



SYLVESTER TURNER
MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HOUSTON
TEXAS

April 3, 2018

Ms. Sandra L. Stevens
President
Museum Park Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 8101
Houston, TX 77288-8101

Dear Ms. Stevens:

As the President of the Museum Park Neighborhood Association, representing neighbors living near Houston's largest homeless encampment, you have seen and directly felt the impact of the issues of homelessness and encampments: issues that affect all neighborhoods and all Houstonians. That is exactly why I appreciate the direct involvement of your office as we work together toward resolution of the encampment issues facing your community.

Whenever there are public health and safety concerns affecting constituents, homeless and housed alike, enforcement must be a facet of our response. As you so wisely state, the rights of all our citizens must be protected and all constituents, regardless of background or socio-economic status, must follow our City's laws. The Houston Police Department has expanded its presence in the area to discourage and prevent illicit activity, and I encourage you to stay engaged with HPD's South Central Division as they work to keep all constituents in the area, including the homeless, safe.

The primary focus of my homeless response strategy is the permanent solution of housing. We will continue to offer shelter, supportive services and housing to all homeless individuals in the area, to move each one of them to a better place in their lives.

Thank you again for engaging with my office as we work toward resolution of the encampment issues affecting your community. Our multi-layered approach to homelessness and encampments will take the effort and commitment of all of us. Please continue to work with Marc Eichenbaum and my Office for Homeless Initiatives as we institute holistic, permanent solutions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sylvester Turner", written over a horizontal line.

Sylvester Turner
Mayor