take the opportunity to documentary of the is taking my 3 year old s	s Office, While yesterday was the city council meeting, I was unable to attend due to family. I wanted to still to express my concern over the rampant drug use in my neighborhood of Rose Park. Our Facebook page is a sues that are happening, some of which are even too graphic and blatant to even show on television. I love
out city has to offer. I k I saw Tuesday morn taking shelter under a at somebody experien who congregate at o makes me hesitant unwilling to make eye from where my counci smiths grocery. While (otherwise he would h I am happy action is t our neighborhoods an When we bought our h I know that this wi neighborhood. I don'tv is, without my fear of to keep them safe, an patrols. Please provid many people to show feel our pain. Think ingesting or stepping ir I've seen it myself and you. Greg Sanchez F	is son out to the park and to bike the trail. I used to go running with my dog on the trail to the dog park. Now, I k with him. The park I take my son to is not near the trail because of these issues. The trail we use is the one and into north salt lake. I am saddened that I am not able to use or feel safe in one of the greatest amenities know the trail closure is intended to resolve thisbut the question is how? I am attaching a picture of what ning and evening. A congregation of those experiencing homelessness, but the same crowd from the trail, a pavilion along 1400 west in riverside park. I consider myself a compassionate person and I will always look incing homelessness in the eye and say hello because I know they are human beings. The issue is that those or near the trail are there for one reason, as is apparent by the photos shared in our Facebook group. This it to want to use riverside park. There has been a visible increase in individuals walking around with bags, e contact, on our streets, one who I saw yesterday as I was taking my son out on his balance bike, not too far cill member representative lives. Last week I had somebody try to sell me a package of steaks that were from the was courteous and wished him well on his venture, it saddened me to know that likely it was a stolen item have returned it) and that the funds would not be used for good, given the demographic of the trail campers. It being taken by the policebut this is not a solution. This is a bandaid that will force the problem to go into and wait out the crack down. I lived near the gateway before operation rio grande and I saw the issues there, home in rose park, we saw the impacts of the operation and the displacement, not solution, of the problem. will happen again with this initiative, unless a real long term solution is implemented. I want to enjoy my t want my wife to walk around in fear. I want my son to be able to play at the gem of a park that riverside park if him touching needles or tin foil. Please do more. I love my

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
4/2/2025 10:44	Bernie HART	How do we define what is or is not "Ignorant Behavior" and "Accountability"	Councilmembers, Two things. The first. If the Council and The Mayor are making decisions on what is best for the community, and the mentally ill and addicted homeless in the community, and the discussions and decisions being made are not taking place in an open space, I have a problem. Open discussion based on reliable data is the basis of a democracy. Discussions that take place behind closed doors and are not based on informed conversations often reflect the needs of those involved, not the needs of the public. This is a tool used by the Intentionally Ignorant. Making decisions based on what makes us comfortable, rather than on data that reflects the reality of a situation, helps no one. What that behavior does is allow ignorance to feel good about being ignorant without having to acknowledge the ignorance. Two. Accountability. The Mayor and her supporters on the City Council seem comfortable holding the campers accountable for their actions. I almost walked out of the room. The surveys we have done show that over 98% of the campers in Salt Lake County are dealing with a self acknowledged mental health or addiction problem. Every camper has been in jail an average of 7 times and in several treatment programs. Yet they, the mentally ill and addicted, are the only ones being held accountable. And that did not seem to bother anyone on the City Council. Framing a discussion in a way that reinforces our uninformed biases is another excellent example of intentional ignorance. I'd like someone to provide me with data that shows someone, or any program, has found a way of getting the addicted and mentally ill to do what they want them to do to make better decisions, rather than do what a mentally ill or addicted person is naturally inclined to do. The Someone can be any elected decision maker or service provider. We will be doing another 400 surveys. I am interested in how many people living on our streets are from Utah. And the names of the specific "We Can Help You" programs they've been in. We will then monitor
