

Hello,

I am writing in response to the Encampment Support.

I am a community member in the McComick Park area. There is several things concerning as community member, mother and home owner. To start this "Park" had a major reconstruction a few years back. Money was invested to create a dry pond for flooding, a paved walk way looping the length of the park and a playground located near the apartments to the east. The playground is minimal at best. As much effort should have been put into that space, ( and more funding) for the community that have lived here. No washrooms were provided for the families with children that use to frequent the park. But they can be provided for the encampment? Families no longer feel safe. There is trash all over. People's properties are being invaded. People are stealing, using and leaving their garage. If any of you can spare some time, you should walk the park and witness first hand the demise.

Why would these agencies want to find a permanent solution. They are making money to provide "support " to these things. Over a million dollars and there will just be garbage to clean up after and cost an additional fee. That money could be invested in a building for these people. Encampments aren't solutions by any means. Housed properly, they wouldn't be in people's backyards .I know some don't want to be housed. In a lot of cases they choose not to follow rules. So why are we making new rules or ignoring the crimes they are committing? Like open drug use or property theft. If a community member calls the police in regards to a crime being committed will the police come and respond?

We have seniors that own houses that back onto the "park". Now we have to worry about them being safe. Not getting items stolen , cars broken into etc. Then they have to pay out of pocket to fix and replace things. They themselves get less support and resources giving to them by the government. Living on modest at best pensions.

Then there is property value in our houses. Who is going to compensate us for depreciation in our property?

Funding people that are not contributing to the community in a positive way is not the answer.

Things started to slowly unravel when the London Psychiatric Hospital was phased out. I do not support Encampments being in London community parks.

I give permission to place this email on the public agenda item 2.9 Provision of Outdoor Basic Needs Added Agenda for CPSC meeting.

Concerned Community Member  
Jennifer