



October 1, 2019

Commissioner Stephanie Bowman
Commissioner Ryan Calkins
Commissioner Fred Felleman
Commissioner Courtney Gregoire
Commissioner Peter Steinbrueck

24 Roy St. #464
Seattle, WA 98109
T: 202.229.1059
w: unitedchurch.love

Port of Seattle
Pier 69
2711 Alaskan Way
Seattle, WA 98121

RE: Support for continuation of lease with City of Seattle for Tiny Cabins Safe Harbor-Interbay

Dear Port Commissioners,

We from United Church in Queen Anne support our neighbors in Tiny Cabins Safe Harbor-Interbay (TCSH-I). The lease that the Port of Seattle signed with the City of Seattle will expire in November, 2019. We are asking that you renew and extend the lease so that the TCSH-I residents do not have to relocate from the site at 1601 15th Avenue W.

We appreciate your earlier consideration to provide land to TCSH-I, so that over 50 people may live in this high-barrier residence. As you may know, many of the residents have since moved on to permanent low-income housing making TCSH-I a beautiful temporary solution for many of our most vulnerable neighbors. Thank you for playing a role in providing solutions for our housing and homeless crisis in Seattle.

We are a part of the larger Queen Anne/Magnolia/Interbay faith community that provides meals, propane, curtains, warm clothing, blankets, and other critical needs. We enjoy interacting with our neighbors, and as a high-barrier tiny village, believe this should be emulated in other locations throughout the city. Tiny Cabins Safe Harbor-Interbay is a prime example of the success of this beautiful and innovative program, of which you are a part.

Our neighbors are enthusiastic about having places to call their own. We believe they provide a positive atmosphere and work well with our community. Our neighbors really appreciate having the new kitchen, new bathrooms, new showers, and the new laundry facility that were recently installed. It would be a far better strategic use of resources not to tear up this new infrastructure and require the village to move. Starting over would mean a significant waste of money, time, and energy our neighbors, and we have poured into this community. It will also significantly destabilize the residents.

We ask that you continue your successful partnership with the City of Seattle by renewing the lease for the site for at least 5 years, with the ability to extend for another 5 years. This will provide not only a peace of mind for our neighbors, but will continue a beautiful temporary solution to the housing and homeless crisis here in Seattle. The decision you make will greatly impact our neighbors, allowing them to focus on their jobs and find permanent housing while the housing and homeless crisis in the city is solved once and for all.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rev. Aaron Monts
UNITED Church