

RESOLUTION NO. R-2016-_____

A RESOLUTION revoking permission of any kind, express or implied, given by the Yakima City Council to allow the use of the City-owned parking lot on the Southeast corner of East Walnut Street and South Third Street in Yakima, for a temporary encampment, effective November 18, 2016.

WHEREAS, in March, 2016, a group of homeless individuals set up tents and a camp on the planting strip right-of-way on East Chestnut Avenue in between South Sixth and South Seventh Streets in Yakima, Washington with no sanitation or garbage services, in a residential neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the camp did not obtain a permit to use the right-of-way or other City-owned property before setting up the encampment; and

WHEREAS, there were mounting serious issues between the homeless campers along the parking strip and neighboring property owners and renters who were in close proximity to the unlawful encampment, public health concerns and public safety concerns associated with individuals being in close proximity to the roadway; and

WHEREAS, at the City Council meeting on July 5, 2016, the City Council passed by a vote of 4-3 a Resolution authorizing the use of the parking lot at the Southeast corner of East Walnut Street and South Third Street for a temporary encampment; and

WHEREAS, shortly thereafter, the City provided notice that no further use of the public right-of-way on East Chestnut Avenue would be allowed, that the individuals camping in that right-of-way had approximately three days to remove their belongings from the right-of-way, and that if they wished, they could use, at their option, the parking lot described herein as a temporary encampment; and

WHEREAS, the City has provided the parking lot as an option for camping since that time; and

WHEREAS, the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (YVCOG) put out a request for proposals, and received responses for operating a winter warming shelter program for homeless individuals in Yakima, wherein homeless individuals will be sheltered indoors overnight from November 15, 2016 through March 15, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the permission granted on July 5, 2016, to use the parking lot referenced herein for camping should be revoked, effective at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, November 18, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is in the best interests of the residents of the City and the City of Yakima to revoke any permission, of any kind, granted by the City Council and/or City staff, to use the parking lot at the Southeast corner of East Walnut Street and South Third Street for camping or any use other than as a parking lot; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YAKIMA:

The permission granted by the City Council through motion on July 5, 2016, and any other permission, expressed or implied, granted by the City Council and/or City staff, for people to use the parking lot at the Southeast corner of East Walnut Street and South Third Street in the City of Yakima as an encampment, for camping, or for any purpose other than as its original purpose as a parking lot, is hereby revoked and terminated effective at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, November 18, 2016.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this 18th day of October, 2016.

ATTEST:

Kathy Coffey, Mayor

Sonya Claar Tee, City Clerk