From:	Kat Humphries
To:	dencc - City Council
Subject:	[EXTERNAL] Denver Supervised Use Site
Date:	Monday, November 26, 2018 2:53:06 PM
Attachments:	Screen Shot 2018-11-26 at 2.33.36 PM.png

Denver City Council Members,

I am a Denver City (District 10) constituent, and I support Supervised Use Sites for the consumption of heroin and other street drugs under medical supervision. As someone who injected drugs for many years and has had the good fortune to be abstinent from those drugs for the last 4 years, I know how hard addiction gets. I also know the only way to sobriety is through deep and compassionate support, and for people to get the general life support they need. Some people use drugs to cope with trauma, some to cope with homelessness, many - both. Until we can support people through those struggles, we need stop gap measures to prevent public overdose.

That is why I join Mayor Hancock, Phil Weiser, and many others in supporting this idea. And I hope you do too. This is just one of many harm reduction focused tools in our toolkit, and we need to utilize every tool possible to save lives. We need more naloxone, we need more treatment, and we desperately need people alive. Dead drug users can never get clean. While I'm a homeless service provider, I'm also someone who personally understands addiction. I've reversed 7 overdoses in the last two years. **Please take the burden of this crisis off of direct service workers like me, and put it into a safer arena.** We're losing people to preventable deaths, and we're inflicting vicarious trauma on those most dedicated to helping, that will do permanent damage. We need to do better for drug users and those of who love them in our community.

Warmly,
Kat Humphries
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