



SAFESTREETS

Aug. 9, 2017

Housing Hope CEO shares perspective on homelessness and need for supportive housing

EVERETT – In today’s Everett Herald, Housing Hope CEO Fred Safstrom [discusses homelessness in our community](#) and describes some of the factors that have led to a rise in individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Everett and Snohomish County:

“Ironically, increased homelessness is due to our booming economy. Rents are increasing dramatically while incomes have declined or remain stagnant. As housing prices skyrocket, more families simply cannot keep up and become homeless. The families who do lose housing are our most vulnerable because of issues like multi-generational poverty, trauma, low levels of educational achievement and substance abuse.”

Safstrom shares the need for projects like the supportive housing facility planned by the City of Everett and Catholic Housing Services, as well as Cocoon House’s planned Colby Avenue Youth Center and the HopeWorks Station Phase II project, which will combine residential units with workforce training.

[Read the full commentary on the Herald’s website.](#)

The Safe Streets Supportive Housing project has completed the SEPA (State Environmental Protection Act) and land-use review process and is scheduled to break ground before the end of the year. [Learn more on our website.](#)

Learn more about the [Everett Safe Streets Plan](#).

Learn more:

For more information on the Safe Streets Plan, visit www.everettwa.gov/safestreets.
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