From: Heather Manzo
To: Alexis Philippi
Cc: Heather Ferris
Subject: FW: Public comment

Wednesday, August 17, 2022 2:53:57 PM

Late Material Public Comment (General) 08/18/2022

Hey Alexis,

Date:

This looks like a general public comment for tomorrow's Board meeting.

From: Robert Harris < rckharris@gmail.com> **Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 2:41 PM **To:** Heather Manzo < HManzo@carson.org>

Subject: Public comment

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Public comment

Robert Harris

This week I see on the news that Nevada is going to start rationing water. I watched the governor give a speech along with a few other politicians. How is Carson city talking about building and growing if we already don't have enough water for it's current residents? I don't understand why our water is already expensive and yet the board of supervisors thinks the residents will just pay more and be alright with it. The majority of this community is fixed income and we can not afford to pay more for any services.

Robert Harris (Me/Myself/I)

Late Material
Public Comment
Item # 17A (Andersen Ranch)

From: Heather Manzo 08/18/2022
To: Alexis Philippi

Subject: FW: 81533 Andersen Ranch Agenda Item for 8/18/22 Meeting Public Comment

Date: Monday, August 15, 2022 10:03:08 AM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

Good Morning Alexis,

Please incorporate the email below into the record for Item 17.A (SUB-2021-0361 – Andersen Ranch) on the Board of Supervisor agenda for the 18^{th} .

Thank you,

Heather Manzo

Associate Planner 108 E. Proctor Street Carson City, NV 89701 (775) 283-7075

hmanzo@carson.org



From: lisa harris <|_turtle@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 13, 2022 11:15 AM
To: Heather Manzo <HManzo@carson.org>

Subject: 81533 Andersen Ranch Agenda Item for 8/18/22 Meeting Public Comment

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Please enter my comments to public record for consideration.

Extensions of Sunset Way to Mountain Street. Mountain Street is an arterial street and the location is too close the intersection of Fleishmann and Mountain.

Lot sizes are inconsistent with the Master Plan designation R6, minimum lot size 6000 SQFT. Did the developer pay money to change the rules?

Site layout is inconsistent with neighboring properties and is exclusive, meaning only people that live in the new development will drive on the new streets and they will drive through existing streets without allowing the same access on their own. Layout should be consistent with the grid pattern that exists in the area so not to create unequitable and inaccessible areas for existing residents. All streets and infrastructure appear to be laid out like they are private. Unless the HOA is paying for the maintenance of facilities including streets, they layout must be more inclusive to the surrounding neighborhood.

Under Fiscal Impact: Report states no fiscal impact. How is this true? The City is giving the Developer a Residential Tax Credit? Applying this credit takes away funding for other taxpayer services. So taxpayers are now funding this development? That is a fiscal impact. I move to deny the motion to approve the residential tax credit. Basically the City is bribing the developer by offering this credit. Where are the credit's for resident's wishing to improve their own properties or develop a lot?

Condition of approval #3. This did not happen with the first phase. The incompetency of the contractors with regard to human health and dust control has been demonstrated many times. The entire lot was cleared and an inadequate number of water trucks is on site. Additionally, soil stabilization methods have failed on multiple occasions. Two instances where we experienced high wind May 2, 2022 and June 12, 2022 resulted in damages to my property and health, yet there are zero consequences. This is simply unacceptable and a failure. There are really no repercussions to the contractor or developer. Please include in this condition language to protect residents against further damages resulting from the contractor's negligence. Additionally, this COA makes no sense. The site is already entirely disturbed. Prior to approval, the site needs to be stabilized against all types of erosion.

Condition of approval #19. Please consider adding: Open space shall be usable and accessible. The use of sloped drainage features like ditches and basins for required hydraulic purposes shall not be considered open space. With the number of families that will move to this area, more neighborhood parks are needed, not just a little basin area labeled "open space".

This is one of the worst site plans I have seen in my life and the City should not be approving it.

Lisa Harris

To: Carson City Board of Supervisors

From: Jason and Melissa Kuchnicki

1500 Valencia Ct, Carson City, NV 89703

Subject: Andersen Ranch Estates planned unit development

Date: August 17, 2022

Dear Carson City Supervisors,

My wife and I have been Carson City residents since 2001. Our home is located along the northern boundary of the proposed Andersen Ranch Estates (ARE) planned unit development (PUD). Construction of the development has already impacted our quality of life. These impacts are temporary during construction, but the way the development is constructed has the potential to result in permanent impacts to quality of life and our property values. We have two primary concerns we hope you will consider and address in finalizing the subdivision map.

The first is regarding Condition of Approval #43, specifically the location of the muti-use path along the north property boundary. We request that language be added to this condition specifying that the path will be located along the southern edge of the buffer. The reason for this request is that our house, like many located along the northern perimeter, only has a ten foot setback. Locating the pathway on the other side of the buffer (to the south of the recently constructed stormwater conveyance channel) alleviates privacy and security concerns that can also deleteriously impact property values.

