

Help Reopen Locked Bathrooms

- With scant documentation of complaints or vandalism, in 2017 and 2018, Parks and Recreation [P&R] Supervisor Iseth Rae established segregated exclusionary bathrooms at Louden Nelson in March 2018, locking them to all but “program participants”.
- At last Monday’s P&R Commission meeting, P&R Boss Tony Elliot turned Councilmember Glover’s “Open the Bathrooms” proposal upside down. With no documentation justifying the year-long closure in the staff report, the Commission voted for closure apparently unless state law requires reopening.
- Louden Nelson staff, sometimes apparently unwillingly, continue to deny elderly, disabled, homeless people in need of a bathroom the right to use the publicly-funded Louden Nelson bathroom in violation of years of tradition.
- Seniors are denied access if they need to use them outside their “allotted time” from 10:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Anyone not in approved program is sent to the Police Department a block away or Depot Park.
- The actions have coincided with an anti-homeless narrative that blames those outside for vandalism, drug use, and unspecified “illegal behavior”. In response, the same staff has apparently backed the creation of fences around Louden Nelson and a First Alarm guard.
- Seven of the candidates running for City Council last year publicly called for reopening the bathrooms including **Drew Glover, Justin Cummins, Donna Meyers, Phil Crawford, Cynthia Hawthorn, David Lane, and Greg Larson**. The only one not to do so at the RCNV Election forum was **Richelle Niroyan** who was defeated in November. Council, under the thumb of Mayor Watkins, has sidelined proposals and refused to act.

Liberate the Locked Bathrooms

Monday July 15th 2 PM Louden Nelson Center

TAKE DIRECT ACTION

- Sign up today to support direct action to reopen bathrooms city-wide
- City Hall bathrooms are also closed; park bathrooms are closed at night; there are no 24-hour bathrooms only 3 portapotties downtown.
- Since Ross Camp closed, the number of portapotties available at night has shrunk by 2/3; wash stations have not been replaced.
- Bring video equipment (phones are fine) to the rally.
- Whenever possible, request the bathroom code and pass it on.
- Come to provide witness & support if peaceful potty-seekers are arrested.