

Summary of citizen comments made at ad hoc committee meeting of May 24, 2017.

1. Dentist with office in Office Commercial (O/C) commented in opposition, that the two areas (O/C and R-4) are not adequate to address the problem. Also concerned about crime in O/C zone.
2. Bob Beal, who owns business in O/C zone opposes allowing shelters in O/C zone, due to increase in crime, also see problem with interference with operation of Hospice center , which is in O/C zone.
3. Another citizen who owns property in R-4 zone and business in O/C zone is concerned that the proposed siting is not equitable. Puts too heavy a burden on these two relatively small zones.
4. Another citizen who resides in R-4 zone made eloquent comments that were heavily applauded , asserted that the plan puts too much of a burden in low income areas. Homelessness can happen to anyone at any time. Wants more zones where shelters would be allowed.
5. Another citizen had a question about homeless shelters vs. emergency shelters.
6. Rev. Tom Haan. Apparently opposed to government being involved in licensing, establishment of homeless shelters. Churches, private charities should be handling this and regulating themselves, as the Church did in past centuries.
7. Another citizen ("Tom") lives in 400 block of 25th and owns commercial property on Commerce(?). Has concerns about homeless shelters in commercial areas from personal experiences and observations. He wants strong financial bonding requirements for shelters. Also wants to see that there is strong law enforcement in place to monitor shelters, before they are allowed.
8. A veteran commented that all veterans deserve homeless services.
9. Another veteran commented that the proposed plan isn't the best solution that makes everyone happy, this is the best compromise.
10. Pastor of Nazarene Church on 15th Avenue across from hospital: Concerned that plan doesn't allow for enough space for homeless, but feels if we don't do something homeless problem will continue. Above all, need to lift moratorium.
11. Another citizen: concerned about Appeal Board of Adjustment process for approving Special Use Permits. Concerned that these are citizens who could be easily swayed by public sentiment.
12. Old West Side resident. We need more shelter space.
13. Attorney Lisa Waldvogel: Wants more areas open to homeless shelters. It's not equitable/fair that other areas don't allow for shelters. Also, suggests that City take a closer look and reform the procedure for approval of special use permits by the Board of Adjustment.
14. Community House director: Need to be careful who to allow into homeless shelters.

15. Citizen homeless advocate: We need a 24/7 homeless shelter in this town.
16. Citizen, Susan Schwartz: City should gradually, carefully open up more shelters.
17. "Nick," a property owner. Concerned with practicality of current proposal. As a practical matter there simply aren't enough buildings existing in the proposed area. Not enough houses for shelters.
18. Sharp Property Management rep: Is okay with R-4 District. Not for placing burdens on the community on behalf of people who won't help themselves.
19. Community activist representative: We need to get rid of the moratorium. Supports the plan even if doesn't allow for big enough area. We need to start somewhere.

Notes by Stephen Shuman