

de la Guerra, Sheila Public Comment-Group 1

**From:** Cameron Gray <crongray@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 14, 2023 10:08 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** May 16, 2023, Item 8: SUPPORT DignityMoves La Posada Project

#8  
LATE  
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**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.**

Chair Williams and County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed DignityMoves La Posada project. This project builds on DignityMove's innovative supportive housing projects in the City of Santa Barbara and City of Santa Maria, using a housing-first model that has proven to be one of the most effective approaches to address homelessness in communities across the nation.

The 90 units of new housing at La Posada will create a bridge for our houseless neighbors to transition out of encampments into interim housing with a suite of supportive services and amenities. Approving the ground lease and development agreement for the La Posada project will provide new pathways for houseless people to find shelter, healing, and stability.

Let us regain some of the collective dignity that our communities have lost by allowing so many people to go unhoused for so long. Please support the proposed La Posada project.

Thank you for your consideration,

- Cameron Sean Gray

**de la Guerra, Sheila**

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**From:** Lara Cooper <laraanncooper@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 14, 2023 7:26 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Laura Capps  
**Subject:** Board comment for Dignity Moves Item

**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.**

Comment on Agenda Item: DignityMoves La Posada Project on County-owned property at 4500 Hollister Ave, Santa Barbara, CA, APNs 061-040-012, 061-040-024, Supervisorial District 2.

May 14, 2023

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am writing today to issue my support for the La Posada Dignity Moves project that would bring 90 units of temporary housing for our unhoused neighbors in Southern Santa Barbara County. As a homeowner within a half-mile from the proposed project, I believe this project can and will benefit our neighborhood, as well as the broader community.

The need for transitional housing units is urgent, and I believe the county property at 4500 Hollister is an ideal location. In this area, there is a high concentration of people without access to permanent housing. Many people sleep in their vehicles at night on the residential streets, and there are numerous encampments near the railroad tracks. During our time living in this home, fires have broken out in those encampments and spread perilously close.

We have some indication of how this project would work, thanks to the units downtown. The Dignity Moves project located in Santa Barbara is operating smoothly and quietly, without incident. The project is allowing residents to gain support for their next steps, whether into temporary housing, gainful employment or further education. With security on-site, as well as supportive services and case management, we know this model works.

I am also writing to you as someone deeply concerned about housing for our youth transitioning out of foster care. I am a foster parent of a youth in extended foster care, and currently provide housing for her and her young son. I often think about the unrealistic expectations that a newly turned 18-year-old foster youth can immediately find safe and stable housing and support themselves. We don't expect this of young people outside the system, so why do we expect that of young people without social support and resources? The Dignity Moves project in Santa Maria has a portion of beds dedicated to young people aging out of the foster care system, ages 18-24. This is phenomenal and should be replicated throughout the county to keep young people in stable housing as they plan the next phase of their lives.

As a neighbor of the project and a resident of Santa Barbara County, I ask that you approve these units expeditiously. There may be loud voices asking "Why here? What about our property values if we sell in 10 years?" I would urge you to consider the people for whom – right this moment – the lack of safe housing is a life-or-death issue. Now is the time to approve these units. Now is the time for action.

Thank you for your service to our community,  
Lara Cooper

## de la Guerra, Sheila

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**From:** Casey Caldwell <casey2caldwell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 14, 2023 7:41 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Comment on Agenda Item: DignityMoves La Posada Project on County-owned property at 4500 Hollister Ave, Santa Barbara, CA, APNs 061-040-012, 061-040-024, Supervisorial District 2.

**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.**

May 14, 2023

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am writing today to issue my support for the La Posada Dignity Moves project that would bring 90 units of temporary housing for our unhoused neighbors in Southern Santa Barbara County. As a homeowner within a half-mile from the proposed project, I believe this project can and will benefit our neighborhood, as well as the broader community.

I work nearby the existing Dignity Moves project in downtown Santa Barbara, and very much appreciate what they are already doing there. These folks who are without homes are our neighbors already, living in campgrounds and in their cars, and providing them with more stable and safe housing whenever possible is a moral imperative.

As a neighbor of the project and a resident of Santa Barbara County, I ask that you approve these units, with due review of course.

Thank you!  
James Caldwell  
4358 Modoc Road

**de la Guerra, Sheila**

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**From:** Judy Eisenhauer <judyeisenhauer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 9:11 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Please vote to support Dignity Moves La Posada project

**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 Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors,

I urge you to vote in favor of the land lease for the La Posada project proposed by Dignity Moves.

