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Sent: Friday, October 4, 2024 1:48 PM
To: Laura Capps; sbcob; Supervisor Das Williams
Cc: a.bushnell.anderson@gmail.com; 'Ellen Duke'; svmha.340oldmill@yahoo.com; 'Sidonia Slaff'
Subject: Oct. 8, 2024 SB Board of Supervisors Meeting in Santa Maria - Moratorium on Senior Mobilehome Park Conversion to All-Age Parks
Attachments: SVMHP Senior Residents With Walker - Photo #2.docx; SAN VINCENTE SENIOR MOBILE HOME PARK-RESIDENT WALKING W- CANE.docx; San Vincente Senior Mobile Hm Park Resident Using Walker in Street.docx; eBIKE DANGERS - NEXTDOOR APP.docx
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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RE: Requested Moratorium on Conversion of Senior Mobilehome Parks to All-Age Parks in Santa Barbara

Hello All –

Thank you for your thoughtful follow through in response to my previous letter to the Board and my speaking to you at the August 20th Meeting regarding the above subject. It's gratifying to see that the group of you really care about our community and welcome our participation.

I won't personally be able to attend the meeting in Santa Maria on Tuesday, October 8th, 2024. Therefore, I hope this letter and the attached photos will be useful in your determinations. Depending on the timing when you will be addressing this subject on the 8th, I may be able to attend via Zoom. If so, I'll be happy to speak, if invited.

As I shared previously, I am an 84-year-old resident of the San Vincente Senior Mobilehome Park. I gratefully offer some insights regarding the reality of living in a senior park. We have no sidewalks, so the much-needed exercise is very often limited to taking walks on our quiet streets. Yes, our most robust residents can use the onsite gym; but some are glad to be able to simply walk. And some walk our streets using walkers and canes. With seniors, hip and knee replacements are very common, as well falling incidents. Post-operative exercise is usually mandatory. And even if no injuries have occurred, many residents experience less steadiness than when they were younger. Many of our seniors walk their dogs in our park.

As we all know, “All-Age” includes children/teenagers. And children understandably seldom recognize the needs of elder generations. Their requirements to shout, run, play ball, ride skateboards and bikes (these days ebikes), etc., are obvious. Dogs not raised with children often are cautious around them, especially when a skateboard or bike goes whizzing by. A dog might either chase or jump away from these—and easily topple over their owners holding onto their leashes. Anyone who is a regular reader of the Nextdoor app will see *many* complaints about the dangers experienced by pedestrians from children on ebikes riding around the normal streets of Santa Barbara. Please note, one of my attachments has wording lifted from a recent Nextdoor app showing sobering comments regarding incidents with ebikes ridden by children/teenagers.

Obviously, converting a senior park to an all-age parks’ problems aren’t only about ebikes ... but it IS partially about allowing children/teenagers to populate the park’s streets with things children typically do. The challenges also include how younger adults understandably often live socially in ways which can easily conflict with the needs of elder residents.

As examples, I’ve also attached 3 photos: two of different residents (not the same people) in my park who require a walker, one of whom requires an assistant to help steady them. The other photo is also of a resident who a year ago had hip and knee surgery—and still requires a cane to walk. Hopefully, these clearly demonstrate the need for a senior park to be free of the normal activities of children in residence. Visiting children behave quite differently, as they’re typically with their adult parents visiting a grandparent.

Choosing a home in a senior mobilehome park instead of an already existing all-age park usually occurs due to the anticipated greater safety and peacefulness as we age. Growing older isn’t for the faint-hearted, so allowing for as much grace as possible is a blessing. Please help us keep our senior parks for seniors only by directing the development of a senior mobilehome park overlay in all of Santa Barbara County.

Thank you all for your patience in reading this, along with your knowledgeable insight, understanding and care.

