

From:

Date:

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Dear Alison Walker,

I write as someone living in the neighborhood near Trinity Lutheran Church where the safe parking program is located. I support having this program in our neighborhood, and I don't believe it has caused any problems in our neighborhood.

To be sure, there are unhoused people in this neighborhood, and some of them have mental illness and/or substance abuse, and sometimes they cause problems for other residents, although they usually keep to themselves. However, these unhoused people have been here for a long time, long before the safe parking program was around.

I am a frequent user of the metro and often go to the Lake Station. That station has for years attracted unhoused people, as has Ralph's, both of which are not far from Trinity. I often walk and bike through the neighborhood, and I still see fewer unhoused people around Trinity than I see near Ralph's or the metro station, or especially further south along Colorado Blvd. There may be unhoused people sometimes near Trinity, but I just don't see them there often as I do in other nearby areas.

Also, I have interacted with some of the safe parkers at Trinity and found them to be very nice people. I understand that most of them work and/or are elderly. I've also heard that they sometimes have called the police when more troublesome people have come around.

I don't think more security is needed, and I think the safe parking program is probably helping the security and overall health of the neighborhood.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Bert Newton

[REDACTED]