



City of Seattle
Mayor Jenny A. Durkan

December 11, 2020

Monica Martinez Simmons
Seattle City Clerk
600 4th Avenue, 3rd Floor
Seattle, WA 98124

Dear Ms. Martinez Simmons,

I have returned Council Bill 119907 unsigned, understanding it will become law pursuant to SMC 1.04.020.B. This is the third extension of a moratorium on the development of property currently used as a mobile home park. The previous two extensions of the moratorium were for six months each in addition to the initial one-year moratorium placed by Council pursuant to Ordinance 125764. This has resulted in two years of a moratorium and this bill will add another six months without a long-term plan for addressing the underlying concern that this bill tries to address.

While I do not believe that a series of extensions is a thoughtful or deliberate way to approach land use policy, I also recognize that the moratorium provides additional protections to the residents of this mobile home park. Over a year ago, my office worked with the prior property owner University of Washington (“UW”) to address the concerns of the residents, and the UW about this time last year sold the property to a local mobile home operator who expressed an intent to keep it operating as a mobile home park. These efforts were made to address the concerns brought to us by the mobile home park residents while also respecting the existing land use zoning and property rights.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, I issued a residential eviction moratorium and I believe that this bill is consistent with that intent to keep people housed and remove housing insecurity while we are in a pandemic.

I urge the City Council to develop thoughtful land use policy that addresses the concerns that Council is attempting to do with this legislation, and to adopt a long-term policy proposal before this current extension expires. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenny A. Durkan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jenny A. Durkan
Mayor of Seattle