

Do we have a tenant/landlord mediation service?

The Bethlehem Gadfly Neighborhoods, Serious Issues, Southside October 23, 2019

 Latest in a series of posts about Neighborhoods & the Southside 

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ref: [“Beware the landlord from Hong Kong”](#)

Gadfly:

Yes, it seems this was the resident’s first time trying to access city government, at least publicly. What could we imagine he learned? My guess is that he came away thinking that although he spoke, he wasn’t heard. Is this what we want those with the courage to come before City Council to learn? Or would it be better to respond in a way that shows a working relationship where problems can be worked out together?

Granted, his concern was over a private transaction, not a public complaint. Still, affordable housing is certainly a public concern affecting our city. It would be wonderful if we had a tenant/landlord mediation service in place. If there is such a thing, I am not aware of it. Lacking that, I’m wondering if City Council could have referred this resident to someone in city government who could offer guidance, at least to go over Article 1739 regarding regulated rental unit occupancy or other applicable ordinances.

The lesson there? We're all in this together!

Greg