

From: MY - mayorsoffice@cob.org
To: [Sundin, Tara J.](#); [Dana Brown-Davis](#)
Subject: FW: Low impact housing shelter
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 8:44:15 AM

From: Glenda Berendsen [mailto:gbplum@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2018 12:04 PM
To: MY - mayorsoffice@cob.org <mayorsoffice@cob.org>
Subject: Fw: Low impact housing shelter

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Begin forwarded message:

On Saturday, February 17, 2018, 11:56 AM, Glenda Berendsen <gbplum@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hello everyone,

I am a co-owner of Plum Hair Studio located at 126 E Champion Street. I have many concerns about the adverse effect the proposed low impact homeless shelter would have on small business owners such as myself in the area.

I oppose siting the shelter on the Chmelik office, Champion Street, Walton Place residences, and York Street. It goes against much of the site selection criteria your group has set.

Many of us small business owners have worked hard to clean up this area over recent and have made some great progress. But, we still have almost weekly incidents that effect us and our clients.

Some examples are the following...

Piles of feces and used undergarments and clothing left in front of our salon door.

We have cleaned up vomit many times.

We have had a man come in shirtless 3 times and make inappropriate comments. I have approached a man shooting up at 10 am on a Saturday morning, only to have him swear and throw his belongings at me. I locked the door and called the police, but when they arrived 10 minutes later he had moved on.

We have been stolen from three times and have had our front window bashed in last year.

We do not believe the area has the police support to handle this sort of a crowd, without scaring away many of our perspective and current clients. I along with many of our stylists park a few blocks from the salon, it would be very intimidating to make that walk past the proposed shelter on a dark night.

I love the city of Bellingham and I'm looking forward to continuing to work to make our city and downtown area as attractive as possible.

This is not an elitist attitude and I appreciate the effort your group is doing to provide a space for this group of homeless people with special needs. However, the site near the lighthouse mission seems to make so much more sense. It meets all the criteria provided. It would be so much easier for current volunteers or additional ones. It would allow visitation between family members in either place, and has more police support currently.

Thank you for your consideration

Glenda Berendsen