

## Bobbie Walthall

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**To:** David L. Corliss  
**Subject:** RE: Extension of Community Shelter SUP

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**From:** Jane Pennington [mailto:director@downtownlawrence.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 12:51 PM  
**To:** 'Aron Cromwell'; 'Lance Johnson'; 'Michael Dever'; 'Mike Amyx'; 'Rob Chestnut'  
**Cc:** David L. Corliss; Diane Stoddard; Cynthia Wagner; Jonathan Douglass  
**Subject:** Extension of Community Shelter SUP

Dear Sirs,

The Board of Directors of Downtown Lawrence understands the need for providing emergency shelter for Douglas County residents who find themselves unable to put a roof over their heads. However, we believe that having the shelter in Downtown is incompatible with maintaining Massachusetts Street and the environs as a vibrant, bustling business district.

We know that the Lawrence Community Shelter is looking for a new location. But, they have been looking for many years and they have promised time and again that they will be moving. We believe that it is time to say enough already and deny their request for another extension of time for the Special Use Permit.

That being said, if the Commission determines that closing the shelter in April would have a negative impact on the LCS's negotiations for a new location, we would ask that the Commission place the following restrictions on month to month extensions, not to exceed 12 additional months.

1. Shelter guests must be able to provide documentation to prove that they are Douglas County residents. Copies of this documentation will be kept on file at LCS.
2. All contraband (alcohol, illegal drugs, etc.) must be surrendered to staff for disposal upon entering shelter property and its environs.
3. All guests must immediately enter a program or programs to move themselves towards successful housing. Further, they must demonstrate daily that they are making progress with their program/s. Failure to sign up for and work a program will result in the loss of all services.
4. The temporary increase in occupancy levels recently granted will expire in the spring and will not be repeated for the upcoming winter season.

While not a perfect solution, we believe that these steps will help reduce the problems associated with having the shelter located Downtown and it would not undermine the LCS progress toward finding a new location.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors  
Downtown Lawrence, Inc.

Jane Pennington  
Executive Director  
Downtown Lawrence, Inc.  
900 Massachusetts, Ste 100  
Lawrence, KS 66044  
785-842-3883

Downtown Lawrence ... Think Outside the Box Store

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City County Planning Office  
Lawrence, Kansas

Morning Star Management, LLC

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Lawrence, KS 66044

785-841-STAR (7827)

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[www.morningstarmgm.com](http://www.morningstarmgm.com)

January 14, 2010

City of Lawrence Douglas County  
6 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lawrence, KS 66044


Dear Commissioners,

I have been a resident and/or have had my office located at 917 Tennessee for about 30 years. While I agree that services are necessary for the homeless I can only conclude based on my recent experiences that the current shelter is not an appropriate place.

I am unable to leave anything outside of any value without the experience of it being stolen. I have resorted to locking up my lawn mower. Recently a generator which I had tucked away on my back porch and covered was stolen. I have a number of rental properties in the area; we have had problems with people trying to take up residence in the basements as well as breaking into apartments. It seems that a common hang out are in the alleys and in my case happens to be the entrance to my office. It's not unusual for either my staff or customers to be harassed by inappropriate comments from individuals "partying" in the alley. It would appear also, that the area behind the dumpsters is considered a public latrine.

In summary, I believe the current location of this shelter has been inappropriate and a detriment to the neighborhood.

Sincerely,



Paul R. Horvath