

From: [Steven Currier](#)
To: melgarstafd@sfgov.org; prestonstaff@staff.org; [Lauren Chung](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); katy.tang@sfgov.org; [Schneider, Dylan \(HOM\)](#)
Cc: [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [Low, Jen \(BOS\)](#); [Amy Cohen](#); [Cohen, Emily \(HOM\)](#); [Woon, Chris \(POL\)](#); [Sam Berenson](#)
Subject: Fwd: Vehicle Triage Center - Hearing February 22, 2021 - Item 6 - #210043
Date: Monday, February 22, 2021 12:26:52 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Steven Currier <stevencurrier@icloud.com>
Date: 2/22/2021
To: Steven Currier <stevencurrier@icloud.com>
Subject: **Vehicle Triage Center - Hearing February 22, 2021 - Item 6 - #210043**

I am following Dylan Schneider's putting this into the record before my testimony to afternoon.

Dear Supervisors and Departments Reps, and the public:

I am Steven Currier, Co-Chair of the Vehicle Triage Center at the upper yard of the Balboa Park BART Station.

I am humbled and honored to be serving as the Co-Chair along with Urban Alchemy and our Secretary Barbara Fugate from the Cayuga neighborhood on this Pilot Project.

This project has been an enlightening project for us in the District 11 neighborhood. One, that we would have never imagined. This project was brought up to me by Supervisor Ahsha Safai well over a year and a half ago. We had several meetings along with stakeholder in the community. My first thought was that: "I am not a bleeding heart into this homeless issue," and since I worked on then Supervisor Gavin Newsom's "Care not Cash" program, "I was willing to have an open mind." The first big meeting at Balboa High School, as previously referenced, was very volatile. More than 40 percent of the attendees were against this project.

After Supervisor Safai, with great sacrifice, put his community working group in order, and we met, things came together. The working group, albeit, some quite disdained, worked to a reliable and sustainable group electing a Co-Chair, myself, Co-Chair, Urban Alchemy, and Secretary, Barbara Fugate, to take minutes to make our meeting legit. The project lifted and became a great success with the backing of the Ingleside Police Department and the surrounding communities. I have been interviewed several times; and, have mentioned this to our community

group along with the City Controller, the question: "What is your best advice on something this controversial?" My response, "Community buy in." You need to bring the community in and make them aware that everything will be just fine and there are those you can rely on and put the blame on when things go awry. It worked here. Thank goodness.

We spent many months working on the safety of the clients/guests at the site, making the clients comfortable in their adopted community, along with the safety of the community members, by bringing in many donated items such dog/cat food, sanitized projects, donate food from the Salvation Army and from Excelsior Works, donated toiletries, water, Christmas trees, gifts for the holidays from the guest wish lists, pies for the holidays, and much, much more.

Our working group's main concern that these guests/clients are not put back on the street living in their vehicles without the services of the DPH, Social Services, work training, and other services that have entitled to them during this period after their exit date of March 1, 2021.

We are encouraging the City to allocate funding for this part of their homelessness funding and find an adequate location to relocate those who are still at the Upper Yard at Balboa, or any other part of the City and address a more permanent location in San Francisco, the City of St. Francis.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven R. Depont-Kalani nee Currier
Co-Chair, Vehicle Triage Center Community Working Group