

March 21, 2018

Dear Council President Harrell and Councilmember Sawant,

We are writing on behalf of the members of the Advisory Committee on Implementation of Rules for Removing Unsanctioned Encampments, which we co-chair. The City Council directed the Executive to review MDAR 17-01 and FAS 17-01 protocols and to prepare a report to Council with any recommended changes by April 6 (240-1-C-2 GS Proviso). Further, the Council directed the Executive to consider input from the Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee charter tasks us with providing a written update and analyses to the Mayor and Council on how the rules have been implemented and our recommended changes to policies and practices at our term's end in December 2018. That has been our target.

We understand that FAS, which is at work preparing its report to Council, plans to share their draft recommendations at our next meeting on April 3, when we will also be briefed by the Office of Civil Rights on their report of the Navigation Team's work in 2017.

The Advisory Committee, which meets quarterly, respectfully requests that the Council allow us additional time to review, consider and comment on the Executive's recommendations. Further, we believe that the Executive's work will be most effective and helpful to the Council if it reflects both the observations of the Office for Civil Rights and input from the Advisory Committee. We plan to devote our April and July meetings to consider the draft report of the Executive and develop our response to it. We propose to complete our response by July 20.

Our membership reflects a wide diversity of perspectives and communities. We have met four times to date, focusing on developing a common understanding of the City's efforts to engage with people living in encampments, their demographics, and when and how the MDAR protocols are applied. We would like our input and recommendations to be balanced, thoughtful, and useful. Therefore, we respectfully request that the Council delay both their review of Executive's report and our response to it until we complete our work in late July.

Thank you for considering our request. If you would like to discuss our Committee's request in more detail, we would be happy to meet with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Colleen Echohawk, Co-Chair



Patricia McInturff, Co-Chair