



San Francisco Has Made the 'Homeless' A Profitable Industry

Youtube personality Colion Noir traveled to San Francisco, one of the most expensive cities in the country, and exposed expansion of the homelessness problem by dependency on the government that has created an industry around vagrancy. San Francisco has 8 city departments that issue over 400 contracts to about 75 private organizations that have no unifying oversight to assist its homeless population of 7,500 people. Big tech companies are pushing out the middle class and lower middle class population.

Residents in the pricey South Beach neighborhood, where a 225-bed homeless shelter "Navigation Center" is planned, are raising money to stop the project as it is a threat to safety and tourism, and they don't want it "in their backyard." They have raised \$94,000 to fight the proposal while supporters of the shelter, including tech CEOs from Salesforce and Twitter, have raised about \$168,000. A resident noted that these tech giants who support the shelter do not live in the area and don't want it in their backyard, either.

The prospect of a 225-bed shelter in San Francisco's trendy South

Beach

neighborhood has kicked off a bitter fundraising battle between area

residents who say homeless people should be helped somewhere else and

supporters who say no one should be sleeping on the streets.

To some residents in the pricey and touristy neighborhood along the

Embarcadero, plans to build a new homeless shelter amid expensive

apartment towers threaten public safety and tourism. To supporters of

the proposal, that opposition reflects NIMBYism pure and simple.

Mayor London Breed's planned 225-bed shelter near the Bay Bridge

would become the city's seventh "Navigation Center." Unlike many basic

overnight shelters, the centers have all-hours staff and no curfew.

Services and referrals related to health care and housing are available.

Extended stays are possible.

But as San Francisco grapples with a highly visible homelessness

crisis featuring sidewalks littered with human waste and needles, the

initiative has sparked dueling GoFundMe efforts for and against the

shelter.

Days after concerned residents launched a “Safe Embarcadero for All”

GoFundMe campaign last month to drum up cash for a potential legal

fight, a former Google employee launched a GoFundMe counter-attack, the

“SAFER Embarcadero for ALL” campaign, which has attracted big donations

from some of the city’s most prominent tech CEOs. As of midday Friday,

supporters of the shelter had raised about \$168,000 compared with about

\$94,000 amassed by opponents.

“When you’re living outside, it’s so dangerous, so cold, there’s so

many reasons it’s bad,” said ex-Googler William Fitzgerald, who started

the SAFER campaign to raise money for the city’s Coalition on Homelessness. “I’m just supportive of housing in general. It shouldn’t

be that radical of an idea. San Francisco has chosen the route of at

least trying to get people on a first step toward housing.”

That step, in this case, is in the wrong place, said Wallace Lee, an

organizer of the opposition campaign who lives a block-and-a-half from

the proposed shelter site with his wife and toddler daughter.

“My biggest concern is public safety,” said Lee, a 34-year-old stay-at-home dad, who also worries about the prospect of used needles. “Gathering

a lot of people, some of whom will cause property crime and some violent crime, in an area that's densely populated and with a lot of children and a lot of elderly is not a good idea. I can hardly imagine a worse area to put a Navigation Center with so many residents and tourists and workers walking by every day.

"It's not that we don't want to see homelessness – it's that we don't want the effects of Navigation Centers."

He cited a Vancouver, Canada, study that concluded property crime rates increased by 56 percent within 110 yards of winter-only shelters in that city. However, [that study](#) also found crime started dissipating beyond about a quarter-mile from a shelter.

Lee said he and other opponents of the proposed Navigation Center support efforts to resolve San Francisco's homelessness crisis – 7,500 unhoused residents in 2017, according to the city's official count – by putting Navigation Centers in empty lots in thinly populated areas of the city.

To Fitzgerald, the backlash against an Embarcadero shelter is "straight-up NIMBYism."

“This idea that they want housing solutions for people but just not in their neighborhood, I just don’t think it’s an honest argument,” Fitzgerald said.