4/2/2025 10:46	Bernie HART	Who do I send the dictionary to	Wayne, You, the people you work with, The Mayor, The City Council and the Downtown folks all seem focused on holding the mentally ill and addicted campers "Accountable". I doubt you all even know the definition of the word it is not in your vocabulary or it is, but it only applies to anyone who is not one of you all. HB 298 HB 298 HB 298 Has anyone read it? Or does not reading it or implementing it allow you all to pretend whatever you want to pretend? Doing this should not be so much fun but doing the right thing or thinking I am just makes me smile. The more I smile, the harder I push. Hold on, Bernie

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
4/2/2025 10:48	Mercedes Smith	PID and democracy	Dear City Council, This is in response to the April 1st work session on the PID. 1. During the meeting you asked for clarification about who is on the PID board. It was confirmed that a majority of them are employed by the Jazz/SEG. Then you said "that's just another example of an opportunity that residents will have to continue to give input as the PID board makes these decisions within the context of the law". I do not believe that is accurate and there is nothing in the bill that allows for that opportunity, but please tell me when and where those public comment opportunities will be held if I am wrong. 2. Some of you also made comments to the effect that "there is only one statutorily available outcome to us tonight there is a predetermined outcome." Yet your staffers have told us "At the City, our staff, the City Attorney, and finance staff members have done a tremendous job to review and negotiate each piece, and the Council has been working with the County and private sector to carry out what was negotiated in the bill." So, you act as if your only choice is to vote yes, but your staff is negotiating something with the county and SEG/Jazz. What is being negotiated if it's entirely predetermined? What percentage of the funds are going to County-owned properties vs those privately owned by a billionaire? 3. Some of you said that no amount of public opinion will change the predetermined outcome and that the public hearing is just a "public therapy session." Would you say the same thing about Cory Booker's record breaking speech today? What was the point of that? What is the point of any of this? You know as well as I do, our country is in crisis. It appears that all levels of government, even our own predominantly liberal local levels, are sliding towards authoritarianism and an oligarchy run by billionaires. (I can see that most of you have accepted donations from the lobbyist who pushed this bill through.) If we do nothing, if we stay silent, if we act like we are powerless, we let them win. Even if
4/2/2025 12:37	Cindy CROMER	HUD Funding for East Central neighborhood	Chris-I heard that you have an appointment this week about a condo property in the East Downtown. Thank you for considering the concerns of the owners at the Sampson/Altadena Condos. I have been following these historic apartment buildings for 50 years, since I was 20 something and darting out of my boyfriend's apartment in the early morning to move my car before I got a ticket, which I certainly could not afford as a graduate student. My future father-in-law owned the buildings. I fretted over them through their sale on a contract, Planning's nomination to the National Register, the new owner's opting out of the nomination, the condo process, and the renomination to the National Register by the HOA. I'm like those ducks imprinting on humans, except that I've imprinted on these 2 historic apartment buildings, following their fate for 50 years. Thank you for making time to hear about them. Best, cindy c.

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
4/2/2025 13:45	Bernie HART	Ignorance is as	Chief Redd, Ignorance is defined by what ignorance does. This morning Claudia was arrested for the 217th time.
