Madalyn Letellier

From: Yizhi You

Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2023 1:49 PM
To: Public Comments; All City Council

Subject: issue with homeless individuals under I-93 highway

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Dear City of Somerville council,

I trust this email finds you in good health and spirits.

I'm reaching out to address an increasing concern about the group of homeless individuals residing in East Somerville, specifically under the I-93 overpass adjacent to the Stop and Shop parking lot and the condominium at 60 Cross St E. Since this spring, the number of homeless individuals has noticeably increased, now numbering more than five. Of particular note, one of these individuals appear to have disabilities and use wheelchairs, suggesting they may require specialized assistance.

Our community's primary concern revolves around a series of disturbances and potential criminal activities linked to this group:

- 1. Unauthorized access to private properties and usage of water and electricity from the private properties at 60 Cross St E, which is in close proximity to their current location under the I-93.
- 2. Take away of traffic cones, parcel deliveries, and other personal properties from nearby parking lots and patios for their own use.
- 3. Disturbing behaviors towards residents, including watching them through windows or patios, and confrontations with those passing by.

It's important to note that many residents have reported these incidents to both the Somerville local police and the state police at the Boston barracks on multiple occasions. Although the police have made efforts to address these concerns, the situation remains largely unchanged. It appears there are limited measures in place to both assist these homeless individuals and ensure the safety and peace of our community.

Is it possible to bring this matter to the attention of the East Somerville council? We believe that with their intervention, more comprehensive and sustainable solutions might be implemented, addressing the needs of both the homeless group and ensuring the safety of our residents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to any guidance or support you can offer.

Warm regards,

Dr. Yizhi You Somerville, MA