But Lee puts the NIMBY label on the tech honchos leading donations in favor of the shelter. The fundraising campaign in favor of the new shelter has drawn support from CEOs Marc Benioff of Salesforce, Jack Dorsey of Twitter and Square, Nat Friedman of GitHub, and Twilio’s Jeff Lawson. Dorsey kicked in \$25,000, with the other three each contributing \$10,000.

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Netanyahu Says He Asked Trump

to Designate Iran's Revolutionary Guard a Terrorist Group – Which He Did

President Trump declared Iran's Revolutionary Guard as a foreign terrorist organization, as requested by Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu. Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif says those who support Netanyahu understand that there will be consequences for US forces in the region. -GEG

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who faces a tough reelection amid corruption allegations, thanked [President Trump](#) for labeling Iran's Revolutionary Guard as a foreign terrorist organization and said he asked for the designation.

“Thank you, my dear friend, President Donald Trump, for having decided to announce Iran's Revolutionary Guard as a terrorist organization,” Netanyahu said in a tweet in Hebrew on Monday, according to [The Washington Post](#).

“Thank you for the answer to another important request that serves the interests of our country and the region,” he continued.

In

another tweet written in English, the prime minister omitted the reference to a “request,” but said of the president: “Once again you are keeping the world safe from Iran aggression and terrorism.”

Trump’s announcement of the designation on Monday has been widely seen as an effort to boost Netanyahu in Tuesday’s election.

In a tweet on Sunday, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif warned the decision would drag the U.S. into a “quagmire.”

“#NetanyahuFirsters who have long agitated for [foreign terrorist organization] designation of the [Guard] fully understand its consequences for US forces in the region,” he [said in a tweet](#). “In fact, they seek to drag US into a quagmire on his behalf. @realDonaldTrump should know better than to be conned into another US disaster.”

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NY Mayor Declares Health Emergency over Measles. Vaccine Now Mandatory or \$1000 Fine

New York Mayor Bill DeBlasio declared a public health emergency to address the measles “crisis” in Brooklyn’s Williamsburg community, an ultra-Orthodox Jewish neighborhood. The declaration requires all unvaccinated people, including children over 6 months old, who may have been exposed to the virus to get the triple mumps, measles and rubella MMR vaccine, or face a fine of \$1000. The New York City Health Department has also issued an order to yeshivas to prohibit unvaccinated students from attending classes or face a fine or even closure of the school.

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio has ordered residents of a Brooklyn neighborhood to undergo mandatory vaccinations or pay a fine.

Declaring a public health emergency Tuesday, the mayor insisted the order was necessary to address the measles “crisis” in

Brooklyn's

Williamsburg community, a neighborhood of more than 250 ultra-Orthodox Jewish residents.

"The declaration requires all unvaccinated people who may have been exposed to the virus to get the vaccine, including children over 6 months old," reports the [Associated Press](#).

The order affects people residing, going to school or working within four ZIP codes: 11205, 11206, 11221 and 11237.

De Blasio said anyone in these areas must receive the measles vaccine or get fined up to \$1,000.

"We have a very dangerous situation on our hands," de Blasio [stated](#). "We cannot allow this dangerous disease to make a comeback here in New York City. We have to stop it now."

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Brazilian President Bolsonaro Says He Is Working with the US to Sow 'Dissent' in Venezuela Army

During a radio interview, Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro said he is working with the US government to sow dissent within the Venezuelan Army in order to incite a military revolt against Venezuelan President Maduro. He said, "It is our intention and that of the Americans that there is a rift in the army, because it is they who still support Maduro. It is the armed forces that decide whether a country lives in a democracy or in a dictatorship." The US has been using strong arm tactics against Caracas, choking the Venezuelan economy with new sanctions.

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro said on Monday he is working with the U.S. government to sow dissent within the Venezuelan Army.

Bolsonaro, during an interview with Jovem Pan radio, said that if there is a military invasion in Venezuela, he would ask seek the counsel of Brazil's National Defense Council and Congress on what, if any, action his country should take.

"We cannot allow Venezuela to become a new Cuba or North

Korea,” the right-wing president said.

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