



**INTERIM CDA**

InterIm Community  
Development Association

Mayor Durkan  
600 4th Avenue  
4th Floor  
Seattle, WA , 98104

Dear Mayor Durkan, Director Mantilla, Director Johnson, Chief Best, Council President Gonzalez, and members of the Seattle City Council.

The listed organizations from the Chinatown International District (CID) have been advocating for the City government to address the multiple unsanctioned encampments on South King and South Weller in the CID for more than a month.

We have received word that there are plans for the removal of encampments along South Weller and South King streets. We support this response, as it prioritizes our community's safety, public health, and economic recovery. We also prefer to prioritize long term solutions when possible. Given this, we make the following asks from the City of Seattle.

- 1.) Bring all possible resources to bear to serve the needs of the people living unhoused on South King and South Weller, preferably sheltering these individuals in permanent or transitional housing, which includes motel/hotel/quarantine sites.
- 2.) Prioritize the sweep happening along South Weller on May 19<sup>th</sup> .
- 3.) Programs such as Co-Lead should be provided two weeks to offer motels to the homeless at South King; consequently, we are willing to allow the South King encampment removal to be delayed until Sunday, May 31st. However, a sweep must be carried out on this day for any individual who has not moved by this time.

We are again disappointed that local governments have been slow to act on the local homelessness crisis, seemingly abdicating their responsibility. It should not be necessary for us to prompt government officials to act. Our groups have gone way beyond what most neighborhood organizations are willing to do when addressing homelessness. We have navigated between different government agencies in trying to address this issue in a humane way, and have found this process to be slow, poorly coordinated, and poorly communicated. The City government must do better.

Our community has been currently and historically disproportionately impacted by public safety and economic concerns; consequently, permitting the unsanctioned encampments have compounded the severity of the current pandemic crisis in the CID. Due to these factors, the City must act responsibly to preserve our fragile community.

Thank you,

InterIm CDA

Chinese Information and Service Center

Friends of Little Saigon

SCIDPDA

CIDBIA

The Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience

APICAT

Kin On

Helping Link/Mot Dau Noi