			She is dealing with a number of mental health problems and has been in the "you need help" system for as long as
			we have been doing our program more than likely longer. When I tried to remind your officers that they had dealt
			with Claudia a number of times, they looked puzzled. Then started to make excuses for the system and how all this
			was Claudia's fault. Sgt. Robinson insisted that Claudia had a choice, she could continue to remain mentally ill or
			addicted or decide she wanted help and overcome her problems. The concept of "freewill" was mentioned more
			than once. Sgt Robinson and the other officers present were unable to deal with the concept that they and the
			system they were once again putting Claudia into had some role or responsibility in any outcome. It was all on
			Claudia. The next time these officers interact with anyone I know has been arrested more than 30 times and has
			been in the system for years I will not be walking away. I will employ my "freewill" to make sure the outcome
			reflects my displeasure with the current "we can help you, but helps no one" system. Chief Redd, why does this
			have to come back on your officers? You, The Mayor, and The City Council are responsible for developing
			programs that produce outcomes not based on the ability of mentally ill individuals to make good decisions. Time
			to stop pretending. Pretending is a tool that the intentionally Ignorant use to justify the ignorance, Bernie

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
4/2/2025 14:55	Cindy CROMER 1/2	Utility Exemptions	Members of the City Council-There are costs associated with the deadends that the City and County have pursued
			(message to the Landmarks Commission below), projects that were never implemented because they were
			$unnecessary. \ Yes, public \ process \ takes \ time. \ Sometimes, the \ results \ save \ money. \ Democracy \ always \ comes \ out$
			ahead. To Members of the Landmarks Commission From Cromer Re Utility Exemptions 4/3 I was at the Planning
			Commission for the hearing on this proposal, I hadn't planned to speak but went to the microphone and asked if
			the exemptions would apply to structures in historic districts. Indeed they would. I am alarmed by language on p.
			10 of the staff report indicating, "that overlay districts will not be subject to different standards than any other
			areas of the city." Why should I as the property owner be held to a higher standard in terms of design and materials
			if a utility building can be built next to mine without the process required for my own building, for additions to my
			building, and for new construction. My speculation is not idle; I have a utility structure directly across the street
			from one of my buildings in the Avenues Historic District. And these utility structures are being built on public land,
			owner either by Salt Lake City Public Utilities (SLCPU) or SLC Parks. I am going to list examples starting almost 30
			years ago during the Corradini Administration of times that the public process resulted in a different outcome. I am
			only going to list proposals in public park spaces located in historic districts which involved a utility. Nothing that I
			write should be interpreted to be criticism of Salt Lake City Public Utilities or Parks. In fact, Jeff Niermeyer as
			director of SLCPU solved 2 different problems in Liberty Park. I do view the failure of the City and County
			departments to coordinate as problematic. The appropriate roles of citizens in projects with significant effects on
			public open space need to be addressed. The expertise of these citizens, however, in solving the issues facing the
			City should not be minimized or ignored. And this proposal does that. I will indicate where the outcome relied on a
			solution from a citizen when that was clearly the case. The following proposals affected Liberty, Reservoir, and
			City Creek Parks, all standalone historic districts or located in historic districts. Storm Water Detention Basin in
			the northwest quadrant of Liberty Park, a standalone historic district The proposal required the removal of trees
			and radical change in topography. A citizen attending the presentation at the Central City Neighborhood Council
			meeting suggested an alternative solution. The Storm Water Detection Basin never moved forward. The Park space
			remained unaltered. Diversion Structure at the southeast end of Liberty Park next to 1300 S It would have required
			a 5000 sq. ft. berm and the removal of a large tree. There was a positive recommendation from staff and approval
			by HLC. The County had failed to coordinate with Salt Lake City Public Utilities.

