

Additional Comments received after the meeting:

November 16, 2019 (via Markis Stidham)

My name is Amy Glasser and up until [September 10th](#), I lived in the community for 16 years. For the past 2 I was volunteering to help those homeless in our community.

I have been encouraged by some of the proactive actions taken to prepare for the cold but there are some details that confuse me if the goal was not to have a repeat of last year's horror of not having any help for those outside except the Mission, whose pipes froze for a week during February. The lack of sanitary services were disgusting and dangerous to the health of those there and nothing was done for a week.

It us 10 months later and due to your work, more churches have stepped up but.

One major problem is the temperature at which the emergency shelters activate. I challenge the person or people that decided on 28 degree threshold to sleep outside during that weather. That could not have been decided by someone with any knowledge of the issues of frostbite and death in cold weather. It freezes at 32 and one can die in a lot warmer temperatures than even freezing.

Another concern is the criteria to qualify for one of those mats. You can't be a couple, a family with adult children, men with children, those with behavioral issues, those with substance abuse addictions and those who refuse to go to the Mission to be screened for a mat.

I do not hear anything about daytime shelter for anyone. It gets cold and dangerous during the days and there are no provisions.

With the exception of the Civic Field shelter, there are no non-sectarian shelters.

As I recall; those were 3 obvious gaps in the system, if keeping the whole community safe and unless I missed something, they are still gaps.

What is the plan for the above gaps so organizations like HomesNOW and other will not have to repeat what they did last year, which was drive the streets to help those outside so they wouldn't die. It was dangerous for them and for those they could not find. We know that at least 1 died during that freezing spell because he refused to go to the Mission.

What about warming busses? Keeping the lobby of city hall open at night? Renting an empty building for warmth? Getting the hospital to let the city use South Campus for shelter? Use the schools gyms and cafeterias when school is on vacation?

Please do not be content with what you have because it isn't enough.