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**To:** [Governing Body Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** New submission from your Governing Body Public Comment form  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 27, 2025 3:56:39 PM

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Submitted on: Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at 3:56pm

- First Name: Kate
- Last Name: Nelson
- Your Email Address: [katelizabethnelson@gmail.com](mailto:katelizabethnelson@gmail.com)
- Your District: District 2
- Meeting Date: 05/28/2025
- Section of Agenda you would like to comment on: Public Comment
- Your Comment:

Mayor Webber, City Councilors, Fellow Community Members,

My name is Kate Nelson and I work as a Family Nurse Practitioner with La Familia's Healthcare for the Homeless Clinic. I am one of two medical providers who administer healthcare at the Interfaith Shelter.

We offer full scope primary care, substance use treatment, and psychiatric treatment just down the hall from where many of our unhoused community members depend on eating a hot meal. The collaboration between Interfaith Shelter and La Familia means that many people who often struggle to access healthcare can receive treatment with efficiency and ease.

I have witnessed many people with complex and often severe medical conditions depend on the Interfaith Shelter because there is literally no other roof for them to stay under. Members of this vulnerable population are diverse and have myriad needs. In a town where housing costs have been increasing for generations, many of these people are elders who have been displaced from their longtime homes and have nowhere to go. No other organization is doing the essential and lifesaving work that the Interfaith Shelter is doing.

Council members, imagine losing your home and having nowhere to go. Imagine having to decide which hidden spot under a tree or behind a business might attract the least attention and be safe to lay your head. These are the kinds of decisions that our

unhoused neighbors of all ages and walks of life will face if the Interfaith Shelter has to vacate its current location.

Many of us have seen the devastating results when out-of-state groups are brought in to replace established community organizations with deep roots and hard earned knowledge. We must honor the essential work the Interfaith Shelter has done for our community when no one else was there to do it.

I implore you, the governing body responsible for caring for our entire community, to deeply consider the consequences and vote NO on cancelling the lease held by the Interfaith Shelter.