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
4/2/2025 14:55	Cindy CROMER 2/2	CONTINUED!! Utility Exemptions	The project was not necessaryat all. SLCPU had already solved the problem on 900 S. After the approval, Jeff Niermeyer heard from a citizen and resolved the lack of communication. The project never happened, in spite of its approval. Irrigation system in Liberty Park at the edge of Liberty Lake It would have altered the view of the mountains from the park The utility building proposed by Parks was relocated to a less obtrusive area after a citizen and a member of the Landmarks Commission raised concerns about a "false sense of history" and obstruction of iconic views. Reservoir Park in the University Historic District The deck collapsed triggering an emergency redesign. The historic wall and light fixtures were elements of concern. This site was formerly a reservoir and is owned by SLCPU. Parks maintains the property. SLCPU earned an award for the redesign from Preservation Utah. The story was recently covered by Fox News: A reservoir turned park: Why this SLC park is a reminder of city's beginnings Watch Pump Building at 4Th Avenue in the Avenues Historic District The land is also owned by SLCPU and maintained by Parks. The proposal became complicated because of the prominent location, the onset of the pandemic, the urgent need to reconfigure access to the well, the number of different City entities involved (Planning, SLCPU, Park, City Council), and on and on. I will say that the presence of a petroleum engineer and a geologist living next to the site probably affected the outcome. It is unfortunate that there has not been a summary of "what we learned" at the well. The building was dedicated in 2021. The media coverage is available at Special Collections in Marriott Library. An example of the installation of a utility without public process is the Google tower installed in the parking median at 600 E and 200 S in the Central City Historic District. It was removed not as a result of public process but as a result of a complaint about the permit being issued. I can generate a much longer list of proposal
4/2/2025 16:14	Bernie HART	Could work	Hi All, Maybe just maybe we should make Conversion Therapy a court-mandated requirement for anyone dealing with a mental health or addiction problem. If everyone does have "freewill", all we have to do is to get them to decide to become who we want them to be. Did I get that right, Bernie
4/3/2025 13:19	Joseph Vignogna	Jordan River Trail	Hello Ms. Petro, Thank you for all that you do for the community. My name is Joe Vignogna. I am a homeowner and teacher at West High School. I also coach the track and cross country teams. When I first started coaching, it was great having kids run the Jordan River Trail, but obviously things have gotten pretty concerning lately. Anyway, I live on REDACTED, just a few blocks from the trail. I try to stay active on the trail regardless of what is occurring. I have watched the changes, improvements, struggles, drug use, dealers, then new dealers, clearing of vegetation, fights, garbage, etc. It has become a really sad situation. I wanted to reach out and say thank you for anything that is being done. If I could support you in any way, I would be happy to do so. Many of the kids and parents on my teams are willing to do the same. We really want to see some change. We know there isn't an easy answer, but if we could help, please let me know. Have a great week, Joe

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
4/3/2025 16:31	Margaret Holloway	Follow up on the meeting last night	I posted this on Nextdoor this morning. Because we get comments on how we can't push our problem into their area. Rose Park had cleaned up the gang issues and had gotten back its reputation. But this city has had time and time to fix this. But it is easy to push to an things into an ashtray. Wherever these people go WE DO NOT CARE Just get them out We know the east side is grateful this drug situation is in our neighborhood. That the rest of the city has shoved everyone to our corner. But we are a proud section of the city. No matter what you think. When you need someone to mow your lawn, clean your house. Work at the stores. The mechanics, the construction workers Guess where they live. We deserve the right like the rest of the city to have safety. So when your area is building an. Assisted living facility and you object. You have NO sympathy from this side. Because every section of this city needs assisted facilities. Mixed in your neighborhood. I hope they put as many as will fit They house your parents, your kids, and elderly, disabled. This situation is going to shift this invasion of people. Most come from outside the area. It was so disruptive last night and they scattered. Maybe to your area. But this river is going to be the first section of the new Emerald Ribbon project. It wasn't supposed to start here but it is now. Our section of the river is going to be fantastic and yes we will get our new park at Glendale because by golly we deserve it and we demand it So buy your drugs somewhere else and yes they drive over from your neighborhoods. We aren't going to give up our river walk we are going to celebrate it when it's done. I know it won't take years will it? Margaret Holloway
