From: <u>Connie Stocks</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comments</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Homeless parking/ encampment Rincon Valley, Santa Rosa

Date: Monday, June 21, 2021 5:21:18 PM

To whom it may concern,

We are absolutely astounded, disappointed and angry that the City of Santa Rosa will consider allowing homeless people to park at the Rincon Valley Library parking lot or anywhere else close to it. There are many schools in this district and the safety of our children will be at risk.

We strongly oppose the city doing so. There are many, many other places.

We have learned that the council members are not to be trusted. Promises are always made, never kept. Let's take a close look at the homeless encampment at the end of Pythian Road. The homeless were supposed to be there for a few months- they are still there.

The model failed anyways, as it was to get homeless off the streets but because drugs and alcohol were not allowed many of them chose not to reside there and were back on the roads and are now back under the overpasses in Santa Rosa, and alongside many roads throughout town.

Why not place homeless encampments in the districts of other county supervisors, not just Susan Gorins. Respectfully,

Connie and Jeff Stocks

From: <u>G T Leggins</u>

To: <u>CityCouncilListPublic</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Safe Parking for homeless **Date:** Monday, June 21, 2021 5:51:29 PM

I wanted to comment on this agenda item but was too late to make a public statement. As a Rincon Valley resident and tax payer, I am absolutely opposed to turning our library parking lot into a safe parking area for the homeless. This is a residential area surrounded by schools, park and mobile homes. This has been a safe area for children to play in, take walks and enjoy the outdoors. I feel that allowing the homeless to park there will turn the area into an unsafe environment. In driving through what used to be a beautiful city I see nothing but filth and garage at these homeless areas. I feel unsafe walking where these people are as most (not all) seem to be substance abusers that I do not want myself or family exposed to in my neighborhood. I feel that the city bends over backwards to furnish them with amenities that the majority of us have to work for. Are the majority of these people even Santa Rosens? I would probably say no.

If you feel that you must house them somewhere, what about the large parking area at the fairgrounds? I am so tired of the city making senseless decisions when our city is in need of so much more.

Please consider other options that will not impact or impose on our areas that we live in. Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing of other available options.

From: JoAnne Senander

To: CityCouncilListPublic

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RV Library Parking lot as a safe parking area

Date: Monday, June 21, 2021 7:35:48 PM

Please consider a different location away from schools, parks and library.

I have no idea why you would even consider such a location.

These people who need a place to park should not take priority over the safety and well being of children and elderly. This city should stop catering to the homeless and start concentrating on bringing Santa Rosa back to the safe, beautiful city it used to be.

Very disappointed in the state of this city and county.

Sent from my iPad

From: <u>Leslie Loopstra</u>

To: <u>CityCouncilListPublic</u>; <u>Tibbetts, Jack</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Safe parking at Rincon Valley Park

Date: Monday, June 21, 2021 8:41:57 PM

I sent an unfinished version of this letter a few minutes ago. Here is the Finished letter.

- Leslie Loopstr

On Mon, Jun 21, 2021 at 8:19 PM Leslie Loopstra < <u>lloopstra@gmail.com</u>> wrote:

Dear Mr. Tibbitts and Members of the City Council,

I'm writing to express my concern for the proposed safe parking at Rincon Valley Park. As you may guess, I live in the neighborhood and think it is a terrible idea. I walk my dogs through the park several times a week. During the COVID 19 shutdown, I saw many people use the group picnic area for dining, sleeping, and bathing in the faucets. For several weeks, a man and his untethered dog stayed in that area. He would talk and yell to himself. I felt sorry for him and I didn't feel safe.

Since the opening up of our state, I have enjoyed seeing the park full of families and local sports teams. It feels so good to see people gathering together at the park. Using the fields, playground, and picnic areas for their intended purpose. So, one reason I think the safe parking is a bad idea is that the community needs this place to relax and enjoy life. It is a community park not a homeless encampment.

Another reason it is a bad idea is that it is between two schools and right next to a library that is used by students, preschoolers and seniors. I am a teacher on the RVMS campus and know that many students walk through the park to get to and from school and the library. Rincon Valley and the students here have suffered greatly from fires, power outages, and of course the pandemic. Having the library closed during the pandemic has ended the rich community programs for all. We need to have these programs return so we can feel normal again.

Tonight, I walked through the park. There were two cars packed with belongings in the parking lot by the library. Overnight parking is happening already. If it becomes a sanctioned activity, my neighborhood will lose the park, the library, and the way of life that goes with them. Don't do it. There are other, more appropriate sites for "safe" parking. Sincerely,

Leslie Loopstra

From: <u>Jean Bashi</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comments</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Safe Parking Pilot Program, June 22, Item 3.2

Date: Monday, June 21, 2021 10:03:01 PM

Dear Council Members,

My name is Jean Bashi, a resident of South Park since April 1981, living a block away from Rutledge Ave. When I attended the neighborhood meeting regarding the homeless encampment at the old Senior Center last week, I was pleased to hear Councilman Eddie Alvarez, Kelli Kuykendall, Santa Rosa Homeless Services Manager, plus see several members of the Santa Rosa Police Department in attendance. Their interest shows this is truly not just a neighborhood problem, but city and county as well.

One neighbor at the meeting made mention that "the homeless seem to have more rights than the home owners". I tend to agree. As I drove down Rutledge on Saturday, most of the RVs had moved on, but the garbage, trash, clothing, furniture, and human waste lay in heaps 3-4 feet high on the sidewalk and the property of the former Senior Center. This area is and has been for months, unsafe and extremely hazardous to those who live and work in South Park. It is appalling that the debris has been allowed to accumulate to such an outrageous degree, and that the city of Santa Rosa has done little to address the issue!

