

## What do you want to learn more about regarding the Tacoma for All ballot initiative?

Group Discussion Summary • Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness • 2.24.23

### The Embankment

*(The fantasia of a fallen gentleman on a cold, bitter night.)*

Once, in finesse of fiddles found I ecstasy,  
In the flash of gold heels on the hard pavement.  
Now see I  
That warmth's the very stuff of poesy.  
Oh, God, make small  
The old star-eaten blanket of the sky,  
That I may fold it round me and in comfort lie.

— T.E. Hulme

“February, month of despair, with a skewered heart in the centre.  
I think dire thoughts, and lust for French fries with a splash of vinegar.”

— Margaret Atwood, *February*

**WOOT:** *“The corporations need to stop feeding off people.”* — Jay Worley

### Feedback and Concerns with the Landlord Fairness Code Initiative

#### **General Feedback**

- Will have success if written properly and includes different perspectives. Precision is needed.
- During the meeting it was noticed folks didn't feel included in the broader discussion.
- There is a need for collaboration and building bridges by looking for common ground.
- Helpful to make the protected pool broader. The more inclusive it becomes the more folks won't feel as “divisive.”
- Concern with the financialization of property as only a capitalist investment. Need a discussion to help us focus on the greed of corporate property owners and the relationship to increasing homelessness as well as best ways to deal fairly with issues surrounding eviction.
- Decision makers need data to shape their choices—they prefer to see what's happening in other places, seeing its impacts before implementing wide protections.
- Relocation assistance and fee caps are wonderful. The educator protections is novel, and interesting. There are other jurisdictions (Seattle) that have the winter eviction protections, so that's worth learning from.
- I-35 in Seattle passed - this is part of a national movement. How successful has it been in the other jurisdictions?
- Competing motivations: popular rhetoric vs. legal language.

- Curious of elaboration regarding different populations being represented?

### **Concerns Mentioned**

- Housing providers aren't excited about it and there will be pushback.
- There are jurisdictions in other places that have winter eviction restrictions, and we know how that works. Seattle has it. Some will say it does work, some will say it doesn't.
- Laws and regulations that are already in place should not be reiterated due to cluttered language. It makes it sound like those regulations are not already in place.
- Sticking point paying for rent relocation.
- Concerns about laws already in place that aren't being followed/enforced.
- Concerns about legal challenges to this. Could it survive? Is it overly ambitious?
- Concerns were raised about the inability to evict when groups like LASA have had some tenants who have not paid in 2 years even with section 8 that keyed to income.
- Some overlap with COT's landlord-renter work. The city's success in this space has come from dedicated effort to work with landlords on the process.
- Make an effort to let smaller landlords know what won't impact them, but be aware that when landlord resistance does arise, it comes from both large and small landlords.
- Would this be a problem for service providers?
- What about other bad actors (such as DV)? Would this possible exacerbate existing issues?
- This doesn't actually address the issue of insufficient housing, and might dissuade future landlords from renting out space on their personal property, etc.
- Need more exemptions for small landlords.
- Worry about others not getting the opportunity (not a unanimous position).
- Rent stabilization is essential, but many questions about eviction policies.

### **Notes and Resources List**

#### **Networking Social Hour**

Date: 3/2/2023 - 4:00 PM, Location TBD

Come and enjoy a coffee or a beer at our monthly get together to discuss homelessness - or just bask in the awesomeness of the people that make up the homeless coalition. No structure to the event - just an informal place to chat and scheme how we can best serve our community.

Check <https://www.pchomeless.org> for update on location

**To connect to city shelter resources,** please refer to our website:

<https://www.cityoftacoma.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=181803>

**Frostbite and Hypothermia Info:** <https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-places/emergency-preparedness/frostbite-and-hypothermia>

**St Vincent de Paul Open House** to showcase the Resource Center: March 2, 4:30 - 5:30

**Food & Resources**, Sat. 10-2, 4819 S 12th St., Tacoma. Everyone welcome. No requirements

**Participatory Budgeting in Tacoma:** If you live or work in East Tacoma (98404, 98418), please tell the City of Tacoma what you would do with a million dollars, using one of these surveys:

English: <https://engagepiercecounty.mysocialpinpoint.com/pbtacoma>

Spanish: <https://engagepiercecounty.mysocialpinpoint.com/pbtacomasp>

For folks who have interest in getting involved in Participatory Budgeting, no matter where you live or work, please reach out. I will keep you informed when your district is starting and we would love to have you. [kcoble@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:kcoble@cityoftacoma.org)

**Landlord Fairness Code Initiative:** If you want to get involved, please sign up to volunteer here: <https://www.tacoma4all.org/>

If any of you are part of other organizations and would like to explore endorsement for your group, please reach out: 612-760-1980 / [tytymo@gmail.com](mailto:tytymo@gmail.com)

**Definition of just cause evictions:** <https://www.wliha.org/2021-public-policy-priorities/just-cause-eviction-protection>

#### **Resources from TPCHD, 2/24/2023:**

- **Vaccine page:** <https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine-information>
- **For testing support**, please email: [epitesting@tpchd.org](mailto:epitesting@tpchd.org) or reference the TPCHD COVID testing page at: <https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/testing-information>
- **New testing kit kiosk** is up and running! It's in Spanaway at 21818 38th Ave. E. Go check it out.
- **Recent CDC guidance for homeless service sites** around COVID recommendations: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-correctional-settings.html>

EMAIL me with questions: [jschoeppe@tpchd.org](mailto:jschoeppe@tpchd.org)

**Please sign up to the inclement weather listserv at**

<https://www.pchomeless.org/Home/Listserv>

**Winter '22 Emergency Outreach Tracking Googledoc**

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10Ec\\_bw5KKsFQidzRN7XkM6y6vHzD0Yf0m5lfjgdpU/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10Ec_bw5KKsFQidzRN7XkM6y6vHzD0Yf0m5lfjgdpU/edit?usp=sharing)

**We have inclement weather cards** (printed on business card sized stock) that Laurie Davenport created. Let me know if you want any. [tpdrutis@nctacoma.org](mailto:tpdrutis@nctacoma.org)

