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To: MetroCouncilClerk
Subject: Unhoused Crisis- protect the citizens

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Dear Metro Council

I want to share my personal experiences with the Unhoused Crisis in Louisville, and I realize I'm more fortunate than many including the Staats.

I live in the Saint Joseph's neighborhood but have several investment properties in Old Louisville and work in Nulu. I often have meetings all over the greater Louisville area including downtown.

Working in NULU

I often rush to get in first thing as I want a spot in the lot, this minimizes the chances of being harassed on my way into work. I've often gotten stopped at the light by off ramp at Brook & Chestnut- were individuals maybe passed out / nodding off in the median, tapping on your window with the signs asking for money or maybe just holding their sign.

If I have a meeting in downtown, I note the contacts cell phone / direct line if there isn't security in the building as they will need to come down / page me in. Regularly in these meetings they will discuss issues with people sleeping / going to the bathroom in elevators, cars being broken into, etc and how much time is left in their lease before they relocate their offices.

Rental / Renovations in Old Louisville

I have a rental on St Catherine between 1st & 2nd (2 doors down from the school) and often have tenants text about people sleeping on the porch, banging on the door etc. Thankfully the vacant houses next to us have been secured and I'm hopefully they will be restored. Regularly you hear investors not wanting to invest in Old Louisville and other urban areas out of fear of property damage. I understand all of these concerns as I have been as well. . .

Will someone move in, set a fire, and damage the project I've spent thousands of dollars and hours on, so you visit regularly, secure every opening, add cameras and PRAY. Attend any real estate meeting / online forum and you'll hear horror stories for why people aren't doing project in Old Louisville and other urban areas.

I can't tell you how many drug deals I've witnessed at the corner of 1st & St Catherine, you see money and baggies exchanging hands. I check in with my mom when she's returning home and always check my surroundings before exiting my car. I feel like its a battle ground when I'm visiting.

As I drive home I debate on taking I-65 and the Arthur exit as there people often walking in the street, around the overpass and I'm afraid I'm going to hit someone on the curve, dressed in black in the rain.

Sometime I stop at Krogers at Goss, who will be bumming at the exit. Will there be someone in the median at Poplar Level and Eastern Parkway passed out . . .

I'm worried regularly about my own safety as well as my family and friends. I pray I won't hit and kill someone laying in the street or dressed in black on a dark rainy night walking up the middle of the street. And yet even through all of this I still have the safety of feeling at peace in my own home. The Staats don't have the luxury of being able to sit on their porch on a nice evening, being afraid for their safety as they carry in groceries, or if they will be able to have a work zoom call without a manic episode right outside their window. Is this really the Louisville they thought they were moving to? I'm compassionate as their truly prisoners in their own home and paying dearly to live in fear!

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