

de la Guerra, Sheila

Public Comment-Group 3

#8

From: Landon Ranck <landon@sbact.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 8:49 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: kai@sbact.org
Subject: 5/16 Agenda Item #8: In Support of La Posada



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.

Good morning Chair Williams and members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Landon Ranck - I am the Associate Director for the Santa Barbara Alliance for Community Transformation (SB ACT), a nonprofit working to address homelessness and housing insecurity across Santa Barbara County.

I write today on behalf of SB ACT in full support of the proposed Dignity Moves La Posada site. As an agency that has worked closely with homeless outreach providers, I can assure you that few things are more appealing to individuals who are hesitant to leave their encampments than the offering of tranquil, caring, non-congregate shelter settings such as Dignity Moves affords. Everyone just wants dignity, and Dignity Moves provides a level of individualized care that has truly changed lives in downtown Santa Barbara and helped dozens of individuals transition from street-level homelessness to housing.

Additionally, we are well aware that between 40-60 individuals currently live at an encampment right near the proposed La Posada site. With the cleanups being enacted this month by both CalTrans and Union Pacific Railroad, we expect to see a continued shuffling of the individuals in or around this site. Dignity Moves La Posada is the best possible solution to quelling the fire hazard and public health concerns posed by this encampment. La Posada would provide a highly appealing alternative in a context that is already familiar and trusted by many of these individuals.

We strongly encourage you to vote in support of the proposed transitional housing development, and we want to express our gratitude to the County Board of Supervisors for your support for these projects to date. Let's keep the momentum going!

Landon Ranck
Operations Manager | SB ACT
landon@sbact.org | 805-259-4692 x105
www.sbact.org
Pronouns: He/Him/His

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: Cara Silva <cara.silva@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 8:51 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Support of La Posada, Dignity Moves 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.

Hello County of SB,

My name is Cara Silva. I am a resident of the County of Santa Barbara, and I want to share my support for the Dignity Moves La Posada LLC Project.

We need to prioritize funding affordable housing and provide more transitional housing for individuals experiencing homelessness. As written, this Dignity Moves Project has a lot of potential to help, but we need County Board of Supervisors' leadership.

We ask that County Board of Supervisors prioritize this project because:

1. It is an important step forward towards providing effective transitional housing while minimizing the impacts to the surrounding community.
2. Dignity Moves has a proven track record of providing effective transitional housing.
3. Dignity Moves cabins have proven hugely appealing to individuals experiencing homelessness and are highly effective for incentivizing individuals to exit encampments.
4. Opening a Dignity Moves project in this area would allow for a much safer alternative to the existing encampments at this site with far fewer impacts to the surrounding community.

Thank you for your time.

Cara Silva
822 W. Micheltorena St.
Santa Barbara, Ca 93101
Registered Voter and Resident of Santa Barbara County

--

Cara Silva, MPH | she/her

A goal without a plan is just a wish. ~ Antoine de Saint-Exupery, French writer

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: Robin Elander <robin@downtownsb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 9:15 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Dignity Moves Project Support

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Board of Supervisors,

Because I am unable to attend the county board of supervisors meeting today, I wanted to send a note of support for the proposed Dignity Moves Project on Hollister.

The Dignity Moves project in Downtown Santa Barbara, that started with community concerns has been nothing but positive. The space, facility and services have been thoughtfully managed by Good Samaritan in partnership with Dignity Moves resulting in impactful positive outcomes for those receiving services, including permanent housing, jobs, rehabilitation, recovery and reunification with family.

The neighborhood has also been well taken care of around the facility. Because people can live on the property there is no need to loiter in the surrounding area or neighborhood. Residents of Dignity Moves even pick up trash and in the neighborhood around the property and encourage good model behavior amongst those not yet living at the property.

There is only reason to vote yes, and continue building these dignified facilities as well as allocating funds for the diverse wrap around supportive services our community needs to support unhoused residents.

These combined elements are of upmost value and essential to support a thriving healthy, and economically vital community for all.

Thank you for your thoughtful work for our community. Your leadership is appreciated!

