End Poverty Tows Coalition Appeal Hearing Presentation

December 10, 2024





Who Lives in RVs and Why

- According to 2024 Point-In-Time Count, there are over 1,400 people in San Francisco living in their vehicles.
 - 90% of families experiencing unsheltered homelessness live in their vehicles.
- Elders, people with disabilities, and families live in RVs.
 Many are working people of color and immigrants, some undocumented.
- With high rents in SF and job losses during the pandemic, many turned to RVs as their only option.

SFMTA's Ban on Overnight RV Parking

- Change to transportation code will shift decision making from SFMTA Board (public process) to SFMTA Director (private process).
- RVs would be towed, rather than ticketed, resulting in a loss of someone's home and belongings.

Impact of the Ban

• Strain on Homelessness Response System:

- There are over 200 individuals and 500 families on the shelter waitlist.
- If a family in an RV accepts shelter, they will only be allowed a temporary stay in shelter.

• Waste of City Resources:

- Towing RVs is very expensive.
- SFMTA and SFPD would have to dedicate funding and staff time to this work.

Impact of the Ban

Impact on Households who Live in RVs:

- Endangers survivors/victims of domestic and genderbased violence
- Displaces undocumented and vulnerable immigrant communities
- Puts elderly people and people with disabilities at greater risk of morbidity
- Increases adverse childhood experiences for children

Recommendations

- Vote to overturn this change in the transportation code.
- Collaborate with City departments, service providers, and community members on sustainable solutions to support people living in RVs.
 - Culturally and linguistically competent engagement to get people housed and provide appropriate services.
 - Targeted services to meet needs, such as fixing vehicles.
 - RV and Mobile Home Parks
 - Safe parking sites, including community self-run sites.