

From: Cathy Ball
Sent: 4/15/2021 4:12:03 PM
To: "Jeff Trudrung" <jtrudrung@yahoo.com>
Cc: "Chief David Zack" <dzack@ashevillenc.gov>, "Debra Campbell" <dcampbell@ashevillenc.gov>, "Mike Lamb" <mlamb@ashevillenc.gov>, "councilgroup" <ashevillencouncil@ashevillenc.gov>, "Greg Shuler" <gshuler@ashevillenc.gov>, "Richard White" <rwhite@ashevillenc.gov>, "Jes Foster" <jesfoster@ashevillenc.gov>
Subject: Re: Campgrounds

Attachments: [IMG_5903.JPG](#)

Thanks for letting me know. The area is scheduled to be cleaned tomorrow or Saturday.

Cathy D. Ball, PE
Assistant City Manager
City of Asheville
P.O. Box 7148
Asheville, NC 28802
(W) 828-259-5939
(C) 828-691-4623

On Thu, Apr 15, 2021 at 4:26 PM Jeff Trudrung <jtrudrung@yahoo.com> wrote:



You are welcome.

PS I was at Ashton Park tennis complex today and a homeless camp adjacent to the courts caught fire. Luckily, several bystanders stepped in to extinguish it.

Jeff

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Thursday, April 15, 2021, 10:49 AM, Cathy Ball <cball@ashevillenc.gov> wrote:

Thanks.

On Thu, Apr 15, 2021 at 10:20 AM Jeff Trudrung <jtrudrung@yahoo.com> wrote:
Cathy,

Thank you so much for getting back to me. I'm glad to hear the city has developed long term plans to help people in need. Short term, it sounds like there are not easy solutions, but my hope is access social service resources can help address this group in need.

Jeff

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Thursday, April 15, 2021, 9:35 AM, Cathy Ball <cball@ashevillenc.gov> wrote:

Mr. Trudrung,

Thanks for your email. Homeless camps are definitely a topic of concern for several members of our community. We are working on both short and long-term strategies along with our partners in the community.

Short-term, we do not have the capacity to allow camping to occur in our parks safely. We have issued notice to individuals camping in these areas to relocate. We are working with Homeward Bound to provide locations of shelters and other services to each of these individuals.

We are concurrently working to increase low-shelters (minimum barriers to enter) for folks. We hope to announce this location in the near future.

Long-term, our community will be receiving significant funds to pull together wrap-around services and the infrastructure to assist homeless folks in a pathway to safe housing.

Again, thanks for your concerns around this very important matter.

Stay safe,
Cathy

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On Thu, Apr 15, 2021 at 7:51 AM 'Jeff Trudrung' via councilgroup

<AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov> wrote:

I live in east Asheville and frequently travel past the Bleachery Rd park (near Walmart and parallel to Swannanoa River rd. Over the past few months there has been an explosion of homeless camps in the park (and around the city).

Pandemic has had significant impact on the economy and social services and I assume the decision was made to allow homeless camps on city park property. I agree with this decision, but have concerns.

If the city turns a park into a campground, then the city is obligated to provide restrooms, trash pickup and police patrols. Allowing 30+ tents next to a river and not providing for sanitation is a serious problem.

What is the short term plan to provide for people living in our “campgrounds?”

What is the long term plan to address homelessness in Asheville and Buncombe County?

Jeff Trudrung

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