

KANSAS LEGAL SERVICES

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W. Thomas Stratton, Jr.
Managing Attorney

LAWRENCE CITY COMMISSION
6 EAST 6TH
LAWRENCE, KS 66044

October 19, 2005

Dear Commission Members:

We would like to express our support for the Lawrence Community Shelter (LCS). LCS provides a much needed and quality service to the homeless population in Kansas.

LCS offers highly professional assistance, education and community resources for persons who would otherwise be struggling through the system. LCS gives referrals and information, and provides other connections to resources as needed. We heavily rely on a cooperative relationship with LCS.

For the homeless population in Lawrence, a "one stop shop" for information and referral is a great resource. Access to resources is essential for their safety and quality of life. To continue the service of LCS, please consider granting the funding requested.

Sincerely

W. Thomas Stratton, Jr.
Kansas Legal Services
Kansas Legal Services

COALITION FOR HOMELESS CONCERNS

LAWRENCE CITY COMMISSION
6 EAST 6th
LAWRENCE, KS 66044

October 19, 2005

Dear Commission Members:

We are writing to express our strong support for the Lawrence Community Shelter (LCS). We have been impressed with the quality of service provided to Kansas's homeless population by LCS. This assistance is essential.

The services provided through LCS improve the lives of all Kansans, most especially adults who are struggling with homelessness by shortening the time for achieving permanent housing. Through its holistic approach, LCS works to help its consumers successfully negotiate transitions.

In many instances it is only through LCS's support or intervention that the homeless are able to obtain critically needed services, advice and advocacy on complex issues regarding their well being. Please consider granting the funding requested so that LCS can continue the much needed services they provide.

Sincerely,

Bethany J. Roberts, Secretary Coalition for Homeless Concerns

Philip S. Hemphill 937 Kentucky Street Lawrence. KS 66044

November 14, 2005

Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Commission City Hall 6 E
6th
Lawrence. Ks 66044

Dear Commission.

I am opposed to the extension of the Use Permitted Upon Review for the Lawrence Community Shelter for material noncompliance with the terms of the original use permit.

1. An enclosed (fenced) area was to be installed on the east side of the building for the patrons of the LCS to congregate and to keep groups of patrons from milling around the area and detracting from the neighborhood. The fenced area was built and a short time later removed without the knowledge or permission of the neighborhood residents.
2. The south and west sides of the LCS were to be kept free of loitering patrons. Patrons regularly sit on the stoop in numbers up to ten or more and in a conversation with Mr. Loring Henderson he stated that he really couldn't do any thing about it. It's his responsibility.
3. Staffing levels at the LCS should be critically reviewed. On two occasions I have seen individuals sneak around to the north side of the LCS at night and take pulls on bottles. They are supposed to be under constant supervision, virtual lockdown, both inside and outside the building. If patrons can sneak out to drink it can only mean that supervision is lax or staffing levels are below the required level, which, is another material noncompliance and a security risk for the staff

The permit should not be renewed or if renewed for a period of no more than six months during which time the LCS must return to full compliance with the terms of the original permit or be shut down.

If the LCS can't follow the rules. how can you expect the patrons too?
Sincerely,

Philip S. Hemphill

OREAD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 442065
Kansas 66044

785-843-5440 Lawrence,

Lisa A. Pool, City/County Planner
Lawrence/Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Commission Sixth and
Massachusetts Street
P.O. Box 708
Lawrence, Kansas **66044-0708**

RE: UPR—09-06-05 Dear Ms

Pool:

Please forward the following comments regarding the UPR-09-06-05 to the Commissioners serving on the Lawrence/Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Commission.

On behalf of the Oread Neighborhood Association's Board, I have been directed to convey, by a majority vote of the Directors of the Board, a request that the commission grant a one (1) year extension of the Use Permitted Upon Review for the Lawrence Community Shelter.

In the Board's discussion of the Use Permitted Upon Review request, the following concerns were presented:

1. The city commission's designated overnight occupancy limit appears to over extend the building's capacity to serve.
2. The unavailability of property monitors between 5 PM, when the day facility closes, and 8 PM, when the overnight shelter opens.
3. It is anticipated Community Commission on Homelessness, within a year, will develop a long-range plan to address homelessness in Lawrence.
4. Minimization of the congregation of guests on south front porch area and maximization of the patio area use on the north side of the property.

Sincerely,

James C. Dunn, President
Oread Neighborhood Association

Morning Star Management
917 Tennessee
Lawrence, KS 66044
(785) 841-STAR (7827)
(785) 841-4144 Fax

November 1st, 2005

Lisa A. Pool
City/County Planner
6th and Massachusetts
PO Box 708
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear Lisa,

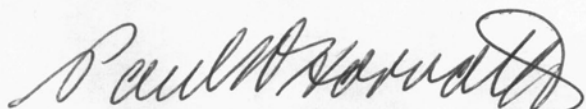
In response to your letter of 10/21/05 requesting input- It is obvious that this open shelter has brought with it many people on the fringe of society that tend to 'hang out'. I'm sure related to this in numerous complaints from my tenants at 922 Kentucky, such as;

- 1) There are people sleeping in the basement (I removed a couple of mattresses).
- 2) There are people drinking in the yard and urinating in the bushes.
- 3) There are people wandering in the hallway- etc.

The area around the shelter is no longer family-friendly. The alleys really have become a hangout for drinking and drugs, 'sleeping it off' and eliminating. Recently I noticed a man urinating just outside the shelter, which made me question the adequacy of the restrooms. I have to be very careful of what I leave in the yard.

I understand a shelter is necessary, but unless there are programs which are specifically working with the individuals to reintegrate them into society, then I believe the use should be discontinued.

Sincerely,



Paul R. Horvath

PS recently I had
someone from the
shelter inquire about
an apt - When I told
them what I had they
said it was too close to
the shelter - undesirable!