



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

BOARD OF ALDERMEN CITY OF ST. LOUIS MISSOURI

LEWIS E. REED
PRESIDENT

ROOM 232, CITY HALL
1200 MARKET STREET
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103-2873
(314) 622-4114

January 30, 2019

Mayor Lyda Krewson
1200 Market St
St. Louis, MO 63103

Dear Mayor Krewson,

As you are aware, the National Weather Service has extended the Wind Chill Advisory for our area with wind chills as low as 20 to 25 below zero expected and possible snow accumulation.

As President of the Board of Aldermen, the Department of Human Services and the use of City facilities do not fall under my direct purview. I have received numerous calls and communications from concerned citizens about sheltering our unhoused residents during this bitter cold spell. I share in their concern. I am sure you do as well.

From what I am told, there is no 24-hour, walk-in shelter service provided by the City of St. Louis that is available on a regular basis. I am also told that we have made adjustments to temporarily set Biddle House up as a 24-hour shelter today for some during this cold spell.

If there are opportunities for the City to provide warming centers in any of our publicly-owned buildings, I will work with you to make that happen. I am willing to help move funding to coordinate a warming center or to help with utility bills and supplies for the many pop-up shelters that have been mobilized throughout the City.

Again, as President of the Board of Aldermen, I do not have the authority to open any City buildings for such a need, but I do hear the very valid concerns I have received from constituents. I am writing this letter to you to let you know I support using any additional City-owned facilities that may be available as warming centers in times of severe cold.

Following this polar vortex, I am urging the City to re-evaluate all of the winter outreach practices, including the temperature standards for entering into winter outreach mode and especially the hours of operation of the Biddle House.

I am also sending a letter to County Executive Steve Stenger to solicit resources from the County. This is an issue that belongs to the City and the County. This week, a report was



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
CITY OF ST. LOUIS
MISSOURI**

**LEWIS E. REED
PRESIDENT**

**ROOM 232, CITY HALL
1200 MARKET STREET
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103-2873
(314) 622-4114**

released to unify the City and County. For right now, I think the City and County need to work 'better together' to address these issues of homelessness in our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lewis E. Reed", written in a cursive style.

Lewis E. Reed
President to the Board of Aldermen
City of St. Louis

CC: Irene Agustin, Director of Human Services
Steve Conway, Chief of Staff to the Mayor