4/3/2025 16:32	Lori Wike	Public Hearings	Dear Council Members, Public hearings and other opportunities for public comment are an important and essential component of public participation in democratic government. While a Council need not in any way base their votes on the views, issues, and questions raised in public hearings, these hearings are nevertheless "critical institutions for the public voice." I would respectfully request that Council members, regardless of perceptions of constrained circumstances, refrain from referring to public hearings as "public therapy sessions" (4/1/25 Work Session). Such a description may be perceived as, at best, dismissive or, at worst, contemptuous of the public voice. Your constituents may (or may not) have useful questions and viewpoints for your consideration. Regardless, please treat public comment opportunities and public commenters respectfully. Only one letter separates futility from utility. Public voices can make a difference even in the face of seemingly predetermined outcomes. Sincerely, Lori Wike

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
4/3/2025 16:54	Anonymous Constituent	Crime activities in Rose park	Hi, I'd like the voice the concerned as the citizen of Rose park. It's been kind a bit of a mess with all these going on. I've already tried to call the detective Oliver, Left a message to Mayor, I've left a message to Victoria. I can't get through the non-emergency hotline and thats basically over an hour. Let's try to started my day, Looking out of my window in morning. Cops pulled over a car in front of my place, Cool! Lady driven with a guy in the passenger seat. They get them out, doing their deal, They hand-cuffed her, They throw her right in the back of the cops car, Is something wrong with her? at first, I thought she was an unimpaired driving but suddenly 5 cops car showed up and different vehicles that's normal, they do it all the time and they talked forever and they let the guy drive off but still got her hand-cuffed in the car. and I thought in the moment they are gonna they her to the jail, No I've even tried to go out in my front yard and this is so Bullshit-and this has been like over 30 minutes and then there's the paramedic showed up and they have to parked so far away and they checked on her and talked to the cops and check on her again and they kept doing that on repeat and she's still in the back hand-cuffed and finally they take her to the EMT and I thought ok after checked up on her they're going to take her to the jail. but then 5 minutes later she's walked back to the EMT by herself and they shut the door and she clawed to the back of the EMT and she look like she having a medical problem, but the EMT left with her but all these cops still hangout there for an hour. after that I walked through the Jordan river and guess what I see, There's the drug dealing has been going on and I tried to called the Non-emergency line and you can't get through it. Over an hour I tried that today, I called the Detective Oliver and I walked back and there's still have thing going on. then I walked to the library and tried to tell them that Hey I'm trying to report this issue and guessed what the guy in th
4/4/2025 11:39	David PORTER	One more question after the work session.	Hi Chris, Just one more question. If your vote regarding the PID is pro-forma and has no actual effect, why not vote "no"? I eagerly await your response. Sincerely, David
4/4/2025 16:34	Abigail Collingwood	9-line pedestrian/bike lights question	Hi there! I absolutely love the 9-line and frequently ride it to go to the gym, shop, or bike with friends. Is there any way that the bike/walk lights can just be synced up with the lights so you don't have to push the beg button every time to see if you can cross? It's really frustrating to be biking and have to stop your bike, push the button, see the bike green turn on, and restart biking. Admittedly, I (and a lot of other bikers on the trail) will just bike through if the car light is green, which can lead to us biking through some really stale greens. As a driver, this beg light system is really annoying as well because it makes the bikers and pedestrians unpredictable when you are trying to make a turn. You see that they stop so you think the road is clear, but then they start walking again after pushing the button. Is there any way that these lights can be reprogrammed so they are always green/on when it is safe to cross? If there is truly a reason that it is safer that they are not, I am open to hearing it. I just can't see from my experience how having the lights like this is helpful. Thank you, Abi PS - I live on REDACTED and am LOVING the new bike lanes on that road!! Keep up the great work!
