



President of the East Spokane Business Association (ESBA) and East Central business owner Doug Trudeau, addresses the audience at the ESBA press conference on Wednesday, October 26th, 2022.

In Recent Press Conference, East Spokane Business Association and Neighborhood Leaders Demand Action on Camp Hope.

On Wednesday, October 26th at an East Spokane Business Association press conference community leaders shared a simple message with the media: Camp Hope needs to be gone before Thanksgiving.

The media in attendance included KXLY, KHQ, KREM, The Spokesman-Review, The Inlander, and Range Media.

Earlier in October the East Central Neighborhood Council (ECNC) and ESBA passed resolutions (see pages 10&11) condemning the camp and asking that it be removed prior to Thanksgiving.

With over 20,000 citizens and 1800 businesses residing in the East Central Neighborhood, speakers (see page 3) at the press conference stressed that families

and businesses near Camp Hope in the East Central Neighborhood are suffering the most from criminal activity (see pages 4-9) directly related to the illegal camp.

The speakers represented different areas of the neighborhood and they all emphasized the same point: for the continuing existence of our businesses and safety of our citizens, we need Camp Hope gone before Thanksgiving!

To view the full press conference visit:

<https://youtu.be/mYG1owDmFOQ>

About ESBA

ESBA SUMMARY

ESBA Mission

At the East Spokane Business Association, our mission is clear: To support the East Spokane Business District by preserving and improving its unique facilities, infrastructure, and commercial interests.

History of ESBA

The East Spokane Business Association was officially established as the entity it is today on April 8, 2003.



ESBA Boundary Map:



2022 ESBA OFFICERS



Doug Trudeau
President



Danny Beard
Vice President



Barbara Woodbridge
Secretary



Cyndi Fridye
Member at Large



George Demakis
Treasurer



Jim Hanley
Member at Large



Larry Stone
Transportation & Dinner
Committees Chair

Press Conference Speakers



Doug Trudeau
President of ESBA

Doug Trudeau is the Owner and General Manager of Trudeau's Marina located in the East Central Neighborhood. A family owned business, Trudeau's Marina has resided in the East Central neighborhood since 1948. For the past two years, Doug has served as the president of the East Spokane Business Association (ESBA). As a long time business owner in the East Central Neighborhood and president of ESBA, Doug offers an unique perspective of the successes and challenges facing the neighborhood.



Danny Beard
Union Gospel Mission of Spokane
Vice President of ESBA

Born and raised in Sparta, IL. In 1970 Danny Beard was voted Southern Illinois Athlete of the Year and received a full scholarship to play basketball for Kansas State University. In 1976-1982 Danny was a Division 1 assistant basketball coach, three years at Samford University and three years at Eastern Illinois University. Danny retired in 2017 as the Senior Vice President of NBC Camps where he worked for 40 years. Danny is the Director Of Strategic Partnerships for Union Gospel Mission.



Jesse Smith
Store Manager
Fred Meyer (3rd Ave and Thor St)

Jesse Smith is currently the Store Manager at the Fred Meyer Thor street location. He started his career at the Hawthorne Fred Meyer in Portland Oregon in 2001. Jesse has held numerous management positions in the Portland and Spokane areas and was promoted to Store Manager in 2018. Jesse has a passion for people and cares deeply about his customers, his community, and his associates.



Doug Schroeder
Long Term East Central Resident

Doug Schroeder has lived in the East Central Neighborhood for approximately 40 years and has been a member of the East Central Neighborhood Council for about 30 years.



Kim Crumpacker
East Central Neighborhood Council (ECNC) Secretary

Kim Crumpacker has been an active member of ESBA for 10 years, serving wherever needed. He has also served on the board of the East Central Community Organization (ECCO) and was instrumental in the recent relocation of the Rose Apartment building that provides housing for low income residents. Kim has served on the board of the East Central Neighborhood Council, working as its secretary for the past 5 years. He holds BA and MBA degrees from Eastern Washington University and has attained 4 different professional certifications over his long career.



Michael C. Brown
Owner Fresh Soul
CEO Spokane Eastside Reunion

Michael Brown is a Spokane native and lifetime East Central neighborhood resident. Brown is part chef, part entrepreneur - and all heart. He has worked tirelessly to bring a sense of community to the neighborhood where he grew up - near Underhill and Liberty Parks, just south of the Interstate. In 2010, Brown started Spokane Eastside Reunion Association (SERA) in hopes to revitalize the neighborhood and bring people together. Michael believes, "it's about giving back. If I can help a kid here, and if that kid can pay it forward, how cool would that be?"



