



RV parking in the city

Davila, Cheryl <CDavila@cityofberkeley.info>

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To:

Thank you for your email.
Thank you for sharing thoughts on this important topic.

Did you know that many of the RV Dwellers are long time Berkeley residents? Did you know that many RV Dwellers work or go to school BUSD/ UCB in Berkeley? Many cannot afford the extremely high rents, yet Berkeley is there home. Did you know that many folks are one paycheck away from homelessness? Unfortunately, including a Councilmember or two. If you don't have at least six months of your months salary in your bank account, any catastrophic situation could lead to the same outcome.

Did you know that there are 250 Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) families that are un-housed, some living in their vehicles? Did you know that all homeless are **not** drug addicts, all don't have serious mental illness or mental illness at all? Did you know that all homeless aren't avoiding rent just to live in a vehicle? The vehicle provides the shelter. Unfortunately, market rate rents, many can not begin to afford. Therefore, some choose an RV to provide shelter.

Yes, a regional solution is what is needed, you are correct. Our office has been convening a regional task force to address this very issue for over a year now.

All are welcome in Berkeley, we are a sanctuary city. We must have compassion, empathy and hold love in our hearts to come up with solutions that will benefit everyone.

Thank you for looking out for our commUNITY.

Peace,

Cheryl

Cheryl Davila

Councilmember District 2

City of Berkeley

2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor

Berkeley, California 94704

510.981.7120