

Monday, February 12, 2024

Dear Mayor Guthrie and Members of Council,

My name is Logan Legate, and I am a community member with lived experience of homelessness **asking you to vote against the Public Space Use Bylaw.**

I am concerned that this bylaw will make things harder for those already struggling in our community. Displacing unhoused people from an area that they are surrounded by community supports such as Doctors, Social Services, and warm meals will only cause distress for those who need these daily supports. People who are experiencing homelessness need **permanent supportive housing**, not to be looked at as if they are an “eye-sore”.

It is truly concerning that there are people more worried about tourism and businesses, than they are about humans who are sleeping outside in the cold weather. The stigma and discrimination that this bylaw will likely cause for those living rough will heighten, and believe me when I say I know what people are capable of saying and/or doing to the unhoused.

I am calling on you Mr. Guthrie and City Council members to oppose this bylaw, and take a Housing First or housing as a human rights approach. Everyone deserves a warm and safe space to lay their head at night.

Thank -you,

Logan Legate, community member.