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**To:** [Governing Body Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** New submission from your Governing Body Public Comment form  
**Date:** Monday, June 2, 2025 4:14:03 PM

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Submitted on: Monday, June 2, 2025 at 4:13pm

- First Name: Kim
- Last Name: Nguyen
- Your Email Address: kimnguyen06@gmail.com
- Your District: District 1
- Meeting Date: 05/28/2025
- Section of Agenda you would like to comment on: Legislation (Public Comment)
- Your Comment: I am a primary care physician for La Familia, the clinic that offers many services to the residents of Pete's Place. In a town where housing costs have been increasing for generations and affordable housing options are fewer and fewer, many guests staying at the Interfaith Shelter have been displaced from their longtime homes and have literally nowhere to go. The Interfaith Shelter is and has been the last safety net for our community members suffering evictions, displacement, and fleeing abusive environments.

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

I acknowledge that the conditions surrounding the shelter are difficult and need to change, but terminating the lease with the Interfaith Shelter and contracting an out-of-state provider will not resolve these conditions. What terminating the lease will do is undermine a deep-rooted local organization who has had the courage and dedication to care for our most vulnerable community members for years.

Rather than terminate the lease, and outsource over a million dollars to an out-of-state contractor with no context nor connection to our city, give the Interfaith Community Shelter the funding it deserves to address the immediate concerns surrounding the shelter, and thoughtfully, strategically plan for the future.

Our community cannot afford to lose the Interfaith Community Shelter and the life-

saving services they provide.

As our City Councilors, our elected representatives in this democracy, remember, our society will be judged by how it treats its most vulnerable. We are all here, watching.