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Please pass Bill #7 & do something about the homeless tent city on the street by Thomas square -- I was at the park recently & was appalled by the situation. Street parking was a premium. Parking is allowed on the Makai side of Beretania on Sundays. The only problem is it is impossible to get out of your car due to the tent city; you cannot even open your car door, let alone get out of the car. The trash in the park itself was shocking. There was human excrement, used toilet paper, food containers, you name it. The flies are out of control there. There was a homeless woman showering in the bathroom with a hose she had hooked up to a faucet—then she proceeded to barricade herself and her items in the handicapped stall for the rest of the afternoon. There were screaming and arguments and obscenities going back and forth among some of the homeless up by the tents. This is a regular occurrence.

I was thrilled to hear that the city seized and removed the items from the public sidewalk area January 29<sup>th</sup>. The only problem is when I drove by February 1, two days after this cleanup, they were back. Not as many initially and not all the same, but there they were again.

Last year I called to complain about this situation and was told that the squatters were exercising their First Amendment right. Does the tax paying public not have any rights of their own to a safe environment? Please, can't someone end this once and for all? It's become a joke, even among the tent people. They know the loop holes and what they have to do to stay. All this, one block from Police headquarters....

Thomas Square used to be a beautiful peaceful place – those that work close by could enjoy their lunch in the sun. Now everyone I know avoids it. It's become a scary place that has been taken over.

Barbara Germann  
Kailua