This is an important step toward helping the homeless to get out of the encampments and into housing that they need. The success of the Dignity Moves project on Santa Barbara Street has allayed many fears and shows that these tiny house projects can work for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,  
Judith Eisenhauer

**de la Guerra, Sheila**

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**From:** Peter Hale <contactonsite@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 10:29 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** La Posada Lease approval  
**Attachments:** Scan\_20230515.pdf

**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.**

My wife and I are long-term residents (50+ years) and we want you to **approve the La Posada Project lease**. We have seen with our own eyes the success of the Dignity Moves Santa Barbara Street village. Please take this opportunity to provide the shelter beds we need. There were complaints against the downtown project as well but these have been proved wrong.

Donnis Galvan  
Peter Hale  
Remy Galvan-Hale (daughter)

Dear Board of Supervisors:

Re: File Number 23-00493

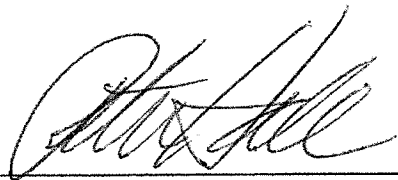
Please approve the La Posada Project lease today!

As someone who is very concerned about the shortage of shelter beds in the County, I'm eager for you to implement the plan to address homelessness that you have already approved.

A key component of this plan is the creation of 300 new shelter beds to provide interim housing to those living on the streets and encampments. On Tuesday, May 16 you will have the opportunity to approve the creation of a lease of County Property at the old Juvenile Hall - La Posada.

As you all know (and have publicly expressed) Dignity Moves is providing a game-changing alternative to life on the streets that appeals to even the most vulnerable and distrustful of government services. We need these humane and wonderful units to start changing lives.

**I urge you to approve this lease** and move forward swiftly with this project. The hundreds living in encampments and on the streets are dying at rates higher than ever before. Please help get them inside and find housing.



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Peter Hale

5-15-23

45-year resident of Santa Barbara

**de la Guerra, Sheila**

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**From:** Evely Laser Shlensky <evelyls@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 10:33 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Please Approve the La Posada Project Lease

**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 Board of Supervisors:

Re: File Number: 23-00493

Please approve the La Posada Project lease

As someone who is very concerned about the shortage of shelter beds in the County, I'm eager for you to implement the plan to address homelessness that you have already approved.

A key component of this plan is the creation of 300 new shelter beds to provide interim housing to those living on the streets and encampments. On Tuesday, May 16, you will have the opportunity to approve the creation of a lease of County Property at the old Juvenile Hall - La Posada.

As you all know (and have publicly expressed) Dignity Moves is providing a game-changing alternative to life on the streets that appeals to even the most vulnerable and distrustful of government services. We need these humane and wonderful units to start changing lives.

I urge you to approve this lease and move forward swiftly with this project. The hundreds of people living in encampments and on the streets are dying at rates higher than ever before. Please help them get inside and find housing.

Sincerely,  
Evely Laser Shlensky  
789 Knapp Drive  
Santa Barbara, CA 93108

**de la Guerra, Sheila**

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**From:** Laurie Tumbler <laurietumbler@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:14 AM  
**To:** Matt Riley; Jack Lorenz; sbcob  
**Subject:** Board of Supervisors meeting 5/15/23  
**Attachments:** Board of Supervisors 2023-05-16.docx

**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.**

Attached are my comments on the following agenda item

Re: Departmental Agenda, Planning Items and Public Hearings Item 8: Establishment of the DignityMoves La Posada LLC (DignityMoves) Project (Project)

I support the development of this project.

Laurel J. Tumbler

694 Circle Dr, Santa Barbara, CA 93108



Re: Departmental Agenda, Planning Items and Public Hearings Item 8: Establishment of the DignityMoves La Posada LLC (DignityMoves) Project (Project)

Board of Supervisors:

I support the establishment of the La Posada Village.

This new village will provide safe and secure interim housing for our unhoused neighbors currently living in tents and encampments in the La Posada vicinity. Importantly, support services will be provided on-site, enabling many of the residents to re-establish their lives and move on to more permanent housing in the future.

In addition to case management services, access to health care, legal services, nutrition, mental health services and transportation will be provided.

The village will have rules that the residents agree to follow that will ensure safety for both the residents and surrounding communities. Current encampments do not have any rules or restrictions and are viewed as public safety problems. Providing alternative interim housing for our neighbors addresses these problems.

I sincerely hope that the Board of Supervisors will approve the establishment of this project.

Laurel Tumbler

93108

**de la Guerra, Sheila**

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**From:** George Relles <grelles@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:30 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Please Support Dignity Moves La Posada Project

**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.**

Supervisors,

I'm writing in support of your approving the La Posada Project by approving the lease of County Property at the old Juvenile Hall - La Posada. Approval would be an important step in implementing your approved plan to address homelessness, especially the shortage of the County's shelter beds.