The second concern is related to Condition of Approval #47. We are pleased that northern perimeter homes will be limited to single story which we believe was intended to preserve skyline views of surrounding homes. However, building standards have changed through the years, with many single-story homes being constructed to heights as high (or higher) than older single story homes. We therefore request this condition be amended to incorporate a specific height limitation of 20 feet from grade to roofline. This will better enable the original intent of this condition to be met: to preserve views and property values of homes adjacent to the development.

Finally, we would like to make a plug regarding sustainable development. Carson City has been on the receiving end of some of the worst impacts of climate change from forest fire smoke. Twelve of the California's largest 20 fires have occurred within the past 5 years. The 2021 summer was horrific, with half the summer lost to unhealthy air quality. Addressing climate change needs to occur at the local level. We therefore would encourage the incorporation of a condition of approval requiring the developer build according to green building standards, possibly securing certification through the Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design Program (usbgc.org).

Thank you for hearing and considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Jason Kuchnicki
Melissa Kuchnicki

FIGURES

Top right and left: Our house, like many others on the northern perimeter, has only a 10' setback.

Bottom: Green line shows suggested location of multi-use path along northern perimeter. Locating the path directly along northern perimeter (shown as red line) raises security and privacy concerns, resulting in lowering of property values.





From: Matt Morgeson
To: Public Comment
Subject: Marijuana Stores

Friday, August 12, 2022 4:36:04 PM

Late Material Public Comment Items #17d & 17e (Dispensaries) 08/18/2022

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Supervisors,

Date:

I am writing to have my voice heard regarding the addition of marijuana stores in Carson City. I believe we should not have any marijuana stores in Carson City let alone any more than we already have. Let people that choose to smoke the drug go get it somewhere else. I don't want the crime and trouble those places bring in our city. I moved here because I thought Carson City was a nice places to live. It was a cut above the rest of Nevada. Let's keep it that way.

Matt Morgeson

From: sharon roach
To: Public Comment
Subject: Marijuana dispensaries

Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 4:36:48 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

I think this is total bull crap. Too many people are complaining about not having enough money for rent, utilities and food but yet where are they getting the money for all of this other marijuana crap. People need to get their priorities in order, marijuana is not one of them Sharon Roach

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

From: <u>Jarlath Hendee</u>
To: <u>Public Comment</u>
Subject: NO MORE Dispensaries!

Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 4:37:10 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

PLEASE NO MORE DISPENSARIES!!!!

There is plenty of options here, no need for more.

Thank you JS Hendee

From: Terri Domitrovich
To: Public Comment
Subject: No more dispensaries

Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 4:41:41 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

This is a public comment to Vehemently OPPOSE ANY MORE MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES IN CARSON CITY, NV.

Submitted With Respect , Theresa Domitrovich 2045 Hawthorne Court Carson City, NV. 89703 tochersd@gmail.com From: Robert Maynick
To: Public Comment
Subject: Dispensaries

Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 4:43:33 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

I would think that two dispensaries in a city/county of 55000 would be more than enough. This new proposed one is only about two minutes from the current south Carson City dispensary. Robert Maynick

 From:
 Dawn Dates

 To:
 Public Comment

 Subject:
 Additionally Dispensaries

Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 4:47:52 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

I do not believe Carson City should support the increase in Marijuana Dispensaries. For the population 3 to include Mound House is plenty. If there is a complaint about waiting they should try a line at one of the 8 pharmacies. Dawn Dates

From: Mary Griffith
To: Public Comment

Subject: Doubling the number of marijuana dispensaries

Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 5:12:54 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

As a avid voter and long term resident of Carson City I oppose doubling the number of marijuana dispensaries. Do we really need more people driving around under the influence of drugs in this town? Driving in town had become more and more dangerous. The sheriffs can't keep up with all the dangerous impaired drivers. You can talk about more tax money for Carson city with more dispensaries but what about the costs of sheriffs, court staff, mental health costs, etc. I say more dispensaries mean more impaired drivers. I don't want our town to turn into something like Parhump. Thank you for your time.

Mary Griffith.

From: Bob Jiron
To: Public Comment
Subject: Dispensaries

Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 6:17:25 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

I can not think of a reason there should be more dispensaries in Carson City. Are the current ones swamped with business. I can't believe they are. Let's keep it at the current number. Bob Jiron

From: Danny Couste
To: Public Comment
Subject: Marijuana stores

Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 6:34:12 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Concerned citizen.

My name is Danny Couste. I have been in this area since 1971. I own a construction company and am based in Carson City. I speak with other business owners in our community on a daily basis. The same conversation about not being able to find employees always comes up. I'm sure it is deeper than a none motivated, stoned work force. I don't think this small town needs more legal drugs. The product that these companies are allowed to sell is not the pot from 15 years ago. I think passing the law to allow more drugs will only make the issue worse.

So since marijuana was legalized in 2016 the morals of this city has gone down hill. The tax income from this business is huge but it only funds the state to govern it. The city was supposed to see that money and all I see is a diminishing work force, deteriorating streets, schools, increased property tax, water and sewer tax, I'm sure income tax is on Sisolaks mind.

Anyways someone is getting rich from drugs and that is wrong!

