

Dear Mayor and Council

First, we would like to thank Ron Polillo and Kyle Sampson for meeting with us to discuss and view the situation at the encampment on Lower Patricia Boulevard. Since June 2021, this encampment has had a significant impact on our health and well being.

With regards to safety and crime, our personal experiences since the encampment has been in place include:

- 1) Regularly finding footprints in snow at our car doors and basement windows.
- 2) Having various items stolen from our yard.
- 3) Finding drug paraphernalia, including used needles, both in our yard and in nearby parks.
- 4) Finding stolen items concealed behind trees in our backyard.
- 5) Enduring verbal harassment and threats in our front yard and from the encampment while walking Patricia Boulevard.
- 6) Having individuals known to live in the encampment masturbating while watching our house on two occasions.
- 7) Having our fences cut and knocked down.
- 8) Hearing and reporting gunshots on many occasions.
- 9) Having an individual attempt to forcibly enter our backdoor at night while our lights and TV were on, then running directly to the safety of the encampment when scared by our dog.

These activities have had an intense impact on our sense of personal safety; we longer leave anything outside, we felt the need to build a much taller fence than planned, and Alissa is no longer comfortable being alone at night.

Further safety and health risks are posed by the open outdoor fires and wood burning appliances in the encampment structures. Smoke coming from within the structures seems to be the worse; some nights you can see it for many blocks along the camp. Numerous large and healthy trees have been cut along Patricia Boulevard at night to provide fuel for these fires. Unfortunately, the smoke often includes the smell of burning plastic which prevents us from being outside, and has caused us to leave our house while it clears. We have also been experiencing increased headaches and sinus congestion. Structure and grass fires further pose a direct risk to nearby residents, with embers having reached yards.

After living along side the encampment for three years, our experience is that the encampment does not provide safe shelter, but instead has created an unhealthy and unsafe situation for encampment residents, nearby businesses and the residents of Millar Addition. We therefore request that:

- 1) City council support the notion of motion for a community safety town hall on the encampment.
- 2) That city council not support the temporary use permit application No. TU000091, unless:
 1. It is directly and contractually tied to the elimination of the encampment on Lower Patricia Boulevard, and
 2. Strict conditions are put in place including an enforceable plan to address crime and safety.

Thank you,

Alissa and Ed Bryson
Millar Addition Residents