

de la Guerra, Sheila

Public Comment - Group 2

#2

From: Zach Shoemaker <zach.shoemaker9@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:28 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment



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.

Dear Clerk of the City of Santa Barbara,

My name is Zach, and I would like to submit the following public comment for the City Council Meeting on May 12th, 2020, for Item 7: Temporary Eviction Moratorium Ordinance No. 5941: Discussion of Alternatives And Possible Action on Extension And Payback Terms.

I would like my comment to be read into the record:

"While the moratorium on eviction during lockdown has prevented renters from being evicted thus far, without adequate time to pay back their rent once the lockdown is over, we are simply putting off this potential crisis. Unless renters are given *at least* the same kind forgiveness that homeowners are being given for their mortgages, we are, yet again, punishing renters for being poor or less wealthy than homeowners and punishing them with houslessness. There *needs* to be strict guidelines about when landlords can demand owed rent or else the opportunity to exploit the vagueness of the ordinance will be taken by landlords who have never shied away from this kind of exploitation before. Other places, like Los Angeles, have given renters one year to pay back their owed rent, and that should be the absolute *minimum* amount of time given to renters with the room, and even encouragement, to lengthen that time frame. So many of the residents of our county already lived paycheck to paycheck before this crisis, and have had their lives upended by COVID-19, the *least* we can do is ensure that they don't have to worry that they will suddenly have to foot the bill of *months* of past rent as soon as the lockdown ends, effectively sentencing them to eviction right when times are supposed to be getting better."

Best,
Zach Shoemaker

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: Linda Honikman <linda.honikman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 4:51 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Re tenant protections during covid and homeless housing

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.

Please read the following into the record for May 19 meeting:

My name is Linda Honikman from Future Housing Communities. Before we had a covid crisis we had a severe housing crisis which has contributed to stress of Santa Barbara County tenants and a reduction of Latinx and younger residents in recent years. I support any actions the Supervisors can take which will help tenants get through this difficult period. I would recommend that if possible you match the wording of the ordinance recently passed by the City of Santa Barbara that protects tenants from eviction if they have to delay rent payments. In April there were 3 different deadlines related to eviction protection for the South County jurisdictions of Goleta, unincorporated County and the City of Santa Barbara. It is hard enough to get the word out to tenants about what they can do to protect themselves (which has been changing month to month) but it is especially confusing when the specific policy varies from one zip code to the next. Many people who live in my neighborhood of Noleta think they are residents of the City of Santa Barbara.

Finally, I would also like the County to do what it can to provide more food and housing for the homeless. Some homeless folks are getting less than one meal a day. The shelter problem will continue past covid so I am happy that there are efforts to look for hotels that might be purchased for that purpose.

Thank you!

Linda Honikman
Future Housing Communities
(805) 683-0408 cell (8am-8pm PST)
NeighborMatch.org
Facebook Page: [Future Housing Communities - CA](#)
Facebook Group: [Neighbor Match SB](#)