From: James Conkle
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: Neighborhood Support
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:51:00 AM

Hi

On Nov 1 at 8 PM I drove by the Povarello Center and the surrounding Streets.
Because it was recently cleared of campers due to safety concerns, I assume the relatively large number of campers last night pose the same risk to the neighborhood.
Assuming the Johnson St shelter opened as planned on Nov 1, I thought that availability of space would have prompted pickup and transportation of individuals to that location would have occurred.
Unfortunately, I have no panacea to suggest as to the issue of homelessness.

I write out of equity and fairness to the neighborhoods. I encourage you to increase funding and support to the neighborhoods most affected by this issue. The recent security company contract is a step in the right direction. Because of their lack of police authority, possibly funding an officer assigned to the neighborhood is warranted. Possibly have the "mental health support response team" on site when not on an active call.

In summary, I do not argue with the funding on the homeless issue.
I just believe the funding to allow for a safe neighborhood should be given equal consideration.

NOTE: Using one time Covid money on this issue is sensible,
but the future funding sources should be actively sought now.
This is not a short term issue.

Thank you for your service.
Jim Conkle
Missoula (living in area not impacted by this issue)

Sent from Mail for Windows