Al French
Spokane County Commissioner

In 2010, Al French was elected to serve as your County Commissioner. His civic activity includes his service as a neighborhood leader, planning commission member, hospital foundation board member, community center board member and chair, City Council member, and now as your County Commissioner. As a local businessman for over 45 years and a civic leader for 28 years he has committed himself to the betterment of the Spokane region working to develop community solutions.



Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich
Spokane County

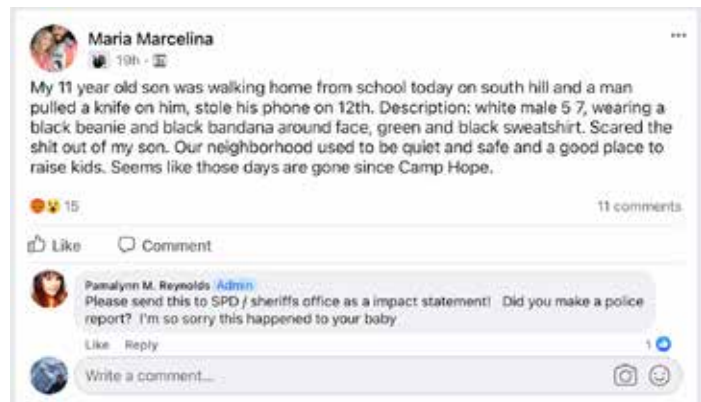
Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich was appointed as Sheriff of Spokane County on April 11, 2006. He was elected to the Office of Sheriff in the fall of 2006 and is currently serving his third term as our Sheriff. This year marks his 29th year in the Law Enforcement Profession. As Sheriff of Spokane County, he oversees the law enforcement activities in the unincorporated areas of Spokane County and several contract cities and towns. He is also responsible for managing the County's Department of Emergency Management.

Citizens of East Central Speak Out



"Every day we catch, conservatively, three people trying to come in here and steal something," Craudell said. "I ran a guy out of here earlier today because he came in here with a pair of snips and was going over to the bikes. He was going to cut one of the security tags off a bike and try to wheel it out the door."

- **Ken Craudell, General Manager of Double Eagle Pawn**



Citizens of East Central Speak Out



"I don't feel safe going for a walk by myself."
- **Lina Krivopustov, Neighboring Resident**



"It's unsettling to have people walking through the neighborhood at night, rummaging through trash cans."
- **Jeff Jones, Neighboring Resident**



"My family had its lawnmower and leaf blower stolen, and its car windows smashed. We had to call the police when a homeless man broke into our house and wouldn't leave."
- **Moises Gourneau, Neighboring Resident**



"We have number of pictures and videos of them coming on to our property, stealing stuff from our porch our back yard."
- **Juan Rodriguez, Neighboring Resident**



"I have a building engineer who is cleaning up needles and fecal matter every morning."
- **Katie Bohr, Tapio's Property Manager**



"People from the camp are also behaving in an obscene manner. There's a guy with his privates out walking on the sidewalk."
- **Laura Salas, Salas Real Estate**



"We have completely quit filing police reports of crime to our business, so we don't lose our liability insurance."
- **Kristin Liberty, Liberty Tire & Auto**

Facts

Camp Hope started last December, when homeless people pitched tents outside Spokane City Hall to protest the city's lack of shelter space.

WSDOT owns the East Central land where 400-600 are now camping

According to the Spokane Police Department, calls for service in the quarter-mile radius around Camp Hope are up 56% compared with 2021 and burglary calls are up 514%.

Within a 56-day period this year, there were 384 calls for service at the property costing the city more than \$500,000.

After nine months of the encampment being up \$400,000 has been spent to cover the cost of four large dumpsters being dumped every working day of the week and police overtime of 12 hours a day.

WSDOT hired Security Services Northwest at a cost of \$30,000/week.

The Woodward administration says it can fit 400 people into the Trent shelter, and that it could find beds for all of Camp Hope's residents.

To date, the Department of Commerce has committed \$21 million to the Woodward administration's plan. More than \$13 million is going toward a Catholic Charities project that entails buying, remodeling and operating a former Quality Inn on Sunset Boulevard to house more than 100 people. Spokane will get \$4 million to pay for the operation of a new homeless shelter on Trent Avenue. Another \$3.5 million is set aside for the Empire Health Foundation and other homeless service providers.

Mayor Nadine Woodward and Spokane County officials want Camp Hope gone by mid-November.



"The site is a hub for criminal activity and unfit for human habitation."

