From: Jaime Matthews <jmatthews@ashevillenc.gov>
Sent: 12/16/2021 2:34:44 PM
To: Polly McDaniel <pmcdaniel@ashevillenc.gov>,Dawa Hitch <dhitch@ashevillenc.gov>,Debra Campbell <dcampbell@ashevillenc.gov>
Cc:
Subject: Fwd: FW: Interview request

See request from Kim

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Esther E. Manheimer** <emanheimer@vwlawfirm.com>
Date: Thu, Dec 16, 2021 at 1:31 PM
Subject: FW: Interview request
To: JMatthews@ashevillenc.gov <jmatthews@ashevillenc.gov>

-----Original Message-----
From: Kimberly King <kmking@sbgtv.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2021 1:22 PM
To: dcampbell@ashevillenc.gov; Esther E. Manheimer <emanheimer@vwlawfirm.com>
Subject: Interview request

Dear Mayor and Ms. Campbell,

I'd like to ask if you'd both talk with me today. After reviewing incident reports within an approximate 500 foot radius of the 297 Haywood homeless camp, since August, we'd like to ask why you let the camp stay open despite the city's policy. Cathy said months ago, you'd shut camps down when they posed safety and crime risks. Is that no longer the policy? According to APD reports, there were four overdoses in and around the 297 Haywood campsite since August, along with assaults.

APD reports show numerous serious incidents at encampments across the city that date back to February. From reported arsons, to rape, to stabbings, to robbery, to assaults to overdoses. As Asheville's leaders, the community depends on you for transparency and honesty as you try to manage serious issues, as this no doubt, is. I know this is a challenging situation. I also know drug addiction has a very deep tie to the crisis of homelessness across the nation, including here in Asheville, right now within encampments that keep popping up. I talk with those living on our streets,. Many have shared with me their ongoing struggles with drug addiction, fentanyl-laced heroin. I'm aware it's a tragic crisis in cities across the nation, where leaders are trying to manage homelessness and find help.

I hope to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Kim

*Just thank my Iphone, for any typos in my email to you!

Kimberly King
Reporter
WLOS-TV(ABC)
Asheville, North Carolina
m. 828-808-5360
e. kmking@wlos.com

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– –

Jaime Matthews
Assistant to the City Manager
City of Asheville
Email: jmatthews@ashevillenc.gov
Office: 828-232-4541
Cell: 828-713-3090

THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE