years than anyone thought.

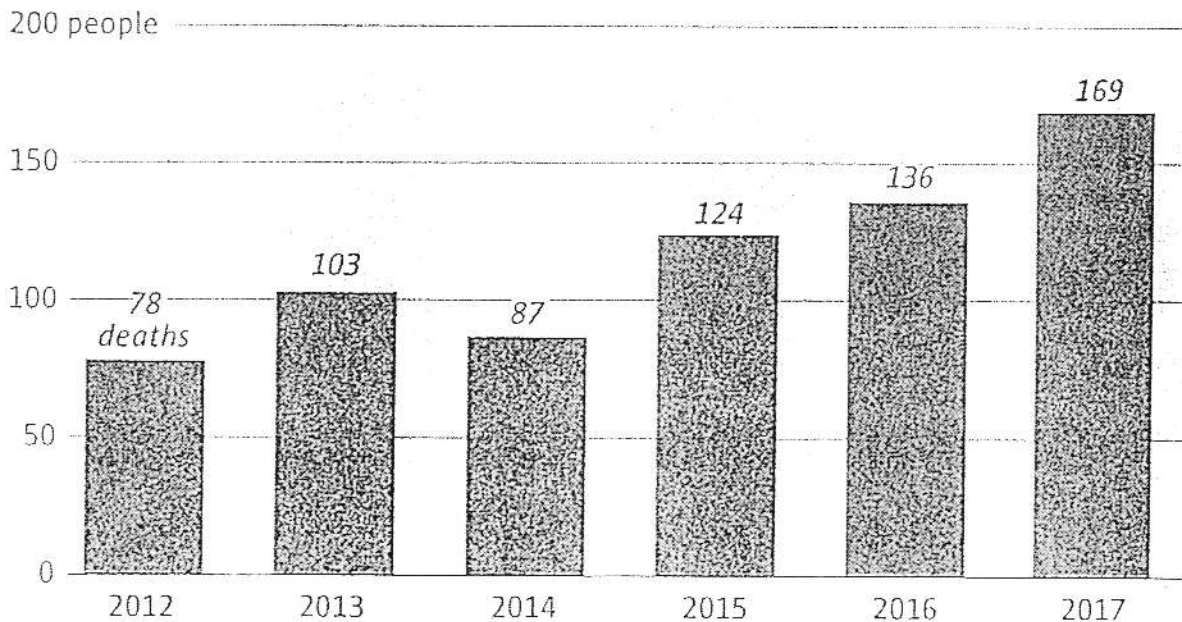
By Scott Greenstone Seattle Times staff reporter

Throughout 2017, advocates for homeless people monitored the rising list of people dying without homes. By April, King County appeared likely to have more deaths than the previous year; by September, the count passed the previous year's total, and by November, it exceeded the previous record set in 2006.

But in a new report issued this week, the King County Medical Examiner tragically capped the year with an even higher number of deaths: 169. That is 32 more than last year, and more than double the number of deaths six years ago.

Homeless deaths rise in King County

The number of dead that the King County medical examiner presumed were homeless people rose sharply from 2014 to 2017, in parallel with an increase of unsheltered homeless people.



Source: King County Medical Examiner

EMILY M. ENG / THE SEATTLE TIMES

previous report, King County Medical Examiner Dr. Richard Harruff said people without homes are eight times more likely to die of hypothermia than those with homes in King County.

When Kira Zylstra, the acting director of All Home, King County's homelessness coordinating agency, saw the report, she was horrified but not surprised. The point-in-time count of unsheltered homeless people — those living outside or in vehicles — has more than doubled in King County since 2012, to 5,485 last year. The method of counting homeless people has changed to make it more comprehensive, but Zylstra points to the worsening affordability crisis on the West Coast.

"I hope what it spurs is an urgency around this issue," Zylstra said. "I think that there is a lot of good work happening — we continue to house folks faster and faster — but there is a huge crisis that is driving people into homelessness at an increasing rate."

Anitra Freeman reads the list of homeless deaths every month as they come from the medical examiner, and said last year was very tough emotionally. A formerly homeless woman herself, Freeman helped start a group called Women in Black, which has held a vigil every month since 2000 for the deceased homeless people in King County.

"I worried at one point that doing a whole lot of vigils might send me into depression," Freeman said. "I've found out it keeps me out of depression. I've got people to share the grief and the fear with."

Freeman, however, fears that 2018 may be worse. Thirty-nine homeless people have already died in January and February alone, on pace for more than 230 deaths.

"We've never seen a year like this," Freeman said.

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WHEEL/WOMEN IN BLACK OUTDOOR/VIOLENT LIST-OF-THE-DEAD 2018 year-to-date King County deaths outside, or by violence

(We're grateful to the King County Medical Examiners and Health Care for the Homeless for their assistance.)