***Spokane Police Chief Craig Meidl and
Spokane County Sheriff Ozzie
Knezovich***



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Letters to the City



COMMITMENT - TEAMWORK - STRENGTH

July 19, 2021

Mayor Nadine Woodward
Spokane City Council
808 W Spokane Falls Blvd #3324
Spokane, Washington 99201

Dear Mayor Woodward and Spokane City Leaders,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the companies and individuals working on the Thor/Froya reconstruction project. Our company, Cameron-Reilly LLC, is serving as the general contractor. We have done countless projects for the City of Spokane and take pride in making improvements for our wonderful community.

When we bid this project on October of 2021, the area now known as "Camp Hope" was not established. We made our Proposal based upon the conditions that were in place at the time. Unfortunately, when we started the project in mid-March, we could not imagine the conditions in which we would be putting our employees and other subcontractors and their workers.

As with any large venture, we started by leasing property from WSDOT and created a secure fenced, locked yard for us and the other contractors to store equipment and materials. From day one, we have had issues with breaking and entering on our site. Equipment has been either stolen or damaged, windows broken, and construction materials have been stolen. Some of these items include traffic control devices, solar panels on temp traffic signals, cure blankets, rebar, pallets, and batteries. This list is not all inclusive and does not include personal items stolen out of work trucks or personal cars during the workday.

Our team spends each morning accounting for lost items and cleaning up the many messes that were made the previous night. We have had multiple events of damage to our portable toilets, and last night one was actually burned. We spend an estimated \$2800 per week on vandalism alone.

While tools, equipment, and other items are replaceable, we are most concerned about the safety of the crews on this job. Residents of "Camp Hope" are creating a very unsafe environment, especially for our female employees. They walk in and out of the site, making vulgar and suggestive comments at all times of the day. We find needles throughout the site which causes a stoppage and a delay in our work. Our workers have been threatened with knives or other tools. This issue is impacting our team in a very negative way and our laborers, Operators, masons, traffic control and subs are not wanting to work on this job. While we fully intend to finish this project on time, I can foresee issues if something is not done by the city in a timely manner.

While I sympathize with these homeless people and the unfortunate situation that they are in, I have to take steps to protect my business, employees, and subcontractors. I hope you are continuing to look for solutions for this city issue. If conditions do not change, I am not confident we can get this project done on time or under budget for the City of Spokane.

Respectfully,



Mike Reilly



309 N Park Rd
Spokane Valley, WA 99212-1128
P: 509.466.5555 F: 509.468.3719

WA LIC# CAMERR1942MJ
ID LIC# PWC-C-12153-UNLIMITED-4
OR LIC# 202351



Letters to the City

Hello,

My name is Kristin Liberty. My husband and I own Liberty Tire & Auto, located at 3253 E 1st Avenue, directly adjacent to the illegal camp located on WSDOT property.

After having a customer's car set on fire and a robbery within less than 60 days of Camp Hope establishing itself on WSDOT land, we were notified by our insurance agent that we are close to losing our business liability insurance due specifically to the proximity of "Camp Hope". If we have no insurance, our business must close.

In response, we have completely quit filing police reports of crime to our business, so we don't lose our liability insurance.

Recent news reports and information gathered from advocates of the camp imply that the residents of the camp are not responsible for any of the crime in the area and that drugs are not an issue. The realization that our own unwillingness to file police reports may be contributing to that belief worries us. Therefore, we wanted to show you the kind of things we put up with almost daily at our business.

In July alone our sales were down \$35,000 from July of 2021. Our customers are scared to come here. We've had our fence cut so many times we haven't even had time to repair it in-between. Our employees have had to pick up needles, human waste, grocery baskets of trash, routinely. Nearly daily we have to run transients off our property. We would estimate that more than 90% of the time they are absolutely out of their mind on drugs and don't even know where they are. They are incredibly entitled and combative. For example, yesterday a woman came in and wanted us to tow her vehicle from camp to our shop. We do not have a tow truck nor do we offer those services. She began raising her voice and screaming that we should "Tow it for free since it is only a block!". We asked her to leave, and she left the building continuing to scream at employees and customers as she walked barefoot back over to the camp.

Just today a man wandered from the camp into our business. He set down a plastic bag on the counter, got distracted, and left. Inside the plastic bag was a large collection of used foils and drug paraphernalia. Fortunately, I saw the bag and removed it within minutes. (Please see photos of the bag and its contents attached.)