As you are well aware, hundreds of people living in encampments and on the streets are dying at rates higher than ever before. Increased interim housing the La Posada Project would provide would be a big step in providing interim housing to those living on the streets and encampments.

Please approve this lease and move forward swiftly with this project.

**de la Guerra, Sheila**

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**From:** Vicky Blum <blumvicky@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 12:20 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** David Lebell  
**Subject:** La Posada Project Lease

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 Board of Supervisors,

We are very concerned about the shortage of housing and shelter beds in SB County, and we're hoping that you'll implement the plan for 300 interim units at the old Juvenile Hall. It'll help people living in encampments in the unincorporated area get off the streets. Dignity Moves is providing an essential alternative to life on the streets that appeals to even the most vulnerable.

Homeless people are dying at a higher rate than ever before, and they urgently need shelter. We hope you will help them get inside as soon as possible by approving La Posada Project today.

Thanks,  
Vicky Blum and David Lebell

**de la Guerra, Sheila**

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**From:** Katie Davis <kdavis2468@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:16 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** 5/16 Agenda Item #8, DignityMoves project

**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 Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing to express support for approving the a lease of County Property at the old Juvenile Hall - La Posada.

This project will help implement the plan to address homelessness that you have already approved.

A key component of this plan is to provide interim housing for hundreds of people otherwise living on the streets and encampments. Dignity Moves is providing an alternative to life on the streets that appeals to even the most vulnerable and distrustful of government services.

Thank you for taking action to address the issue of homelessness in our community.

Regards,  
Katie Davis  
Goleta, CA

## de la Guerra, Sheila

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**From:** Eric Egolf <EEgolf@ciosolutions.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:29 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Re: Departmental Agenda, Planning Items and Public Hearings Item 8: Establishment of the DignityMoves La Posada LLC (DignityMoves) Project

**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 Board of Supervisors,

I am a neighbor that lives on Auhay Dr, about as close to your proposed La Posada project as possible. I have young children that play and go to school at Vieja Valley area. I SUPPORT the establishment of the La Posada Village, as I see this as a way to reduce the risk and dangers that encampments in our area pose. I appreciate the efforts of the County and DignityMoves to pursue this project.

This new village will provide safe and secure interim housing for our unhoused neighbors currently living in tents and encampments in the La Posada vicinity. Importantly, support services will be provided on-site, enabling many of the residents to re-establish their lives and move on to more permanent housing in the future. In addition to case management services, access to health care, legal services, nutrition, mental health services and transportation will be provided. The village will have rules that the residents agree to follow that will ensure safety for both the residents and surrounding communities. Current encampments do not have any rules or restrictions and are viewed as public safety problems. Providing alternative interim housing for our neighbors addresses these problems.

I sincerely hope that the Board of Supervisors will approve the establishment of this project.



**Eric Egolf**

CEO

o: 805.692.6700 x 1120

e: [eeegolf@ciosolutions.com](mailto:eeegolf@ciosolutions.com)

5425 Hollister Ave #150 | Santa Barbara, CA 93111



**de la Guerra, Sheila**

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**From:** BL Borovay <blbgr@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:32 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support the Lease and Agreement for La Posada Project

**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 Supervisors -

I'm writing to you about the May 16 agenda item regarding the ground lease and agreement for the La Posada Interim Housing Project. By approving the lease you have the ability to do something significant and urgent to move forward on your homelessness plan. We have all seen and wondered what can be done for the too many homeless individuals living and dying on the streets, under overpasses, in parks and encampments throughout our neighborhoods..

Fortunately, what can be done now by your Board is to take the first step toward the creation of 300 shelter beds for interim housing for those in need. Please vote yes to this project's lease and agreement to start changing hundreds of lives in the most positive and meaningful of ways.

Sincerely,

BL Borovay, Goleta resident

**de la Guerra, Sheila**

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**From:** Joe Fior <sjfior@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:38 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** La Posada Project

**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 Board of Supervisors:

Re: File Number: 23-00493

I would urge you to go ahead with and approve the Dignity Moves project at this site that aid in sheltering houseless persons,

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Joe Fior



[sjfior@gmail.com](mailto:sjfior@gmail.com)

805.451.1448

**There is no PLANet B**

**de la Guerra, Sheila**

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**From:** SUSAN CASE <susanhcase@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 3:27 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Public Hearing item 8. Dignity moves

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.

This program has been extremely successful. You undoubtedly know all the details but even more important the tiny homes have blended into the neighborhood with absolutely no issues. There was some initial concern but now the neighbors are perfectly happy having Dignity Moves in their community.

Please reassure the neighbors that they will eventually welcome this addition to their community.