CAUSE OF DEATH:	WHO:	WHEN:	WHERE:
MULTIPLE BLUNT FORCE INJURIES	Unidentified Man	1/1/18	2100 4 th Ave
NATURAL CAUSES	Stanley Krebs, 64	1/2/18	Sammamish
PENDING	Scott Allerhand, 55	1/2/18	alley/Jackson St
MULTIPLE BLUNT FORCE INJURIES	Bradford Oling, 63	1/3/18	Shelton/HMC
SUICIDE	Karim Suleman, 60	1/4/18	Bellevue
SHOT TO DEATH	Joshua Werner, 27	1/7/18	Edmonds/HMC
PENDING	Nathan Lavere, 41	1/8/18	1010 Boyleston
NATURAL CAUSES	Christopher Jewell, 56	1/10/18	501—2 nd Ave W
MULTIPLE BLUNT FORCE INJURIES	Aaron Johnson, 31	1/14/18	Shilshole
PENDING	Kevin Browder, 28	1/15/18	400 Broad
PENDING	Alex Norton, 39	1/15/18	6 th /S Bennett
SUICIDE	Claudia Gutierrez, 16	1/15/18	Pike/Boren
SUICIDE	Justin Shoemaker, 37	1/16/18	Great Northern Tunnel
PENDING	Kevin Raile, 41	1/22/18	9 th NE (U Dist)
PENDING	Andrew Caffroy, 32	1/30/18	Auburn
PENDING	Charles Wells, 56	1/31/18	Boren/Stewart
PENDING	Michael Baker, 69	2/2/18	West Seattle
PENDING	Maurice McCorkle, 50	2/9/18	7 th S/S Andover
PENDING	Raymond Kores, 57	2/10/18	White Center
PENDING	Daniel Semingson, 46	2/13/18	Renton
HIT BY CAR?	Enkhtaivan Zagdsuren, 66	2/17/18	I-5/Dearborn
PENDING	Chad Jones, 38	2/19/18	200 bl S Washington
SUICIDE	Preston Smith, 30	2/26/18	Shoreline

HISTORY AND METHODOLOGIES: In the year 2000, WHEEL, a grassroots organizing effort of homeless women, founded Women in Black vigils for homeless people who die in King County. All are welcome to join the vigils—women or men, homeless or housed. The vigils last for an hour and are silent. What you wear (black clothing or not) does not matter. We've stood vigil for more than 800 people including some children.

When we began, we prayerfully and deliberately decided to stand *only* for homeless people who died outside or by violence, since these deaths should shock our moral conscience, but were—at the time of our vigil's founding—often either ignored or treated with victim-blaming contempt.

We have good relations with the King County Medical Examiners Office (MEs) and their excellent, compassionate staff. They track homeless deaths, study them, and publish monthly lists of homeless deaths to concerned entities. The MEs Office monthly lists include both indoor and outdoor deaths, and are issued with a caveat: that they (the MEs) have made a determination of "likely homeless," and that their designation of "no permanent address" does not necessarily confirm homeless status. Their list should not be considered comprehensive.

We, WHEEL, also offer caveats: Our Women in Black lists are *only* outdoor/violent deaths, and we make that determination as best we can with the information available. We consider suicide to be an act of violence. We learn of deaths from the MEs lists, but also from media reports and word of mouth (friends/ family). Our lists often do not exactly match the MEs lists. Any errors on our Women in Black lists are ours, and not the fault of the MEs.

In 2018, there are now 23 names on our Women in Black list. These are outdoor or violent deaths only. There are 39 names on the Medical Examiners Death list for 2018—indoor AND outdoor/violent deaths.

To join our notification list for vigils

(206) 956-0334 or wheelorg@yahoo.com

Homeless Remembrance Project on Facebook

Contacts, Licton Spring Village Meal Calendar, Holidays in United States

LSV April

Apr 2018 (Pacific Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Easter Sunday 11am - Wedgewood 4pm - Op Sack	2 6pm - Op Sack	3 12pm - Mary & Mark 6pm - Op Sack	4 2pm - PNA Pickup 6pm - Op Sack	5 6pm - Op Sack	6 6pm - Op Sack	7 10am - David 4pm - Op Sack
8 11am - Wedgewood 4pm - Op Sack	9 6pm - Op Sack	10 12pm - Mary & Mark 6pm - Op Sack	11 2pm - PNA Pickup 6pm - Op Sack	12 6pm - Op Sack	13 Thomas Jefferson's 6pm - Op Sack	14 10am - David 4pm - Op Sack
15 11am - Wedgewood 4pm - Op Sack	16 6pm - Op Sack	17 6pm - Op Sack	18 2pm - PNA Pickup 6pm - Op Sack	19 12pm - Woodland 6pm - Op Sack	20 6pm - Op Sack	21 10am - David 4pm - Burrito 4pm - Op Sack
22 11am - Wedgewood 4pm - Op Sack	23 6pm - Op Sack	24 6pm - Op Sack	25 2pm - PNA Pickup 6pm - Op Sack	26 12pm - Woodland 6pm - Op Sack	27 6pm - Op Sack	28 10am - David 4pm - Op Sack
29 11am - Wedgewood 4pm - Op Sack	30 6pm - Op Sack	1 6pm - Op Sack	2 2pm - PNA Pickup 6pm - Op Sack	3 6pm - Op Sack	4 6pm - Op Sack	5 10am - David 4pm - Op Sack