Best wishes in all ways,

Rama



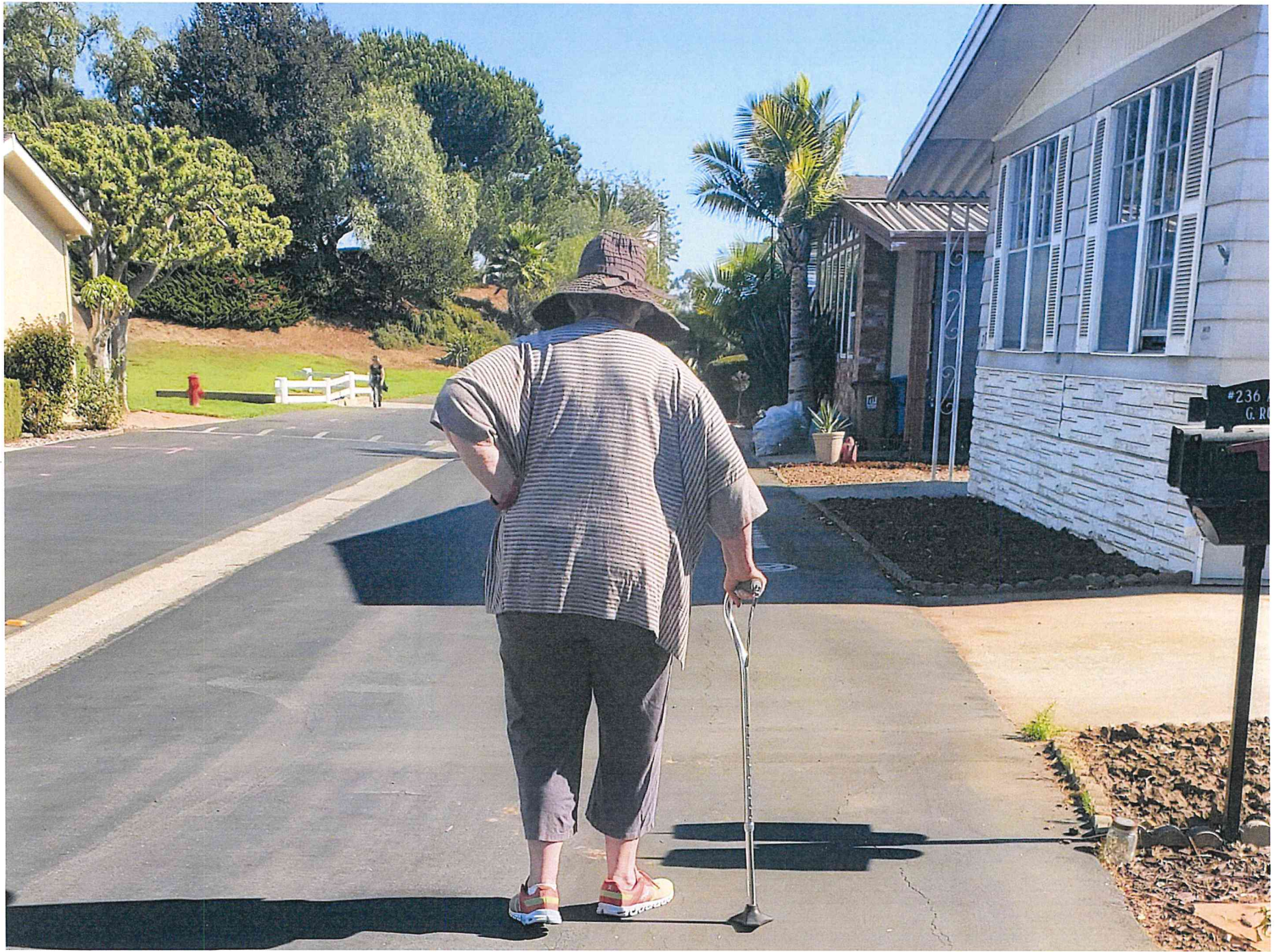
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Be kinder than necessary, because everyone is fighting their own kind of battle. Plato

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SAN VINCENTE SENIOR MOBILE HOME PARK – RESIDENTS WITH WALKER – 2ND PHOTO



SAN VINCENTE SENIOR MOBILE HOME PARK – RESIDENT WITH CANE WALKING IN STREET



**SAN VINCENTE SENIOR MOBILE HOME PARK RESIDENT WITH WALKER & ASSISTANT
USING STREET (THERE ARE NO SIDEWALKS, EXCEPT AT CLUBHOUSE)**

