



Raymond Kelly Richardson  
*Superintendent*

Deborah Friedl  
*Deputy Superintendent*

Barry Golner  
*Deputy Superintendent*

To: Eileen Donoghue *EMD*  
City Manager

From: Raymond Kelly Richardson  
Superintendent of Police

Date: November 7, 2018

Re: Council Response

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***8/14/2018 – Councilor Milinazzo – Request the City Manager meet with the Director of Middlesex Shelter and neighborhood representatives to discuss illegal activities taking place outside and adjacent to the shelter.***

On September 6, 2018 Captain Larocque and I met with the Executive Director Andrew McMahon of the Lowell Transitional Living Center (LTLC) located at 189 Middlesex St. The City Manager and I met again with Mr. McMahon as well as Susan Gentili, the Senior Program Office for SMOC (South Middlesex Opportunity Council) and Gary Baker, Chairman of LTLC board. The purpose of both meetings was to continue our discussions with the LTLC relative to the ongoing issues and complaints the city and the LPD have received from neighbors and business owners relative to noise, loitering and other illegal activities.

The shelter has 60 men's beds and 30 women's beds. They also have 12 one bedroom apartments upstairs. They are at capacity mostly every night and this number will only increase as we head into the winter months. Most of their clients are suffering from the opioid crisis, mental health issues/ lack of mental health beds available and also from the lack of affordable housing.

We discussed the various types of calls for service that the LPD has responded to during the previous three month period. Mr. McMahon reported that he was aware of the type of activity from previous meetings with Captain Larocque, prior to taking over as the Executive Director in late August of 2018. Mr. McMahon also reported that he had taken steps with the LTLC staff to curb the disorder inside of the shelter. Rules have been created and implemented that mirror "best practice" standards for shelters.

We then spoke of the number of LTLC clients that "hang out" in front of the shelter and neighboring businesses for hours at a time, waiting for meals and nighttime entry into the building. We discussed the need for the "Good Neighbor" as well as the "No Loitering" policies



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to be reinstated. Mr. McMahon agreed and stated that he would initiate his staff checking the neighborhood for LTLC clients that were not following rules of LTLC and/or bothering

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neighborhood business and residents. Failure to adhere to these policies could result in loss of services for the clients.

While speaking on the number of clients that receive services from LTLC, we spoke of the number of “Homeless Camps” located throughout the City. I asked if the numbers of “Homeless” not receiving services were known. When it was learned that the information was not known, a decision was made that LPD District Response Officers would team up with LTLC staff members to conduct a “count” on the “Homeless Camps”.

The meeting ended with Mr. McMahon pledging to continue working with the department and the City to address issues at and around LTLC.