

In the week since myself and others went to Council to rant about homelessness and housing, another Detroiter has died in a car because he had no house. Charles Herwarth, known along Vernor as "Chuck", and his two dogs died of carbon monoxide poisoning because they were forced to sleep in a running vehicle in order to keep from freezing to death in the streets of the glittering "New Detroit."

Detroiters For Tax Justice with our allies at Moratorium Now Coalition and others are calling for Council to declare a state of emergency in housing for Detroit. To continue to cater to rich developers providing luxury units while paying little more than lip service to those laying in the gutter outside of those empty units, and pretending that everything is ok seems like some kind of a sin to me. They say you can judge a society not by how it treats those on the top, but by how it treats its lowest members... Detroit fails this test miserably.

The first step is acknowledging there is a problem. Declare a state of emergency in housing.

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