



August 10, 2017

Mayor Jack Seiler
City Commissioners

Dear Mayor Seiler,

At the August 8 2017 General Membership Meeting of CFLCA we discussed the opioid epidemic (their words) with Representatives from FLPD and the impact that Sober Homes are having on our neighborhoods. Neighborhoods like Poinciana Park, Croissant Park and Middle River Terrace have been dealing with the issue for years and now Progresso Village reports that Sober Home operators are purchasing town homes. Clearly the financial incentive to operate these facilities, similar to vacation rentals, has the potential to hollow out our neighborhoods, compete with the operators of Crew Quarters that support our marine industry, and drive our residents out of Fort Lauderdale altogether.

The City of Delray and Boyton Beach recently passed ordinances to regulate Sober Homes. Studies have shown that over-concentration of these facilities does not serve the interest of the patients or the community. With other cities taking action we are concerned that Fort Lauderdale will become even more desirable a location for these operators. We are also concerned that recent legislation at the state level to pre-empt cities from regulating business at all will further limit our ability to sensibly regulate sober homes. We need to act now.

Therefore the members unanimously approved the following resolution

"The Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations requests that the Commission instruct the City Manager to prepare a draft ordinance to regulate Sober Homes and that the draft ordinance be placed on a Commission Conference Agenda for discussion as soon as possible"

We would appreciate meeting with the City Manager to get this process rolling. We hope that this issue has already gotten some attention from staff. We are enclosing a "Request for Ordinance Modification for Group Homes" as a starting point for such a meeting.

Please contact me directly to arrange the meeting at 954 763 9122

Thank you,


Ron Centamore, President

Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations

cc: Board Members

Mr. Lee Feldman, City Manager