**To**: City Councilmembers

**Date**: December 5, 2019

**Subject**: Update regarding Northlake village

**From**: Jason Johnson, Acting Director, Seattle Human Services Department

In October of this year, the Seattle Human Services Department (HSD) announced the contract for [the Northlake Village would not be renewed in 2020 due to performance and compliance concerns,](https://homelessness.seattle.gov/update-northlake-village/) effectively closing the village by the end of this year.

The contracted village operator—the Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI)—has been working around the clock to provide case management to interested village residents while preparing the program for closure, despite being blocked from the property by Nickelsville. LIHI owns the tiny houses, hygiene trailer, kitchen tent at the Northlake Village and set a December 9 target to begin removing structures to meet the end of program date.

As of December 4, LIHI has connected 11 households to other tiny house villages and permanent housing of the 18 households at Northlake Village at the time of the closure announcement. LIHI staff have been physically stationed outside of the village to accomplish this work. However, some residents continue to remain onsite and are not receiving professional case management and other services.

Since announcing the site closure, the City has been approached by a faith organization to temporarily sponsor the Northlake Village through the end of the original permit in March 2020. Given these ongoing conversations between the City, LIHI, Nickelsville activists, residents, and the faith organization, the City believes it could support a short-term agreement between stakeholders that allows residents to have full-time case management and housing connections, while remaining in Northlake until March 2020.

Therefore, the City has instructed LIHI to not remove LIHI property from the site on December 9. HSD will continue working with LIHI and the faith organization to ensure all decisions made are centered on the well-being of people living at the village.