Robin Elander
Executive Director
Downtown Santa Barbara
805-216-1223 mobile

[https://urldefense.com/v3/_http://www.downtownsb.org_!!Ifs0MjmiJ0m0!vswHt5CjI2wu6xU9NBcMGCrPbvV7B_Txpzq29CBt83glUjMWfE84bvHQzwZfTb23DDpLu6zcbTXFyIQ2C5L\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_http://www.downtownsb.org_!!Ifs0MjmiJ0m0!vswHt5CjI2wu6xU9NBcMGCrPbvV7B_Txpzq29CBt83glUjMWfE84bvHQzwZfTb23DDpLu6zcbTXFyIQ2C5L$)

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: de Bruin, Adriana
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 10:06 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: FW: La Posada Project

Hi,

I believe that this is for you.

Adriana

-----Original Message-----

From: stephenwerickson@yahoo.com <stephenwerickson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 9:47 AM
To: Laura Capps <lcapps@countyofsb.org>
Cc: de Bruin, Adriana <adebruin@countyofsb.org>
Subject: Re: La Posada Project

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Dear Supervisor Capps,

I further object to the project on the basis that the notice, if any, provided to the public for this project was inadequate as a legal matter.

Additionally, having reviewed the agenda and other information regarding this project, I do not believe the agenda item related to this project for today's County Board of Supervisors meeting accurately represents the project or the determinations and findings that the county board of supervisors will need to make to approve this project.

Furthermore, I do not believe that the county can lawfully make the determinations and findings or direct staff to do any of the following:

"(f) Determine that the above-recommended actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to: CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(c); and finding that the actions consist of specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency; Government Code Section 8698.4, finding that the County has declared a shelter crisis and the action includes leasing of County-owned land for a homeless shelter and financial assistance; and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption on these bases."

The above quote is from the agenda item related to this project for today's County Board of Supervisors meeting.

Finally, I bring into question whether they were Ralph M. Brown Act violations relating to this project.

I have CCed County Counsel on this email.

Sincerely,
Stephen W. Erickson

> On May 16, 2023, at 8:43 AM, stephenwerickson@yahoo.com wrote:

> Dear Supervisor Capps,

>

> I am writing to convey my opposition to the proposed development at 4509 Hollister Avenue. This location is completely unsuitable for the purpose of housing up to 120 chronically homeless. Thousands of children use this area for recreational, educational and charitable activities. My children pass this way everyday on the way to school, they meet friends at Java Station to study, they have watched friends play baseball and they have played volleyball and basketball at the Page Center.

>

> It is not wise, kind or rational to expect these young kids and teens to have to circumnavigate individuals suffering from alcohol/drug abuse/ mental health problems. My daughter will not even go walk on State Street anymore because time and again she has had to go out of her way to avoid someone screaming obscenities, throwing things, lighting newspapers on fire, fighting with someone else, sprawled across the sidewalk or defecating. These are a few of the things she has witnessed. She gets extremely anxious and scared now. It is unfair to expect children to have to face this on a daily basis going to and from school. I realize there will be no alcohol or drugs allowed at the supervised site, but that does not mean those residents with addiction and mental health issues and the friends of the residents (with similar addiction and mental illness issues) won't go into the surrounding area to drink or use drugs. I am not implying there is an intent to harm children by these individuals but I am directly stating that harm has been done by choosing this location for the project and further harm will be done if the project is approved at this location.

>

> The alternative location at 4417 Calle Real is a much safer and rational choice because it is not in a corridor used by thousands of children. I am surprised that this project at the 4509 Hollister Avenue location was even considered. Please reject this development at this site.

>

> Sincerely,
> Stephen W. Erickson

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: de Bruin, Adriana
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 11:17 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: FW: La Posada Project

Hello,

This is for you.

Adriana

-----Original Message-----

From: stephenwerickson@yahoo.com <stephenwerickson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 10:46 AM
To: Laura Capps <lcapps@countyofsb.org>
Cc: de Bruin, Adriana <adebruin@countyofsb.org>
Subject: Re: La Posada Project

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Correction: the emails are in opposition to the proposed development at 4500 Hollister Avenue.

> On May 16, 2023, at 9:47 AM, stephenwerickson@yahoo.com wrote:

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