Today you are looking at a *Safe Parking Pilot Program* for the homeless in our city. This is greatly needed but is just a temporary bandaid. Emergency Housing is another temporary solution, but again extremely necessary. Ultimately, in my opinion, what is needed is safe, low income housing; however, all of these solutions take time and money. While these solutions are being explored for the homeless, how about simultaneously examining *Safe Living Conditions* for those of us who are home owners or renters??? As a private citizen, I can contact Recology and rent a debris box for my home or business, but the city of Santa Rosa can't do the same to rid our streets and neighborhoods of hazardous waste???

I say that's rubbish!!!

Most Sincerely,

Jean Bashi

From: Robin Burgert

To: CityCouncilListPublic

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Overnight parking at Rincon Valley Park

Date: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 6:52:24 AM

To all concerned,

As a homeowner and tax payer in Rincon Valley, I hope that the decision to have overnight parking at Montecito Park using the Badger and Montecito parking lots is not a consideration. We have two schools, a library and two mobile home parks with many elderly in the very close vicinity.

Why not overnight them at West third "Place to Play" as it has plentiful parking and is big enough to not impact the surrounding community.

Overnight should only be for those who have lost homes due to fire and the mentally ill should be housed.

Give drug addicts the heave ho.

No more handouts. Let's stop enabling them.

Thank you, Robin Burgert

Robin Burgert Artist / ReDesigner



From: <u>Lynn Pizza</u>

To: City Council Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Homeless parking in RV
Date: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 7:17:31 AM

NO NO NO!!!!!!!??????

 From:
 Kristen Ingersoll

 To:
 Rogers, Chris

 Cc:
 CityCouncilListPublic

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Safe Parking at RINCON VALLEY LIBRARY Is a NO

Date: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 9:36:36 AM

Mr. Rogers, thank you so much for replying to one of the emails you received about the City considering (and NOT recommending) the Rincon Valley Library parking lot for the homeless overnight parking program. Your reply that it will not be recommended was publicly posted and shared, and provided great relief to many children, parents, teachers, etc. I wanted to express my thanks for alleviating this great stress at the idea being considered to purposefully bring homeless persons in to this area filled with (so many and often unsupervised) children.

I am also copying the entire City Council on this email in the event they are not as familiar with the area as others are. As I hope the City Council knows, the Rincon Valley Library is right between Maria Carrillo High School, Rincon Valley Middle School and Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter School. More than a thousand children ages 10-18 years old. The library serves as a location for students to meet up before and after school, to do their homework after school, a meeting spot for their ride to and from school each day. There are dozens and dozens of unsupervised children that ride bikes and walk to and from school each day past that parking lot. Please don't forget that and do not invite homeless parking, camps, etc. to the immediate area.

I realize homelessness is an extremely large scale, difficult and complicated problem, but the immediate vicinity of all those schools cannot be considered as a solution. Thank you for your consideration, Kristen Ingersoll

Our office remains closed to in-person visits and face-to-face meetings for the foreseeable future. We are however working full-time and conducting scheduled meetings by telephone. Thank you for your understanding, and be safe and stay well!

Note: Our office closes at 3pm on Fridays

Kristen M. Ingersoll, Esq.

Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law The State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization

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From: <u>Joe Platt</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comments</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Safe Overnight Parking Program

Date: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 1:54:51 PM

I understand that Santa Rosa city officials are considering making the Rincon Valley Library parking lot, part of the Safe Overnight Parking Program. I want my opinion voiced that I am vehemently against including this site in your program. This location is very near to three schools in my district. Schools that three of my children attend. This parking area is also very near to the Rincon Valley Park. I understand that this is being considered on a 24/7 basis. This would be a terrible thing to do to this park, and the community. Rincon Valley is quiet community not anywhere near the resources that these individuals would be needing access too.

Joe Platt 7

From: <u>Chandra Mollenhauer</u>
To: <u>City Council Public Comments</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Safe Parking Pilot Program, Item 3.2 on June 22, 2021 City Council Agenda

Date: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 4:13:25 PM

Dear Honorable Santa Rosa City Council Members,

My name is Chandra Mollenhauer and I am a Care Coordinator with Santa Rosa Community Health Care Coordination Department. Care Coordination works primarily with our most vulnerable patients that are homeless, have chronic health conditions and are high utilizers of the emergency room and hospitals. Many of these patients live out of their vehicles. The Safe Parking Program you will consider on June 22 is a great step towards securing a safe place for unhoused patients to park. It is important to remember that many people living out of their cars or RVs do not have the financial ability to keep their vehicles registered, let alone afford gas to move their vehicle daily searching for a safe place to rest. Patients often lose their vehicles due to towing and impoundment. There are not enough shelter beds available for the unhoused population in this area and many patients end up living on the street when they lose their vehicles. The need for several safe parking sites throughout the City of Santa Rosa is extremely necessary. A safe place to park with access to bathrooms and water can greatly stabilize a patient's life, making it more likely they will be able to access other needed services. For outreach workers like myself, knowing where a patient is located greatly improves our ability to help patients connect with their health care clinic and specialty providers, preventing emergency room visits and hospitalizations which benefits the community at large.

Thank you for your consideration,

Chandra Mollenhauer
Care Coordination
Santa Rosa Community Health