



September 12, 2022

Dear Stan and PDNA board members:

On behalf of Neighbors4SafeSmart Shelters, we appreciated the opportunity at the recent Zoom SRV Forum to finally voice grave concerns to PDNA and Commissioner Ryan's team around the proposed SRV on NW Naito, the long-standing spillover encampments, and safety issues with Harbor of Hope that remain unaddressed — despite the urgency of safety issues in our community.

As you witnessed, there were many comments from constituents all over the Pearl — supported by facts and data pinpointing

- the failed processes with Ryan's office;**
- the failed SRV model;**
- failed city forced and sponsored Good Neighbor Agreements;**
- and most of all the failed city, county, and homeless organization's response.**

All who are signatory to the GNA established they would address the ongoing safety and security issues and lawlessness associated with the homeless crisis within a 1000 foot perimeter of the Harbor of Hope Navigation Center. As you know, this continues to go unaddressed and is getting worse.

From the data and experience there is no doubt — no/low barrier shelters do not work. These past four years are living proof.

And, as you heard, Ryan's team offered only a repetition of their website and excuses from the SRV playbook. ***It almost seems as though they will NOT LISTEN, no matter what fact, information or experience is offered to counter their entrenched false belief system.*** This inability to seek, embrace and enact ideas and suggestions from constituents who have lived harrowing experiences as a direct result of the low barrier HOH and SRVs is unacceptable.

Instead of answering questions or addressing the program failures, they repeatedly announced they all were homeless at one time or another. During the forum as well as throughout the SRV siting process, there was no attempt to address any of our often posed and unanswered questions from these past 7 months.

It is unconscionable and not in keeping with basic federal, state and city laws that there was absolutely no mention of any specific plan to address public safety by Ryan's staff. **Our experience proves, not only are they not considering the community in which these failed SRV's are sited, they really don't care about public safety.**

The message from Ryan and his team is clear - "build the SRV" - no matter what the impact on homeowners, renters, community members, and local businesses.

And further, there was no recognition on their part that NO organization that has been established by the city or the county has come to our aid — even as we have made numerous appeals for help, time and time again.

This is more than a mistake or oversight. This is the pattern over months and years. It represents failed systems created by people who have the power and responsibility to change those systems. It represents the essence of the low barrier, HOH Navigation Center/SRV model and the lack of required professional and skilled operational and managerial strengths and protocols. It represents a failure to commit to a signed GNA.

As you heard, there were numerous personal experiences shared that represent the entire Pearl District — ongoing occurrences of personal stories — crime, burglaries, fires, personal assaults, and sexual harassment by drugged out homeless persons.

Together, these anecdotal facts make the pattern clear - public safety is ignored, the failed SRV's continue to be forced on communities without an understanding or any caring by Ryan's staff or Ryan.

Because of this and more affronts, your neighbors

- are afraid to leave their homes;**
- are afraid to even walk around the buildings with their dogs or for a stroll with others all along and up and down Naito; and,**
- are living a life of fear because their very security and safety is compromised, day in and day out.**

Many have been accosted verbally and physically. Your neighbors have stepped on exposed needles and human feces — the very volunteers who are cleaning-up the community on a daily basis because there is no consistent restoration of our community by those who have made signed commitments to do so.

Your neighbors have been screamed at with vulgarities, spat on and pushed as they tried to dispose of doggy bags or garbage in receptacles and garbage bins provided to keep our neighborhood clean. ***Your neighbors have seen the outstretched and inexplicable protection of homeless criminals over law abiding citizens.***

We think you would whole-heartedly agree — we are all well past waiting for any more meetings in a month or two. We understand your possible conflicting situation - supporting Ryan as you do. But it's time to fairly and factually evaluate the proposed

SRV on NW Naito - and actively oppose the project - just like you did with the Fremont apartments project.

This is a call to action to have an emergency PDNA board meeting to vote against the proposed SRV. As you heard, we cannot abide any more spillover encampments with outright drug dealing, prostitution, feces, rats, filth, break-ins, fires, chop shops and blocked walkways.

We are experiencing daily assaults — broken noses, being pushed to the ground, rocks thrown at us by aggressive drugged out and crazed individuals, all traumatizing experiences repeated over and over, again.

Some of us who stayed on for the PDNA board meeting were pleased to hear the support of several board members to oppose the proposed SRV.

We ask you to make a clear and unequivocal formal statement in opposition to the proposed SRV and to do so without haste. Your neighbors cannot wait a month or two while they continue to get assaulted. To quote one astute board member:

"I support your plea. It is time for Public Safety for our citizens. None of us should need to be fearful to walk out of our doors. We cannot allow this to continue, it will only get worse."

We await PDNA's public statement of support and full and abiding help to restore NW Naito to its original state of safety, security, cleanliness, and encampment free life.

Sincerely,

s/ The Volunteers @ neighbors4safesmartshelters, and

<i>Joan Neice</i>	<i>Alberto Santaballa</i>	<i>Michael Galizio</i>	<i>Frank Blackston</i>
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Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer

Information: www.n4safe.com