

From: Jed Holmes <JHolmes@co.whatcom.wa.us>
Subject: RE: Statement from the Executive
Date: January 22, 2021 at 3:20:18 PM PST
To: "Keller, Janice L." <jkeller@cob.org>

Shared on Facebook along with the Mayor's statement.

Also sent to Denver.

If you'd like, you can incorporate in part or in whole on the COB page.

From: Keller, Janice L. <jkeller@cob.org>
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 3:08 PM
To: Jed Holmes <JHolmes@co.whatcom.wa.us>
Subject: RE: Statement from the Executive

I support your statement. How distributed?

Janice Keller
Communications Director

Mayor's Office
City of Bellingham
210 Lottie Street, Bellingham WA 98225
Email: jkeller@cob.org
Phone: (360) 778-8100
Pronouns: She/her/hers

Note: My incoming and outgoing email messages are subject to public disclosure requirements per RCW 42.56

Sign up at [Engage Bellingham](#), our online venue for public feedback about key projects.

From: Jed Holmes <JHolmes@co.whatcom.wa.us>
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 3:07 PM
To: Keller, Janice L. <jkeller@cob.org>
Subject: Statement from the Executive

This is going out shortly (unless you convince me otherwise):

I want to echo Mayor Fleetwood's words and strongly encourage everyone sleeping in tents at City Hall to make use of the shelter available at Base Camp, where they provide not only warm beds but also hot meals and access to services which could help them transition into a more permanent housing situation.

During the past week, between Base Camp and the overflow shelter on Holly Street, 90-100 beds have been available each night. That number is sufficient to provide shelter to all the people camping at City Hall.

It is clear that those who are organizing the protests at City Hall are not there for the overall betterment of the unsheltered. I understand that many of these protesters came from outside our community and their disruptive behavior is not welcome here.

The harassment, defacing and destruction of public property, overall threat to the public, including County and City employees, in front of City Hall and the Courthouse is unacceptable. The safety of the public and County employees is a primary concern for me, and my administration is ready to assist the City in its efforts to move the campers into existing shelters and end the encampment at City Hall.