Spenard Community Survey Summary

The Spenard Community Council Executive Board shared a community survey to better understand our community’s perceptions on the issues regarding homelessness and treatment services. Below is a summary of the survey results we heard to better understand how to engage and inform our community members.

- **39** Spenard resident responses (and **6** from non-residents not included below)

- **Regarding the muni’s proposal to purchase four buildings, what is our general opinion?**
  - Very Positive + Positive = 69.2% (27 out of 39)
  - Neutral = 0.03% (1 out of 39)
  - Very Negative + Negative = 20.5% (8 out of 39)
  - Other = 0.08% (3 out of 39)

- **If you said neutral, negative, and very negative are there any changes to the proposed ordinance that would lead you to support it?**
  - Some respondents felt this plan would not address COVID-19 for these specific funds, and rather should fund businesses.
  - Some respondents wanted more information on maintenance and ongoing operations costs, and a long-term plan for the facilities.

- **What are your main concerns regarding this proposal?**
  - 40% or more of respondents found these items to be most important:
    - How treatment programs will be managed
    - Budget for ongoing maintenance
    - How facilities actually help eliminate homeless camps being set up throughout the community
    - Panhandling or loitering may still continue to spread at these locations
  - Over 20% of respondents also supported all the other items listed:
    - How to hold clients responsible to program and 'house' rules during the duration of their stay
    - The process in which this was announced and/or handled by MOA & Assembly.
- Cost of acquisition and remodeling
  - Open-ended themes:
    - Some respondents shared concerns around property value declines and increases in crime.
    - Some respondents shared concerns that continued racism and fear-driven reactions will impact community relations.
    - Some respondents shared concerns about misuse of CARES Act funds to respond to COVID-19 impacts.

- In the context of the creation and delivery of services for people experiencing homelessness, what would you like to see that would improve the quality of life for all residents of the community?
  - 50% or more of respondents found these items to be most important:
    - Increase quantity, quality and efficacy of housing and supports services
    - Investing in substance use prevention and diversion programs
    - Improve community health, public safety, and emergency systems
  - Over 20% of respondents also supported all the other items listed:
    - Provide courtyards and green space on all proposed service provider sites
    - Install public-use garbage cans spaced a reasonable distance apart on all main walking streets (Spenard, Minnesota, 36th Ave., etc.)
  - Open-ended themes:
    - Many respondents supported all the solutions listed.
    - Some respondents shared solutions around enforcing the laws equally across all community members.
    - Some respondents shared solutions around providing more long-term mental health facilities and supports.
    - Some respondents shared solutions including public restrooms or other facilities.

- Please add any solutions or comments that we could potentially bring to our city representatives for consideration. Themes included: