



MARCH 2021

FCA SURVEY RESULTS

In last fall's community survey, the FCA Board asked to hear your experiences and opinions on a variety of topics - and 450 of you did! Here are two close looks at what you said.



WHAT CONCERNS, INTERESTS ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO RESIDENTS?

By Catherine Bailey, FCA vice president

Did you respond to FCA's biennial neighborhood survey last fall? If so, you were among 450 individuals who opened a window into concerns and issues affecting the quality of life and character of our community.

In November, 3,000 households received a postcard announcing the online survey and the *West Seattle Blog* provided online support to increase awareness. The result was an excellent response rate of almost 15%.

Topics covered in the survey included transportation and traffic issues, public safety and crime (as well as car prowls), city advocacy, historic preservation, and FCA membership. We also welcomed topics of interest about which we didn't specifically ask.

Not surprising, some survey feedback (such as "Fix the bridge now!") is beyond our control but the survey elicited plenty of feedback on which we can act. For example, many expressed concerns about pedestrian safety and traffic issues related to the bridge closure.

Many spotlighted car prowls. The accompanying article by FCA President Mike Dey details information from our survey that will help Seattle Police understand the rate of car prowls and strategize prevention based on what you told us about vehicle location.

While we are still sifting through all that the survey told us, key topics of concern and interest are apparent:

- Traffic issues related to the bridge closure, such as traffic on neighborhood streets and a desire for traffic-calming measures.

- Pedestrian safety, especially at certain intersections, and a desire for sidewalks in certain areas.

(continued on p. 2)

DOES WHERE WE PARK AFFECT VULNERABILITY TO CAR PROWLS?

By Mike Dey, FCA president

Changes in parking-space requirements were hot topics before the City Council in 2018 as it discussed Mandatory Housing Affordability measures affecting residential and commercial buildings. One question in particular piqued my interest: Are cars parked on the street more vulnerable to being prowled than those parked in a driveway, carport, or garage?

A car parked on the street could belong to anyone - a visitor, a commuter, someone attending a nearby event. I speculated that anonymity would make such a car more appealing to a prowler than a car parked off the street.

The Seattle Police Department could not tell me if I was right, though. Officers collecting car-prowl information don't always note the car's specific location.

The FCA Board decided to include questions about car prowls in its biennial survey last fall of Fauntleroy area residents. The survey reached more than 3,000 addresses, from 35th Ave. SW west to Puget Sound and from the Arroyos north almost to the Morgan Junction.

Response to the survey was excellent. Normally, such surveys get less than a 10% response rate. In our case, the response rate was nearly 15%! Of the residents who responded, 433 answered our questions about car prowls. See results on page 2.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS, ANNUAL MEETING

Did you remember to renew your FCA membership for the 2021 calendar year? If you did, thank you! If not, you still have time to remain an active member.

Finding your renewal date is easy as it's printed on this newsletter's address label.

Renew at www.fauntleroy.net/membership or email fcamembership@gmail.com or call 206-661-0673 to have a paper form sent to you.

FCA's annual meeting will be **Tuesday, April 13**, starting at **7 pm** on Zoom. Watch for registration details on the website.

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CONCERNS, INTERESTS *(continued)*

- Crime, including burglaries and car prowls, crimes against persons, and speeding.
- Ferry-related concerns, such as increased traffic, queuing, vehicle noise, and U-turns.
- Community events such as the fall festival and a desire to come together safely during the pandemic.
- Environmental concerns, such as beautification and preservation, plus Lincoln Park safety and clean-up.
- Advocacy with the city about development, parking, and homelessness.
- Historic preservation of buildings, such as those in our Endolyne business area and Colman Pool.
- A general lack of awareness of what FCA does in the community and the value of membership.

As is usually the case with opinion polls, one person's complaint is another person's solution. The themes noted above dominated the feedback in this survey and will therefore get the majority of follow-up attention.

Now we will identify specific actions we can take to address these concerns. We will communicate those actions via this newsletter and at <http://fauntleroy.net>. We also welcome you at our monthly Zoom business meetings, typically the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. Agenda items will include survey follow-up. Check the website for log-in instructions.

Thank you to all who responded to this survey! We look forward to acting on your feedback and ideas.

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West Seattle & Fauntleroy YMCA
West Seattle Blog
Wildwood Market

CAR PROWLS *(continued)*

Total responses to prowl questions	433
Total residences without prowls	222 (51%)
Total residences with prowls	211 (49%)
Residences with prowls on street*	119 (48%)
Residences with prowls in driveway/carport*	120 (49%)
Residences with prowls in garage*	7 (3%)

* When a respondent reported prowls on the street and in a driveway, carport, or garage, we counted each location as a prowl. Thus, the sum of prowls is greater than the 211 residences reporting a prowl.

Total prowls	450
Total prowls on street**	213 (52%)
Total prowls in driveway/carport**	188 (46%)
Total prowls in garage**	11 (2%)

** When multiple prowls at a residence were reported on both the street and driveway/carport but the number was unclear, we assigned one per location. Thus the sum of prowls is less than the 450 prowls reported.

Having data to answer my questions is wonderful and two things immediately caught my attention:

- Half of all the residents who responded had experienced a car prowl. That is amazing! I would never have guessed that the incidence of car prowls here was anywhere near that great.

- Where you park outside makes no difference to your risk of having your car prowled. A garage affords your only protection.

The very high incidence of car prowls in Fauntleroy indicates we need to come up with a different way to prevent them from what we are currently doing. The FCA Board will discuss incidence rates with the police and what percentage of prowlers targeted cars with visible belongings inside versus cars that did not but were prowled anyway.

URBAN NATURE PRESCHOOL NEW SCHOOLHOUSE TENANT

The Fauntleroy Schoolhouse may no longer be a public school but it's still very much a center for education. The Urban Nature Preschool recently moved in, just down the hall from the Fauntleroy Children's Center.

Taproot School, a small primary program, occupied the space until being hit hard by the pandemic. Like that program, the Urban Nature emphasizes children's connection to the natural world and cultivates a love of learning through play and exploration.

Children are outdoors daily except in severe weather and their "nature rich" classroom encourages them to discover their interests through play and hands-on experiences. Spanish language is part of their group time.

One hands-on experience will be helping care for the native-plant demonstration garden installed next to the schoolhouse last year by Taproot students and the Fauntleroy Watershed Council.

Learn more about this preschool on its website at <https://urbannaturepreschool.org> or call founder and lead teacher Patty Christensen at 206-620-4438.

FAUNTLEROY FALL FESTIVAL

NEED TO CULTIVATE COMMUNITY AS GREAT NOW AS AFTER 9/11

By Reed Haggerty, coordinator
Fautleroy Fall Festival Steering Committee

In September 2001, the United States went through one of its most difficult times. I woke up that morning to an early news report on my clock radio about a plane's hitting the World Trade Center but didn't think twice about hitting the snooze button.

By the time my alarm sounded again, a second plane had hit and the announcer's voice had become dramatic. I rushed downstairs to find my parents watching a little TV on the kitchen table as one of the biggest tragedies in American history unfolded.

At school, everyone was asking, "How could this have happened?" "Did someone do this on purpose?" "Were we under attack?" We all feared what might come next.

Almost in an instant, our lives changed. We could no longer meet loved ones at the gate or even take knitting needles on a plane. We started to eye our neighbors with suspicion.

But something really wonderful happened, too. My parents were among the many people who saw 9/11 as a call to strengthen the ties that bind a neighborhood, in good times and bad. Leadership coalesced around the idea of a community festival and, in October 2002, the Fautleroy Fall Festival was born.

Now fast forward to March 2020. A virus more contagious than the flu spread around the globe. Schools

Hundreds of children and adults enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon of pumpkin painting, face painting, music, games, story telling, scarecrow making, birdhouse building, pony rides, dancing, and food at the first annual Fautleroy Fall Festival.

Winter 2002 Neighbors



Onlookers enjoyed the 2019 pie-eating contest as much as those who fed their faces. Photo by Monika Lidman

closed, large gatherings were cancelled, and we were told to stay home and stay away from friends and family. Again, we watched on TV as the coronavirus infected millions, claimed hundreds of thousands, and disrupted the lives of billions. A year later, we're still not back to "normal," whatever that will be.

Just like in 2001, what we need the most right now is our community - and we are hopeful that the Fautleroy Fall Festival can again work its magic.

While a date isn't yet on the calendar, the steering committee has been making plans for a fun and safe festival. To keep it free for all, we're exploring options for a spring fundraiser; be among the first to learn about it by following us on Facebook or Instagram.

We look forward to seeing you in October!

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VALUE ENGINEERING ADVANCES DESIGN OF NEW CREEK CULVERTS

The project team at Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) is continuing its planning to replace two culverts that convey Fautleroy Creek to the cove. The culvert under 45th Ave. SW is solely owned by the city. The city and Fautleroy Church each own portions of the culvert under California Ave. SW and the church parking lot. Here are updates from team leader Cody Nelson:

Recent and upcoming work

Last summer, the project team brought together engineers and financial experts for a week-long value engineering study. They analyzed preferred designs and suggested ways to improve efficiency, reduce costs, and minimize impacts of the designs and the construction process.

SPU evaluated these resulting options to determine which are feasible to implement, guided by the project's goals and opportunities, and informed by community input. Three of the options SPU is carrying forward are

- using a box-shaped culvert, given that alternative shapes would not significantly reduce material costs.
- lengthening the culverts slightly to reduce wing wall size and therefore costs.
- using alternative materials such as mechanically stabilized earth walls above the culverts to reduce costs.

In the months since the study, the team has been doing additional modeling of creek flow, as well as advancing channel and culvert design to the 30% milestone. Now, preliminary designs are almost complete.

This spring, the team will submit its preliminary designs to SPU leadership for approval of the project "footprint," including the alignment and location of the two culverts, as well as refined project scope, schedule, and cost estimates. If approved, the team will advance the designs later this year.

Grant opportunities

SPU is continuing to explore grant funding to reduce the cost of the two replacements. The project team is awaiting a decision by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife's fish barrier removal board about funding to support design and construction work. The team is also taking every opportunity to partner with community groups in support of grant funding.

Community outreach

Before completing preliminary design this spring, SPU will host a multi-week online community open house. Fautleroy residents will be able to learn more about the project, explore the latest designs, and share thoughts to inform the design of such public amenities as creek overlooks. Expect details in the coming weeks.

To receive updates about this and other public outreach, get on the project's email list by visiting www.seattle.gov/utilities/neighborhood-projects/faunteroy-creek-culverts.

Also, Cody welcomes questions about the project via phone, email, or online meeting. Contact her at 206-684-3066 or cody.nelson@seattle.gov.

CITY OF SEATTLE RESOURCES

If you have an issue someone at the city might be able to resolve or a question to pose, here's a current list of whom to contact. With many city employees working from home, email may be the best way to reach them.

Criminal activity in progress: Call 911 to report what you are seeing.

Other crime criminal activity: Call 206-625-5011 or file a report at www.seattle.gov/police/need-help/online-reporting.

Encampment in city park: donna.waters@seattle.gov.

Encampment on sidewalk, planting strip, or green belt: www.seattle.gov/transportation/permits-and-services/report-a-problem.

Encampment elsewhere: tara.beck@seattle.gov

Issues related to an RV: david.hare@seattle.gov, shari.ng@seattle.gov, or monica.jenkins@seattle.gov.

Vacant or abandoned building, illegal structure, housing, or zoning: Call 206-615-0808 or <https://cosabella.seattle.gov/Portal/Welcome.aspx> (under "Create New," click on "Complaints - Building and Property") OR for these and a variety of other concerns not covered above, call 206-684-2489 or www.seattle.gov/customer-service-bureau/find-it-fix-it-mobile-app.

HOW TO JOIN FCA BUSINESS MEETINGS

The FCA Board meets on the **second Tuesday** of each month, except (usually) August and December, at **7:00 pm**. These Zoom meetings are open to the public.

If you wish to attend a meeting, you must register by going to www.fautleroy.net/meetings. If you are interested in presenting during a meeting, contact FCA President Mike Dey at msdey50@aol.com or 206-661-0673 to discuss being on the agenda.

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'TIS THE SEASON FOR CORONAVIRUS, TAX SCAMS



The coronavirus has given scammers new angles to pursue in plying their trade at the same time that their emails, texts, social media posts, and robocalls are finding marks during tax season. Whether the scam is about stimulus payments, vaccines, refunds, or identities, these suggestions from the Federal Trade Commission can help you avoid becoming a victim.

Any contact requiring personal information in order to get pandemic stimulus money is a scam. Government agencies do not call, email, text, or send letters promising money, offering favorable treatment, or making threats if you do not comply.

Do not rely on caller ID as it can be faked. If you answer the phone and hear a recorded sales pitch or suspicious information, do not follow any prompts. Just hang up. If you feel the call might have been legitimate, call the number back to see.

Hang up on robocalls. Scammers are using illegal robocalls to pitch everything from low-priced health insurance to work-at-home schemes.

Learn the difference between a contact tracer and a scammer. A legitimate tracer will ask for health information. A scammer will ask for money or personal financial information.

Be wary of ads for COVID test kits. Many kits being advertised lack Federal Drug Administration approval and are not necessarily accurate. Also, home tests may not be as rapid as advertised.

Ignore offers for vaccinations or miracle cures. Scammers offer no proof that what they are selling works.


Get advice. A scammer will ask for your decision on the spot and may even threaten dire consequences if you don't comply. Instead, do an on-line search to check out the story or seek advice from a friend or expert.

Do your homework before donating for pandemic relief. Search the charity's website for "review," "rating," "scam," or "complaint." If you decide to donate, know that most credit cards have significant fraud protection built in, while cash, wire transfers, and gift cards do not.

An email phishing scam popular during tax season has tricked even major companies into disclosing personal information. Here's how it works:

Criminals posing as company executives email payroll managers to request copies of W-2 forms for all employees. Successful scammers then have names, addresses, Social Security numbers, and withholding information to use in filing bogus tax returns or to sell to other criminals. Protect yourself as follows:

- Use a password-protected Wi-Fi connection when filing your tax return. Choose a long and complex password, not just for your Wi-Fi but also for any accounts you access while filing.
- Get your refund by direct deposit. If you must receive a check by mail, have it sent to a locked mailbox.
- Ask your tax preparer to use two-factor authentication to protect your documents and information.
- Use an encrypted USB drive to save documents.
- Never give information to anyone who contacts you by phone or on line claiming to be from the IRS. The IRS will never contact you in these ways.
- Monitor your accounts for any signs that your identity has been stolen. For example, a sudden, unexpected change in your credit score could indicate your identity has been stolen.
- If you think you have been a victim of identity theft, visit www.irs.gov/privacy-disclosure/report-phishing or call 800-908-4490 to learn what to do. If you receive a notice from the IRS in the mail alerting you to possible identity theft, immediately call the number on the notice.



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FROM PAST TO PRESENT

AMATEUR TROUPE BROUGHT LIVE THEATER TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD

By Judy Pickens

If this were late winter in the mid 1950s, we would all be looking forward to the spring production of the Fauntleroy Community Players, an amateur theatrical troupe that staged live theater right in the neighborhood.

Members of what was then called Fauntleroy Community Church decided in November 1953 to form the group to encourage community cultural development through creative drama, dance, music, and writing. Residents were invited to get involved by submitting scripts, acting, playing music, and working behind-the-scenes on everything from building sets to doing publicity.

The church had recently moved into its new sanctuary wing and was looking forward to completion of an education/social wing that could accommodate Fauntleroy's robust post-World War II baby boom. In lieu of having a stage in a large hall, the Players would perform "penthouse" style in the "Terrace" rooms below the sanctuary - space that later housed the Little Pilgrim School for preschoolers.

After filling board positions, the Players cast three one-act plays in February for performance in the spring. Additional volunteers took on such tasks as applying make-up, prompting, and serving coffee during intermissions. All told, up to 40 people from the West Seattle area were involved.

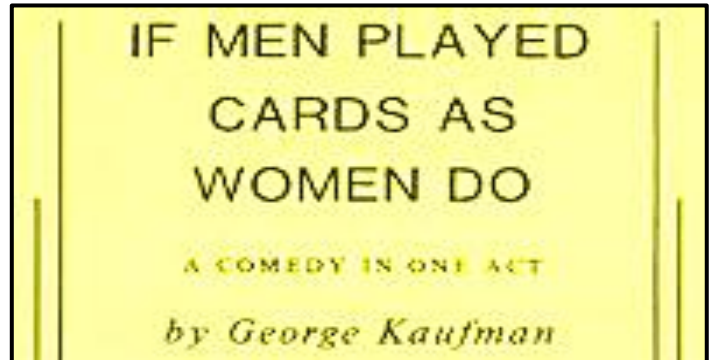
Audience response was so positive that the Players chose two more plays for the fall: "Not Tonight" and "She Married Well." Performances would include music by members of the church orchestra.

The church drew most of its members from the community, which reflected the social and religious conservatism of the time. Consequently, plays had to be "wholesome." As president Helen Cutts put it in 1954, "It is our desire to select plays that will have good audience appeal" and make the troupe's name "synonymous with a worthwhile evening's entertainment."

The Players' first production netted \$100.20, \$50 of which they donated to the church to buy folding chairs. Such donations followed each production.

Outside performances also became the norm. The troupe entertained elders at Wesley Gardens in Des Moines and, on Christmas Eve, staged an open-air nativity scene on a wooden platform outside the sanctuary window. The latter was true dedication as the show had to go on regardless of weather - and for all three services!

In the spring of 1957, the troupe chose "Dear Ruth" as



The Players chose "wholesome" plays, including this one for their first production, in spring 1954.

their first three-act play. It would be their 20th play in 22 evenings of entertainment, frequently before sold-out houses. That year president Fred Holcomb reported that the Players had gained "a position of recognition in the growing field of amateur theatre in Seattle."

A three-act comedy in the fall drew 233 people over three nights, leaving the Players in high spirits. They chose "The Curious Savage" for their spring 1958 production, only to find that Sealth High School had also selected that play for the spring.

The Players withdrew and, with no time to mount a different production, they set their sights on fall. The church's new Fellowship Hall was about to open, so they decided to use the \$400 in their treasury to appoint the stage with a nice curtain.

This loss of momentum happened just as the era of community amateur theater was coming to a close. By 1960, half the church's 1,300 members did not live in the immediate neighborhood. The Players formally disbanded, making way for new priorities and programs.



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FORMER FAUNTLEROY PLAYER LEFT LEGACY OF PARK HISTORIES

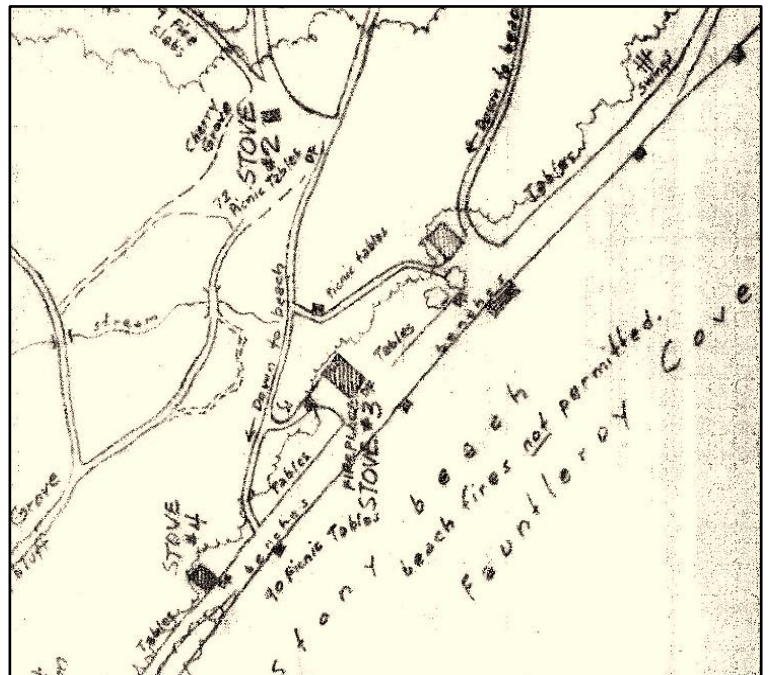
Donald N. Sherwood was one of the Fauntleroy Players who not only entertained the neighborhood but also made a quiet yet significant contribution to his adopted city of Seattle.

He and Miriam Sherwood moved to Seattle with their two children in the early 1950s. While a junior engineer in the Department of Parks, he designed small buildings and responded to public requests for information about city parks.

Following a suggestion by the parks superintendent, he began applying his artistic talent to sketching park maps and annotating them with whatever historical information he could find.

Alarmed that valuable early information about parks was being lost as employees destroyed files before they retired, he took responsibility in 1972 for collecting and organizing historic details about city parks and playgrounds. Although his position was eliminated five years later, he kept researching and sketching until his death in 1981.

His collection is at www.seattle.gov/cityarchives/search-collections/don-sherwood-park-history-sheets.



This map of picnic areas in Lincoln Park is from one of the sketches Fauntleroy's Don Sherwood drew and annotated to preserve the history of parks throughout the city.

STATE FERRIES LAUNCHES PUBLIC INPUT ABOUT TERMINAL UPGRADE

By Frank Immel, chairman
Fauntleroy Ferry Advisory Committee

This article recaps the launch of public input to aid the state in planning how to upgrade the Fauntleroy Ferry Terminal and previews the return of a third boat on the triangle route.

Planning resumed Dec. 3 when Washington State Ferries hosted the project's first online "stakeholder roundtable." Invited attendees represented the Triangle Route Task Force, community organizations, Ferry Advisory Committees, and jurisdictional offices.

Initiated nearly two years ago, the project was on hold for several months while funding issues were resolved. The meeting updated attendees, assessed community

interest in and capacity for being involved, and developed an understanding of how best to engage Fauntleroy, Vashon, and Southworth communities in the process.

Known officially as "SR 160 - Fauntleroy Terminal - Trestle & Transfer Span Replacement," senior staff described it during the roundtable as the "Fauntleroy Ferry Terminal Preservation Project," given that the goal is to rebuild the 1950s dock to meet seismic and other contemporary requirements.

The project has its own website at wsdot.wa.gov/projects/sr160/fauntleroy-terminal/home. You'll find a link to the website and the minutes of the meeting on the FCA web page under "Current Issues." Plans for additional public meetings will be added as they are announced.

Regarding ferry service, the state will return a third ferry boat on the triangle route starting May 9, operating 16 hours on weekdays and 8 hours on weekends. Steps the ferry system has taken to reduce the spread of the coronavirus in terminals and on boats have boosted public confidence in using the service, warranting the increase.

SCHOOLHOUSE HOSTS ART EXHIBIT

If you've been missing opportunities to view art, the Fauntleroy Schoolhouse now has an exhibit you can see anytime the main entrance is open. Just remember to bring your mask and keep your distance.

The hallway walls are full of watercolors by Gregory Crandell, an alumnus of the former Fauntleroy Grade School. He took up painting and calligraphy full time after retiring from a long career as a software engineer.

His paintings are for sale, with 15% of proceeds going to the Fauntleroy Children's Center.

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A LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL - AND IT'S NOT AN ONCOMING TRAIN

By FCA President Mike Dey

These lengthening days make me hopeful about changes to come, as do the faces of people getting their coronavirus shots. When the majority of people around the globe are vaccinated, we will finally be able to resume our lives, pretty much as we once knew them.

We have learned much from this experience, not the least of which is how we humans are social animals that rely on contacts with friends, neighbors, and families. I sincerely hope we can use this hard lesson about social interdependence to move away from being so divided.

Climate change, homelessness, addiction, mental illness, racial injustice and inequity - they merely top the list of tough issues we are facing. Unfortunately, they have become political, which doesn't serve anyone. Yes, we could blame police, politicians, criminals, rioters, demonstrators, people who are homeless or addicted, or even our neighbors, but that doesn't move us forward.

Perhaps like me, you realize it's time to take ownership of these problems and work with our community to find common ground, however difficult.

Homelessness is a classic example as the causes are many and complex and the approaches tried so far have

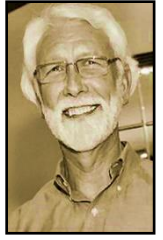
been only marginally effective. Not agreeing what to do has made civic and political leaders unable or unwilling to try to reach consensus.

Defunding the police is another example. Perhaps this idea was well intentioned but it's not been well thought out or executed, leading to a demoralized police force that is inadequately staffed to respond to our calls for help. Reports are that even City Councilmembers cannot get the personal protection they seek in response to threats.

As we exit our burrows, I propose we re-ask two questions, "How do we ensure that all people are treated equally?" and "How do we come up with solutions based on thoughtful discussions and a strategic plan?"

This pandemic has given me a greater appreciation for how important interactions are to the fabric of this community. Perhaps that's been your experience, too.

The bright light we're beginning to see at the end of this tunnel will not be an oncoming train if we realize that listening to others without judgment and working across ideologies will get us to sensible resolutions.



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