NEXTDOOR APP October 3 & 4, 2024

DANGERS OF EBIKES

https://nextdoor.com/p/HWBbYmW5Gwc2?post=361363177&utm_source=email&is=tpe§ion=post&mar=true&ct=GqITmA9m3SaRb2wrEmHrPapssgQMGJL2LOwwWkU5Zhb59DxsJkhur96SQM1uWqnJ&ec=OWKiQRDj9vEHAYwTV6YMARldwuFdgGkeefhfwGYAE0s%3D&mobile_deeplink_data=eyJhY3Rpb24iOiAidmld19wb3N0liwglInBvc3QiOiAzNjEzNjMxNzd9&link_source_user_id=76119725

https://nextdoor.com/p/yYRGw8QgmjNL?post=360200619&utm_source=email&is=tpe§ion=post&mar=true&ct=aspRpAVqCUVHI5ab6F8TILBUtAUylcLSt271BV6TK0-NG--0AcVld0s-t--vOhh&ec=OWKiQRDj9vEHAYwTV6YMARldwuFdgGkeefhfwGYAE0s%3D&mobile_deeplink_data=eyJhY3Rpb24iOiAidmld19wb3N0liwglInBvc3QiOiAzNjAyMDA2MTI9&link_source_user_id=76119725

Tiffany Guthrie - Laguna

There have been so many complaints about kids on (e)bikes, I thought folks might want to see that there are options for educating the kids out there, and that licensing and ticketing are not the only options.

Scott Blair - • East Mesa

Education is only a small portion of the issue, it's the kids attitudes that are the problems.

Tiffany G. - • Laguna •

Scott

Kids have always had attitudes. The ONLY thing that has changed is that the vehicle has changed.. the issue is now ebikes, not skateboards or dirt bikes or whatever. Otherwise, this is the same coming of age bs a lot of kids do.

Scott Blair - • East Mesa

Tiffany You are dead wrong. I never, ever would have flipped an adult off or told them to FU. Kids these days are undisciplined and go unpunished for unthinkable behavior. I watched a kid run a jogger down with his e-bike in the middle of the street and laughed as he left the scene while the woman was still on the ground. He never even stopped to see if she was still alive. Parents are failing at their job.

Mike G. - San Marcos Pass •

E-bikes are just motorcycles and no kids should be allowed to ride them on the streets, sidewalks or bike paths. Operators should be over 16, licensed and insured. Period.

[Alex Janos](#) - [North-East Santa Barbara](#)

REALLY??? THESE MOTORIZED BIKES HAVE TO BE REGULATED...THE OTHER DAY I WITNESSED AT LEAST 5 KIDS RUN STOP SIGNS, SOME WITHOUT HELMETS, DRIVING OFTEN ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THE STREET (I ALMOST HIT ONE WHO TURNED AROUND TO GIVE ME THE FINGER)IS IT GOING TO TAKE A FEW TRAGIC YOUNG DEATHS TO RECTIFY THIS LEGAL AND MORAL ANOMALY???

[Nina Katsev](#) - [Hope Ranch](#) •

I agree! I was hit by an electric bike driven by 2 young inexperienced girls. I have seen 3 young kids without helmets, on cell phones, and going too fast. There needs to be rules and a license for an electric motorcycle- which this is !!

[Sarah Brewer](#) - [San Roque](#) •

Maybe without videoing their face because they are minors it would be good to get abundance of videos to show the city at a meeting. Talking about here is one thing but showing proof of the problem really makes it sink in. Maybe even reach out to our city supervisors like Greg Hart or Monica Limon(?!)

[icki St. Martin](#) - [Hitchcock](#) •

I agree we need laws to govern the use of the e-bikes. I suspect nothing will change until the child of someone with power, political or monetary, is injured badly or killed.

[Nina Katsev](#) - [Hope Ranch](#)

I see kids with no helmets riding ebikes the wrong way on State st on their phones!!! Its an electric motorcycle and needs a driver s license!! Crazy! Someone will be hurt soon!