

From: [Adolfo Bailon](#)
To: [Manuel Hernandez](#)
Cc: [Devin Chicras](#)
Subject: FW: County offer and District Court Encampment
Date: Friday, June 28, 2024 10:51:19 AM

Hi Manuel,

FYI. Here's my message.

From: Adolfo Bailon
Sent: Thursday, June 27, 2024 7:59 PM
To: Braddock, Shannon <Shannon.Braddock@kingcounty.gov>
Cc: Kevin Schilling <KevinS@burienwa.gov>; Sarah Moore <SarahM@burienwa.gov>; Mosqueda, Teresa <Teresa.Mosqueda@kingcounty.gov>; Wright, Anthony <Anthony.Wright@kingcounty.gov>; Gill, Karan <Karan.Gill@kingcounty.gov>
Subject: RE: County offer and District Court Encampment

Deputy Executive Braddock,

The City of Burien did not request the placement of portable bathrooms and or handwashing stations at the encampment created by King County in Burien, but is pleased to learn that steps are being taken to address the public health issue created by King County.

On June 4th I wrote an email to Anthony Wright, KC Director of Facilities, to express my concern about the public health issue that exists on King County property and to seek information about King County's plan to correct the issue. I also asked Mr. Wright to provide more information on King County's ongoing efforts to restrict use of public bathrooms within King County facilities to homeless people residing within the encampment as the decision was causing challenges within the Burien Community Center. I am sorry to say that I did not receive a response to my inquiry.

The City of Burien accepted the \$1 million offer extended by King County in 2023. The funds were accepted even though estimates created by the King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA) indicated that \$1 million would be enough to construct a pallet village and allow it to remain open for only two to three months. My team and I asked representatives from KCRHA if additional funds would become available to extend the longevity of the project, but never receive any response to suggest that a pallet village in Burien would remain open beyond its initial three-month period. Moreover, my team and I asked Councilmember Mosqueda for help in identifying funds to keep open a pallet village beyond three months. I am sorry to say that we did not receive a response from her or her office on this point.

I would also like to share that Burien requested inclusion into King County's Health Through Housing program on multiple occasions; novel requests to enter the program were made as early as March of 2023 and as recently as May of 2024 at the request of Councilmember Mosqueda. I am sorry to say that Burien continues to wait for an official response from King County.

I take exception to the inference that the City of Burien did not seek funding through the \$5 million RFP released by King County earlier this year. In fact, Burien was only one of two cities that applied for funding, which led to an additional \$1 million to support Mary's Place and Mercy Housing in Burien. I want to reiterate the fact that Burien was only one of two municipalities to apply for funds through this program – a fact that was lauded by Governor Inslee at a meeting held earlier this month that was attended by many elected municipal leaders. An interesting fact to highlight about the meeting: Governor Inslee also rebuked the efforts of King County as it establish a \$5 million grant program with such onerous requirements as they prevented cities of limited resources from applying.

On May 30th I sent to you a message in good faith where I informed King County of new resources becoming available to Burien and offered to establish a new partnership between our respective agencies to support the homeless population living in the encampment on 6th Ave SW. My email highlighted the upcoming presence of a dedicated service provider and dedicated funding in the amount of \$200,000 to pay for temporary/emergency shelter. I had hoped that my message to you would lead to a continued partnership, but I never received a response.

Overall, I am very pleased to learn that King County is finally accepting the responsibility of managing a problem that is regional in nature and disproportionately affects cities with limit resources. The novel decision made by King County to work directly with KCRHA is what should have occurred from the very beginning. Instead, King County attempted to discharge its obligation to a city with limited resources and thereby creating a tremendous amount of turmoil within its population. Thank you for finally recognizing the role of a county government when dealing with an issue that extends well beyond all municipal borders.

Sincerely,

Adolfo Bailon
City Manager

From: Braddock, Shannon <Shannon.Braddock@kingcounty.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 27, 2024 9:58 AM

To: Adolfo Bailon <AdolfoB@burienwa.gov>

Cc: Kevin Schilling <KevinS@burienwa.gov>; Sarah Moore <SarahM@burienwa.gov>; Mosqueda, Teresa <Teresa.Mosqueda@kingcounty.gov>; Wright, Anthony <Anthony.Wright@kingcounty.gov>; Gill, Karan <Karan.Gill@kingcounty.gov>

Subject: County offer and District Court Encampment

CAUTION: This email originated from **outside** of the City of Burien. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and have verified the contents are safe.

Hello Adolfo,

Thank you for your emails regarding the District Court Encampment. Yes, per your request, we will set up some port-a-potties and hand washing stations at the encampment in Burien's jurisdiction on our District Court property. We anticipate they will be up in the next few days.

I also write to share that, given the following, we are withdrawing King County's offer of \$1 million and 35 pallet shelters effective immediately:

- The formal offer has been on the table for over one year and Burien has yet confirm a site and make use of the funds. In addition, the Burien City Council appears to be actively working to put in place restrictions that exclude pallet shelters on the site selected by the Burien Council.
- King County offered \$1 million plus an opportunity to apply for a \$5 million RFP to support homelessness response. Burien chose not to apply for additional funding that would support operation of the pallet shelters.
- You shared in your email on May 30 that Burien will have dedicated temporary lodging/shelter coming online affiliated with your outreach service RFP response.

King County will now direct the \$1 million and pallet shelters to the King County Regional Homelessness Authority to use on outreach and emergency housing for individuals in South King County, including addressing the District Court site in Burien as you've shared your outreach team will not be able to service that area.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Sincerely, Shannon

Shannon Braddock (she/her)
Deputy Executive
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