4/7/2025 10:25	Cindy CROMER	collateral damage in NYC	Chris and Eva-Collateral damage is a risk of these high-density buildings with no setbacks and underground parking. I am grateful to Chris for dealing with the issue to a limited extent in the revisions to Title 18. We need more. Caveat: The original source is the New York Post, not a reliable resource for any political discourse. I will find another citation. Relentless NYC Fire Museum in danger of shutting down for good after \$6M Disney construction damage https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/nyc-fire-museum-in-danger-of-shutting-down-forgood-after-6m-disney-construction-damage/ar-AA1CIAMH

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
4/7/2025 11:48	Miranda Signorelli	Support for Wasatch Community Gardens' CDBG Funding Request	Dear Salt Lake City Council, My name is Miranda, and I'm your constituent living in the Avenues. I'm writing to request your support for Wasatch Community Gardens' (WCG's) application for \$40,000 in CDBG funds to support its farm-based Green Team Job Training Program for women facing or experiencing homelessness. This program provides paid employment, job training, and mentorship at WCG's new City Farm on 1300 South, helping participants secure stable housing and jobs. Green Team members are challenged to learn, grow, and rediscover their strengths, even as they navigate difficult circumstances. A key part of the program's success is WCG's onsite Case Manager, who maintains a realistic caseload to support Green Team members while also assisting overworked shelter and outreach case managers. Over 100 Green Team graduates have transitioned to independent living, with 80% securing housing and employment within six months. The impact of this program extends far beyond individual participants. Green Team members play a critical role in ensuring thousands of individuals and families have access to fresh, nutritious food. All produce grown at City Farm is donated to low-income community members through WCG's partner organizations, distributing \$100,000 worth of healthy food annually. In any given year, more than 40% of the Utah population served in shelters has received food grown by the Green Team at WCG's farm. With 12% of Utahns experiencing food insecurity and grocery prices rising, sustainable, local food sources are more critical than ever. WCG is the only broad-scale, garden-to-mouth nonprofit in Salt Lake City, providing growing space, food education, and distribution to shelters and community partners. Without CDBG support, Salt Lake City compromises this vital resource that not only feeds our community but also helps women reclaim stability in their lives. Please prioritize WCG's Green Team Job Training Program for CDBG funding. Thank you, Miranda Signorelli
4/7/2025 13:16	Susan Sundstrom	Wasatch Community Gardens funding	Please support the Wasatch Community Gardens CDBG funding request for \$40,000 which supports their farm - based Green Team Training Program for women facing or experiencing homelessness. It provides paid employment and job training at Wasatch Community Gardens on their new City Farm in the Glendale area. Thank you. Susan Sundstrom
4/7/2025 13:18	Lydia Keenan	Support for Wasatch Community Gardens' CDBG Funding Request	Dear Mr. Puy, My name is Lydia Keenan and I'm your constituent living at REDACTED. I'm writing to request your support for Wasatch Community Gardens' (WCG's) application for \$40,000 in CDBG funds to support its farm-based Green Team Job Training Program for women facing or experiencing homelessness. This program provides paid employment, job training, and mentorship at WCG's new City Farm on 1300 South, helping participants secure stable housing and jobs. Green Team members are challenged to learn, grow, and rediscover their strengths, even as they navigate difficult circumstances. A key part of the program's success is WCG's onsite Case Manager, who maintains a realistic caseload to support Green Team members while also assisting overworked shelter and outreach case managers. Over 100 Green Team graduates have transitioned to independent living, with 80% securing housing and employment within six months. The impact of this program extends far beyond individual participants. Green Team members play a critical role in ensuring thousands of individuals and families have access to fresh, nutritious food. All produce grown at City Farm is donated to low-income community members through WCG's partner organizations, distributing \$100,000 worth of healthy food annually. In any given year, more than 40% of the Utah population served in shelters has received food grown by the Green Team at WCG's farm. With 12% of Utahns experiencing food insecurity and grocery prices rising, sustainable, local food sources are more critical than ever. WCG is the only broad-scale, garden-to-mouth nonprofit in Salt Lake City, providing growing space, food education, and distribution to shelters and community partners. Without CDBG support, Salt Lake City compromises this vital resource that not only feeds our community but also helps women reclaim stability in their lives. Please prioritize WCG's Green Team Job Training Program for CDBG funding. Thank you, Lydia Keenan

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
4/7/2025 16:52	Bernie HART	Good Morning	Hi All, How many people have you all arrested? How many went to jail, how many were released and how many went into a mental health or addiction program? Op Rio Grande taught us that keeping track of those types of numbers could be embarrassing. This time around, I think we are tracking the number of contacts (double points for 3am), arrests and people who were given bus tickets. Oh, and Sgt Robinson, SLCPD, informed me that The Otherside folks had the answers. How many mentally ill folks and addicts are referred there as an alternative to jail? I'm wondering what kind of positive spin you all are going to put on this? What are you all calling it? Maybe "Cleansingfication" or "Making Downtown Great Again". Leaf blowing, wacking and sweeps with SLCPD and local officials holding the mallets, brooms and hot air things. Am I the only one who thinks we can do better? Bernie
4/7/2025 16:59	Bernie HART	Fake is what fake does	Hi All, The jails are over flowing. 12 people in a two person cell. This probably will help with costs per square foot. I just went by Home Depot and saw what I thought might be SLCPD officers engaging with the day workers. I stop and suggested that the workers ask the men in uniforms for Identification. The Officers seemed troubled when I told them I had heard that there were reports of make believe or fake officers running around randomly harassing the mentally ill homeless. I told the officers that real police dealt with real problems. I smiled they did not. Bernie
4/8/2025 10:51	Hugh Boyle	Zoning enforcement	Why doesn't the city enforce their own codes? A garage went up next to my lot that exceeds the SF limit by 50%, exceeds the height limit by 10%, exceeds the paved area limit, and added a gravel RV parking spot. The city just said it's "OK" and agreed "the zoning codes where violated" but did nothing about it. In fact, the mayors office flat out lied to me and said "legally they can't enforce the code". Seriously, how can we trust any of your decisions to revise zoning when you won't even enforce current codes.

