

August 7th, 2025

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To whom it may concern:

I am writing in strong support of Resolution #25-0809, which would offer a 10-year lease to the residents of Rivercrest Drive North. These families have lived in a state of uncertainty for far too long - not because of anything they've done wrong, but simply because of a small section of land beneath their homes; subject to disputes that have created a terrifying reality for those residents: the fear of losing their homes. These families deserve the peace of mind that comes with knowing they will not lose everything and be forced to uproot their lives.

Just last year, the Council made the important decision to allow further negotiations between the Mobile Home Park and the City, signaling a clear commitment to finding a solution. When the park owner ultimately withdrew from those negotiations, it was the City that stepped up and put forward a 10-year lease offer. That gesture speaks volumes. It reflects a meaningful intent to right this situation and to protect families who otherwise would be at serious risk of losing everything. I am fully in support of this step.

At a time when homelessness continues to impact our community and our entire nation, we must see this resolution for what it truly is: prevention. At its core, prevention is where real solutions begin, as the goal is to avoid homelessness altogether. This resolution would prevent several families from falling into homelessness and housing insecurity. It would allow these families to remain in their own homes, to feel secure, and to finally breathe again after years of uncertainty.

It is also important to recognize that while disputes exist over the land that the homes are located on, this goes far beyond just that land. These are homes - homes where families live, homes inhabited by people who spent their savings to afford them. They are a place where people can spend time with their loved ones, a place where the grandkids can visit, and a place where so many memories have been made - and if this resolution is approved, they will be able to continue to enjoy all of those things without that underlying fear of losing their homes.

I urge you to pass this resolution and give these families what every one of us wants and deserves: stability, dignity, and a place to call home.

Sincerely,

Michael Fitzpatrick
Mobile Clinic Coordinator
St. Clare Health Mission