

# TOGETHER DENVER NO on 300

Initiative 300, a proposed Denver ordinance that will appear on your ballot in May 2019, undermines public safety and the well-being of all Denver residents, including our neighbors experiencing homelessness, by preventing Denver from enforcing essential public safety laws.

## Initiative 300 will:

- Prohibit Denver from enforcing essential laws that protect public safety.
- Allow people to occupy all outdoor public places, including parks and sidewalks, indefinitely.
- Eliminate all park curfews.
- Include parking/living in cars.
- Allow for unfettered distribution of food in public spaces.

***This will endanger public safety, quality of life and the economic vitality of our neighborhoods and our city.***

## Impacts All of Denver - Not Just a Downtown Problem

If passed, this ordinance would apply to *all of Denver's beloved public outdoor spaces*. People could sleep, camp, and live in:

- **Residential Areas:** on sidewalks and in alleys around homes.
- **Parks, Trails, Open Spaces & Rivers:** including Denver's major urban parks like Washington Park, City Park & Sloan's Lake, our mountain parks including Red Rocks, and our smaller neighborhood parks. Dog parks, open space, trails and river greenways, including the Highline Canal, would also be included.
- **Neighborhood Business Districts:** the small commercial districts throughout Denver neighborhoods that are home to locally-owned coffee shops, restaurants and retailers.
- **Cultural & Sports Facilities:** including spaces outside and around the Zoo, Children's Museum, Museum of Nature and Science, Art Museum, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Coors Field, Mile High Stadium and Pepsi Center.
- **Downtown:** our central business district, where thousands of Coloradans live, work and play, and a destination for visitors from around the country & the world.

### Los Angeles: A Cautionary Tale

A series of rulings and legal settlements have essentially prohibited the City of Los Angeles from moving homeless residents off of sidewalks and other public spaces. As a result, over the last 11 years, encampments have popped up in all parts of LA, including a massive settlement in a part of the city known as "Skid Row," which is home to anywhere from **2,000 to 8,000 homeless people**.

**Drug use, violence, prostitution and arson** are common in the area. The **human waste, discarded food and trash** associated with the encampment has attracted **rats and fleas** and created a public health crisis, including a **typhus outbreak** that reached "epidemic" levels in parts of the county in the fall of 2018.

## Doing Better By Our Homeless Neighbors: Initiative 300 is NOT the Answer

Allowing people to **sleep outside in public places is not safe, healthy or helpful for the people experiencing homelessness** or the broader community. Denver is a community where all people can thrive, not just survive.

However, Denver's growth and rising housing costs, combined with mental health issues are creating a real crisis. The City and community partners are taking meaningful steps to create more affordable housing and provide effective outreach and support services to people experiencing homelessness. More should be done to ensure Denver is a safe, supportive place for everyone, but Initiative 300 is not the answer.

**We Can Do Better. Vote No on 300**  
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## Yes! I Believe We Can Do Better. I will:

- Vote NO on Initiative 300 in May
- Stay informed: Add me to the NO on 300 campaign email list
- Make my position known: Add me to the public list of organizations & individuals opposing 300
- Connect with the campaign on social media:
  - Facebook.com/TogetherDenver
  - Twitter.com/TogetherDenver
  - Instagram.com/TogetherDenver
- Host a campaign speaker at my business, neighborhood group or civic club
- Make a contribution to the campaign

## MAIL A CHECK TO:

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