Sincerely,

Susan Case

Sent from my iPad



## de la Guerra, Sheila

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**From:** Bridget Moore Bryden <bmbryden12@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 4:02 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** La Posada Project

**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 Supervisors;

This letter is in response to the Board Agenda letter regarding the La Posada Project. The Agenda letter states that the County of Santa Barbara and Dignity Moves "hosted other community outreach activities directed to neighbors in the surrounding community." There was one scheduled meeting for the public on May 8th for the La Posada project, which was confirmed by the County and Dignity Moves representatives. Another Microsoft Teams meeting occurred today, May 15th due to residents contacting Supervisor Capps with concerns. I was notified by a neighbor and invited myself to the meeting today. The lack of noticing to the community is unacceptable.

My husband and I found out about the May 8th meeting at 4 o'clock that afternoon from a neighbor that sent a picture of one of the door hangers. The lack of transparency is alarming and seems to be by design. I assumed that I had missed the media attention to it and county notification of the meeting, so I did an online search. There was one posting on NextDoor on April 28th, 2023 of the meeting, nothing on the Counties Facebook or Instagram (I do not have twitter). I'm still not sure what area of town it was posted to on NextDoor. I was told that 1000 door hangers were handed out, where? Surely, there is some tracking of the streets actually covered. In fact, there is hardly any mention of it anywhere. I googled La Posada Santa Barbara Homeless Shelter, and it doesn't come up, at least not by name. There was mention of it in the Dignity Moves website, and a posting from April 28th, 2023 titled "La Posada- Santa Maria homeless shelter" and vague references to "south county projects" came up.

On August 31, 2021, the County's Board of Supervisors approved an Encampment Resolution Strategy and Encampment Response Protocol, which leads one to believe that they were aware that a grant was going to become available. Grant availability was announced on October 29, 2021, the County passed resolution 21-01118 on December, 14, 2021 allowing the grant to be applied for, grant application was due December 31, 2021 and funds awarded February 24, 2022. I appreciate that the County went after the grant funding and it is being used here rather than elsewhere. It has been over a year since the grant was awarded and the first meeting was May 8th. At the May 8th meeting, no one mentioned that it was going before the planning commission on May 10th or that this project was scheduled to be approved by the Board of Supervisors on May 16th.

The meeting on May 8th seemed to be just checking a box for the entities involved to be able to say that they spoke with the community. There was a statement made that this was the first meeting and there wasn't an earlier meeting because they had nothing to bring us, as they pointed to the drawings. This same statement was made at the meeting of the Hollister Lofts. The time to have the first meeting was when the property was first being discussed as a possibility and get the community's concerns and input. Dignity Moves has other sites in the County and State that could be referred to, and shown pictures of, if needed. Staff members with the involved agencies did appear to take notes regarding safety concerns, traffic concerns, etc. There was also a lack of clear answers to some of the questions asked. For example, when asked if any other areas were considered for the La Posada Project, the answer was convoluted and mentioned projects in Lompoc, Santa Maria and the Calle Real Campus, but never answered if any other county owned property was looked at for this specific project and if was found not to be compatible, why? Another question asked was regarding residents leaving the property and their actions when off property. What systems will be in place to prevent residents with substance abuse issues from going to the liquor store or obtaining narcotics and using them off

property near the preschools, schools and residential neighborhoods? What are the crime statistics, calls for service for the Santa Barbara St. location? Not having an answer to these routine questions or being unwilling to answer the question clearly caused undue frustration. It is the lack of empathy for the concerns of the neighbors and only being notified in a meeting that not only is this project coming, it's done for all intents and purposes.

The fact that housing/shelters cause such an outcry is the exact reason why there should be noticing and multiple meetings about a project. The lack of public notification for this project is inexcusable. We first experienced this with the Hollister Loft Project. The County Housing Authority did the absolute bare minimum required by law to notify neighbors. Yes, there is the letter of the law on noticing, but there is also the spirit of the law. It's an opportunity to create a dialogue and not just be talked at by those involved in the project. The first meeting should be when a property is first identified or a grant can be applied for but has site specific requirements. Have someone actually write down the community's concerns and then come back with the drawings and state how the concerns were addressed. As you know, people want to feel seen and be heard. Having attended two of these meetings and listening to the frustration of neighbors after, there is an opportunity being missed.

My hope is that if you have the opportunity to create a project in your district that you would take into consideration the concerns of the neighbors and not just paint them with a NIMBY brush. Neighbors to these facilities are right to question how it will affect what they have worked so hard to achieve and their families. It would be irresponsible not to. This community, for the most part, realizes that we need to be a part of the solution. Acknowledging concerns and showing neighbors the empathy and the understanding that they are being asked to give can only be beneficial to all. It starts with effective and timely noticing.

Thank you for your time,

Bridget Bryden