



Katherine Douglas *General Public Comment - Salazar*

From: Rick Salazar <rsalazar001@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2024 5:25 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comments for Aug 20 Supervisors meeting

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

As your constituents and San Vicente Mobile Home Park residents, we would like your support in initiating a **moratorium** on converting any senior parks to all-age **until** a Senior Mobile Home Park Overlay (SMHPO) is enacted in the unincorporated parts of Santa Barbara County. This was done in Thousand Oaks last year to prevent another park from being converted and only took three months. Ventura County established their Senior Overlay a couple of months later. Overlays were also enacted in the City of Ventura, and Thousand Oaks. In the city of Santa Barbara, a park was recently converted to all age because an Overlay is not in effect. This has resulted in evictions and departures of longtime residents as well as forfeitures of their homes.

A SMHPO establishes a special zoning for all senior mobile home parks in the unincorporated areas of the County which prevents them from being converted to all-age. Nine Senior Overlays have already been enacted around the state so far, including in Ventura County, the City of Ventura, and Thousand Oaks. It is time for Santa Barbara County to do the same.

Why this overlay critical to us:

- Residents of senior parks bought their homes with the understanding that the park was specifically designed for seniors and would remain an affordable senior park.
- The community is organized around the needs of seniors who have forged connections which help avoid feelings of loneliness and isolation.
- Most parks designed for seniors are not appropriate for all ages. There is little or no place for children to play or recreate, no lifeguards at the pool, no parking space available for multiple cars in families, and the few amenities are sized and geared toward older people.
- We moved here, in part, for the peace and quiet that is important for retired residents who have already raised their kids and don't want the loud noises inherently part of all age communities.

V/R

Rick Salazar