

January 19, 2023

Char Deller:

I listened in to the SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE ENTIRE AREA OF LAND USE, PRESERVATION, DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING, ENVIRONMENT, AND REGULATION meeting today and found it very interesting and encouraging as it relates to housing.

This is critical work. The promise that this commission is "to do good and no harm" is a wonderful underlying tenet.

The notion brought forth to involve the public prior to developing language for a comprehensive plan is on spot. I do believe this commission needs to do its due diligence by bringing this matter to the people.

To that point, and as you may be aware, neighborhoods in the Southside of Providence have born a disproportionate share of homeless facilities and ancillary supports. We have been calling for having an equal share with other neighborhoods in Providence and the other 38 towns and cities in the state. Perhaps the commission would be willing to hear from local leaders of neighborhood associations in the Southside about this concern which has been called "overburden", "overshare" and continues to concentrate people who are living below the poverty level in neighborhoods with a very high residential poverty level.

Thank you for listening and taking our experience into consideration.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Doug Victor. Chair  
Elmwood and South Providence Neighborhood Crime Watch

Doug Victor <doug.crimewatch@gmail.com>