

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Since moving to Venice a year ago, I have written countless emails to various government officials trying to find some help regarding the lack of safety in Venice. I have lived between LA and the Bay Area for my entire adult life, so I'm no stranger to homelessness. There is an encampment at the end of my block that has a steady history of assaults and police activity. I have reported the encampment to 311 many times to no avail. The encampment blocks the sidewalk, making it necessary to walk on Lincoln Blvd to maintain social distancing. I hear screaming and fighting at all hours of the night from this encampment. There are gunshots, loud music, and fireworks. A transient sexually assaulted my teenager as they were trying to enter the CVS on Main. We purchased this home during the pandemic when there was one tent, but it has now grown to an entire block. My house has become a terrifying place to live. I am harassed on walks and must always prepare a safety plan to leave my home. I'm not sure how to comfort my children around this level of dysfunction. I feel angry that our government cares so little for its citizens, housed and unhoused. How can I find peace and comfort during these trying times? Why does our government subject the families of Venice to this cruel standard of living when they themselves are not suffering these conditions. Who is to be held accountable for traumatizing our children?