

From: SANDRA HOUTS
Sent: 4/16/2021 8:06:12 PM
To: "ashevillencouncil@ashevillenc.gov" <ashevillencouncil@ashevillenc.gov>
Cc:
Subject: Homeless camps dispersal

Dear Council,

Where do you expect the homeless, once again bring displaced, will go? I'm sure you do not think the problem is solved but I am no longer sure that you're addressing the problem in a way that provides a safe haven for those in need. I believed your statements after the Lexington Bridge travesty--no longer do I nor do I expect to believe much of anything coming out of the Manager's office or Council chambers in the near future.

I am not among those who can afford even the median cost for housing. I live in a condo that was low end 17 years ago, has doubled in value and is still low end. I am not one of the wealthy, nor a tourist to whom you may be catering, nor, obviously a developer. I feel fortunate that I can still afford to pay property taxes and would gladly pay more for water if it meant that 7.4 million would go towards finding a humane solution for the homeless. Mental health access, sanitary camping facilities in locations safe for all concerned, bus passes so people can get to the grocery store would be some priorities.

Tonight, as I understand, there are housed citizens getting arrested by APD "getting rough" at Aston Park as they attempt to help those being displaced.

I am saddened beyond belief that I am living in a city where a lack of creativity among elected and appointed officials results in unequal concern and treatment of all residents, housed or not. There are several examples around of cities behaving better.

Sandra Houts, Asheville

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