

**From:** Zeke Sandoval <ZekeS@ePath.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 30, 2021 4:01 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Public Comment: 8/31/21 Meeting, Departmental Agenda Item 3



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Good evening,

I'm reaching out on behalf of PATH (People Assisting The Homeless) to submit comment for tomorrow's meeting, in reference to Departmental Agenda Item 3, regarding the Proposed Homeless Encampment Resolution Strategy. We first want to thank the Supervisors as well as the Housing and Community Development Division for their hard work on this protocol.

Every day, PATH staff connect with Santa Barbarans experiencing homelessness, and provide interim housing and supportive services at our site on Cacique Street. We appreciate the strategy's emphasis on a compassionate and constructive approach that focuses on housing and outreach. We know that consistent and clear outreach is the most effective way to bring someone out of encampments and into housing for good.

To that end, we would suggest transitioning the role of the Sheriff's Office out of any non-emergency situation, and lengthening the minimum advance notice time to at least a week rather than 72 hours. For many people, a negative experience with law enforcement and a chaotic displacement erodes their trust in both government and providers, making it much harder to house them in the future.

Thank you, and we look forward to continuing our fruitful partnership with the county in these efforts.

**Zeke Sandoval (he/him)**  
Public Policy Manager  
W: 858-285-0236 | H: 310-754-9702



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