From: Gwen Jones
To: Sue Furey; Grp. City Council and City Web Site; Jessica Miller
Subject: Re: homeless camps along Kim Williams trail
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 3:50:48 PM

Hi Sue, thank you for the email. I appreciate you reaching out regarding this issue. I am forwarding this to Jessica Miller in the Mayor's office, as she handles constituent issues, and will have more info as to whom to contact.

From the description in your email as to the location, I am not sure whose jurisdiction this is under and what recourse they have, so will have Jessica respond. The fact that one agency was saying to contact a different agency makes me think the jurisdiction needs to be clarified.

We do have several programs set up for people to tap into if they do not have housing and are camping. That has all been funded by ARPA dollars, and it has greatly helped to provide some level of stability for people who are not housed.

Thanks again, and staff will see what they can find out. Take care, -Gwen

Gwen Jones
Ward 3 City Councilwoman
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406 549-3295

Note: All emails to and from this address are in the public domain.

From: Sue Furey <suecfurey@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 12:03 PM
To: Daniel Carlino <CarlinoD@ci.missoula.mt.us>; Grp. City Council and City Web Site <Council@ci.missoula.mt.us>
Subject: homeless camps along Kim Williams trail

Hello, thank you for serving on Missoula's city council. I live in the U district and was walking along the Kim Williams Trail on Saturday. There were 3 homeless camps right next to the trail. I was surprised because the Missoula police have done such a great job in the past when I have called about this issue and others related to homeless camps.
I called the police department non 911 line, and the operator directed me to dispatch. When I explained the situation, she told me the trail was under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service and that I should call them. That surprised me too because it was between mile marker 1.9 and 2.0. Of course, the forest service offices are closed over the weekend.
I called the forest service today, and the receptionist called me back with the info that I should call Missoula Parks and Recreation. I called them and they said there is not much they are allowed to do, except call the HOT team who is to encourage them to leave.

I have called in the past to the PD and they said they were coming out to tell the campers to move. I had one situation where the police escorted people to a shelter. That was on Toole Ave, where a small church rents a space.
So, as a city resident, I'm concerned as we all are about the hygiene of these situations. The group on the trail looked like they had a waste can, but toilet paper was outside of it.
My concerns are:
*NO CAMPING SIGNS are not on the big Kim Williams trail sign, and I know they were there earlier in the spring with a note that stated all belongings would be disposed of after a specific date.
*Who do you call? I've called the HOT before and they can only suggest that people leave. The PD can tell them they have to leave and can transport them to a local shelter. THIS TIME I WAS TOLD TO CALL THE FOREST SERVICE, THEN THE PARKS DEPARTMENT, AND BOTH DO NOT HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO MOVE PEOPLE.
*WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE OUTDOOR SHELTERS? IS THERE A REASON WHY SOMEONE CAN'T BE TOLD THEY HAVE TO MOVE TO A SHELTER?
IF THEY ARE FULL, CAN ADDITIONAL SHELTER SPACES BE ADDED AND HOW?
I know this is a complex problem, but I think we have the ability to streamline the reporting, educate people, and utilize the wonderful resources we have.

THank you

Sue Furey
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