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
4/8/2025 14:47	Kurt Fisher	Comment in favor of Wasatch Community Gardens	This note is in support of the 2025–2026 CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) request by the Wasatch Community
		2025-2026 CDGB Request for \$40,000	Gardens (WCG) in the amount of \$40,000. I am a District 2 resident and a City resident of 47 years. The 2023 Annual Report of
			WCG attests to its wide impact in neighborhood revitalization within the City and the broad support from the community in the
			$form\ of\ monetary\ or\ in\ -kind\ donations.\ I\ am\ one\ of\ the\ raised\ bed\ gardeners\ at\ one\ of\ 18\ community\ gardens\ that\ service\ around$
			820+ plot gardeners in the City - a small component of one of WCG's many activities. My observation about the garden — this
			one along the 9-Line Trail — is that it provides a community focus and anti-crime effects in the area throughout May through
			November each year. It is an exemplar of anti-neighborhood deterioration activities that are at the core of the CDBG program.
			The garden serves as a community focus point — a public food tray and beds provide fresh food to 9-Line Trail users. Visits from
			external groups, such as surrounding schools and youth programs, introduce gardening to many residents. The constant outdoor
			presence of the gardeners deters criminal elements in the area. Our members constantly remove trash, including drug user
			injection needles, from along the 9-Line Trail near the garden, suppress graffiti, and work with or, where appropriate, request
			relocation of unsheltered camps. Our members have remained resilient in these efforts despite having the garden's tool shed
			broken into multiple times by criminal elements. I understand the CDBG request concerns another component of WCG's many
			community revitalization efforts — its employment training program for displaced and unsheltered women. I have occasionally
			seen this program and its participants at WCG's main garden production facility, the "Green Phoenix." It functions well. Women-
			directed gardening for employment training has long been a component of the United States gardening movement. It goes back
			to its foundations in the World War I "Liberty" garden program by the War Department. WCG successfully continues that long
			tradition. That early WWI program, which was continued through the WWII Victory gardens, was key to providing about one-third
			of the nation's produce during and immediately after the two world wars. That contribution of produce during times of distress allowed the United States to redirect commercial agriculture from domestic production to international relief. The Liberty
			gardens allowed the United States to send its commercial agricultural output to feed Europe during the first two post-war years
			after each conflict. This seemingly under-related historical note underscores another key future need for the WCG programs. The
			country will being responding - on the local neighborhood level - to a likely deep recession caused by the current federal
			administration's intention to generate economic chaos as a political strategy. In such recessionary times, the WCG will be
			needed to provide community support to increased demand for education and leadership for individuals in planting
			supplemental home survival gardens. That, in part, is how families got by during the 1930s depression. Again, in that role, WCG
			is an exemplar of what the CDBG program is about: bolstering community resilience. Kurt A. Fisher
			,