

ATTACHMENT

For Item

#12

Tuesday,
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PUBLIC COMMUNICATION RECEIVED BY THE
CLERK OF THE BOARD

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To: [Fletcher, Nathan \(BOS\)](#); [Desmond, Jim](#); [Anderson, Joel](#); [Vargas, Nora \(BOS\)](#); [Lawson-Remer, Terra](#)
Cc: [FGG, Public Comment](#)
Subject: [External] PARTNERSHIPS TO END HOMELESSNESS (Please file with agenda item12.)
Date: Thursday, October 6, 2022 1:19:07 PM

Hi Supervisors,

The shelters you're advocating for and the Board's subsidized housing plan are a good start, but this is a multi-faceted problem, as I think you recognize. Sounds like you'd rather pay a private company for ideas rather than have a groupthink session as I suggested. I think that dignity, employment, quality of life, is really the #1 problem.

It costs society as a whole - people fearful when they find a street so 'filthy' that they dare not go down it, Police costs paid for in rising taxes, extra ambulance trips which we all pay for when the hospital bill has to be adjusted for the overtime, and on and on.

A few ideas for employing them, and I'm sure the homeless have done more than their fair share and are good at these:

- Teachers of survivalism, co-operation, and cooking
- Advocates for the homeless, impoverished, or drug users
- Agriculturalists, gardeners, planters, farm workers.

Other ideas:

- Social workers to make sure they are eating enough and quality food.
- A social worker embedded in City & County Libraries and parks.
- Parks and Recreation monitoring recreational areas and connecting them to outreach teams.

Psychotropic meds are great if they work but they but they can drive people crazy either when they take it or when they forget.

And there's crime. Homeless people with too much spare time often turn to drugs or crime to fill the void. If you start taking their stuff - they'll want to replace it, by hook or crook.

Let's help and not just shuffle the homeless around.

Regards,

Paul Henkin