This may seem like a small inconvenience to some. I mean, it's not a car on fire, a robbery, or a drive by shooting. But what if an employee, a customer, or God forbid, a child innocently touched the contents of the bag and were poisoned by Fentanyl? I don't know what type of drug was being used, but from what we all know, Fentanyl is everywhere and incredibly poisonous to those who touch it. My husband and I are genuinely concerned for the safety of our employees and customers on a daily basis. Having this incredibly large number of drug addicts nearby is absolutely nerve wracking. We live in constant fear that the next person through the door will hurt a customer or an employee. The camp is full of drug addicts, despite what the advocates are saying.

I have notified WSDOT of my concerns and mentioned many incidences to them, including a camper stalking our employees with a hammer in one hand and a baseball bat in another. Or about the mentally ill man who was walking around with a large knife, slashing tires. We have offered to provide video evidence. The Spokane police have responded appropriately each time, but the responses from WSDOT were placating at best.

I am one of the 20 odd people who watch the City Council meetings each week via Facebook. One recurring message I get is that the members get very frustrated when they aren't provided information. I just want to know why they aren't going in search of the information themselves? Since Camp Hope took residence 9 months ago, we have had Council members Bingle and Cathcart, Mr Perkins, and Mayor Woodward inside our business and communicating with us regularly. I would like to thank them all for that.

My question is--where have the rest of the City Council been? I've written before and included everyone in City Council about the human waste spill this summer. I attempted to share information with all of you. Again, only Mr. Cathcart, Mr. Bingle, Mayor Woodward, and Mr. Perkins responded. Notably, they all responded within an hour and followed up with us multiple times since. We would like to know why the rest of City Council have not come to our business? They visited Camp Hope. It only makes sense to visit the business closest to it. Why have they not chosen to seek out the "other side" of the issues so they could get a truly balanced perspective? We recently watched a video of Mr. Beggs belittling our County Sheriff's willingness to help us. Why is it Mr Bingle, Mr. Cathcart, Mayor Woodward, and Mr. Knezovich the ones who recognize the injustice of this situation to residents and business owners? Why did he feel he had to step in? It should have been you, City Council. 5 of the 7 failed to act on the Trent shelter back in March and April when the camp only had 200 people because "You didn't have enough information", still we never saw you seek that information out and facilitate the process. It is time for you to do what is right. Disperse this camp immediately. Arrest the thieves and drug dealers. Offer the addicted help. Provide a ride to the shelter for the disabled.

And quit letting Julie Garcia hold our business hostage.

Thanks,

Kristin Liberty



Resolutions

A Resolution by the East Central Neighborhood Council

Presented before the Neighborhood Council on the 18th day of October in the year 2022

Regarding finding shelter opportunities for the residents of Camp Hope.

Whereas additional shelters are available throughout Spokane;

Whereas similar rules for cohabitation exist at various available shelters;

Whereas winter and extreme weather is quickly approaching recognizing that humane and compassionate care is needed; and

Whereas the increase of crime and refuse affecting, families, renters, property owners, employees, business owners, and property value devaluation; now, therefore, be it *Resolved* by the members of the East Central Neighborhood Council:

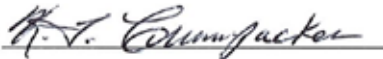
That the residents of Camp Hope be reestablished, with the assistance of volunteers or paid personnel, within shelters available in Spokane by Thanksgiving, 2022.

By the authority of the voting members of the East Central Neighborhood Council.

Signed, Randy McGlenn II, Chair



Certified by the Secretary, Kim Crumpacker



on OCT. 18, 2022



Resolution

October 24, 2022

East Spokane Business Association UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

The East Spokane Business Association (ESBA) calls upon appropriate state, county and city governmental authorities to take the immediate and necessary steps to remove the illegal camping on the public property, commonly referred to as “Camp Hope”, before Thanksgiving, 2022. The continued existence of “Camp Hope” has enormous deleterious effects on the more than 20,000 citizens and 1800 businesses that reside in the East Central Neighborhood. In addition, humane and compassionate care for the 200+ residents of “Camp Hope” can be served much better by other existing facilities for the unhoused so that “Camp Hope” occupants do not experience the harsh effects of upcoming cold-weather and continuing unsanitary conditions.

Signed this 24th day of 2022

Doug Trudeau
President

Danny Beard
Vice President

Barbara Woodbridge
Secretary

Cyndi Fridye
Member at Large

George Demakis
Treasurer

Jim Hanley
Member at Large

Larry Stone
Transportation & Dinner
Committees Chair



PO Box 4132 | Spokane, WA | 99220





LaVerne Biel
Executive Director
Phone: 509-435-1231
Email: laverne.esba@gmail.com