Please consider making the city work with only 2 marijuana stores before adding 2 more. Pot is good for government but bad for business.

Get back on track and make are community great again.

Thanks for your time.

Do your job!

Danny Couste

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

From: <u>Mary DeFelice</u>
To: <u>Public Comment</u>

Subject: Pot

Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 6:41:37 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

No more pot dispensaries! What r u folks thinking! Would more dispensaries add to Carson City's quality of life?!? NO!

Mary DeFelice, 40+ year resident!

From: <u>Tracy Turner</u>
To: <u>Public Comment</u>
Subject: More dispensary

Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 6:43:04 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Hi,

If we have already legalized cannabis dispensaries, I don't see a problem having more. I am ok with it. Tracy Turner

 From:
 Mark Paloolian

 To:
 Public Comment

 Subject:
 Additional "Pot" stores.....

Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 7:39:24 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

CC Supervisors:

Please reconsider any plan to approve additional pot/CBD dispensaries in Carson City. I this trend continues, we will soon have as many dispensaries as car washes.

Sincerely, Mark.....
Sent from my iPhone

From: Michelle Kelly
To: Public Comment

Subject: No need for additional dispensaries in Carson City

Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 8:28:46 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Please make note that my public comment regarding additional marijuana/cannabis dispensaries in Carson City is that the number we have is sufficient. Let's keep the facilities limited here in Carson City.

Thank you for noting my public comment: NO on more dispensaries! M. Kelly

From: Catherine Cuccaro
To: Public Comment
Subject: Marijuana dispensaries

Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 10:36:10 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

I am 100 percent for adding more Marijuana dispensaries in Carson City. I don't use it. But I'm for it. Let's not waste tax payer dollars prohibiting something that hurts no one.

Catherine Cuccaro

From: Sharon Burnett
To: Public Comment
Subject: More drug outlets

Date: Saturday, August 13, 2022 9:48:35 AM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

I am a registered voter as well as my husband and we do not support more of these stores in our community. We are long time residents and property owners. Thank you.

Sharon Burnett Sent from my iPhone From: jennifer amrhein
To: Public Comment
Subject: No more marijuana

Date: Saturday, August 13, 2022 11:45:09 AM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Think we have way more than enough marijuana establishments in Carson City! Let's have more stores that cater to local an tourist trade. Also time to have discussions on these long stay shabby motels. You don't see them lining the streets in Minden.

We have too much invested in Carson City to let the drugs and homeless dictate how the rest of us live. Jennifer Amrhein Sent from my iPhone From: Joan Tiearney
To: Public Comment
Subject: Cannibis dispensaries

Date: Saturday, August 13, 2022 1:39:04 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

I cannot make it to the Board of supervisors meeting but I Vote NO on any more Marijuana Dispensaries in Carson City. We have way too many as it is. We don't need to subject our young kids to any more drugs.

Joan Tiearney Sent from my iPhone From: Catherine Cuccaro
To: Public Comment
Subject: Marijuana dispensaries

Date: Saturday, August 13, 2022 3:24:51 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

I am 100 percent for adding more

Marijuana dispensaries in Carson City.

If the location is zoned for a business, we should be encouraging businesses that have predominantly happy employees and happy customers. Like flower shops and garden nurseries, marijuana dispensaries tend to have both happy employees and happy customers.

And more dispensaries, means more money (in taxes) coming in to help pay for our city's needs.

The more dispensaries, the more Carson City benefits.

Respectfully,

Catherine Cuccaro

Carson City Resident

From: akaspuds@charter.net
To: Public Comment
Subject: New Cannabis Locations

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022 6:52:11 AM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

BOS

I am against allowing additional retail locations to sell cannabis. I do not think it offers any type of improvement to Carson City. I hope this is not the direction the Board is going to take us in. Please reject this idea to add more locations.

Glenn Conant Carson City Resident From: <u>Tasha Couste</u>
To: <u>Public Comment</u>

Subject: August 18th Board of Supervisors Meeting items 17D and 17E

 Date:
 Sunday, August 14, 2022 1:42:17 PM

 Attachments:
 EBC3EEED8C0C433EA5D8101E2DAC0A32.pnq

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

08/13/22

Dear Carson City Board of Supervisors,

Please add my letter to the record under public comments in relation to the August 18th, 2022, meeting regarding agenda items 17d and 17e.

Carson City is still considered rural Nevada and there is a reason why our residents have chosen to live in this small city instead of Las Vegas or Reno. When marijuana was legalized, more than half of Carson City voters, voted No on Ballot Question No. 2. In fact, most rural counties had majority votes against the legalization of marijuana. The passage of the law was largely due to big city numbers coming out of Clark County and Washoe County.

NRS 453D.210(5)(e) was proposed by an initiative petition that was approved by the voters in the 2016 General Election which provided that the Department of Taxation (the issuing state agency) would not approve an application for a marijuana license establishment if the locality affirmed that the location is in violation of zoning or land use rules adopted by the locality. This statute was not subject to legislative amendment or repeal until after November 22, 2019. The statute itself afforded many localities additional protection against the State issuing these coveted and very expensive licenses to special interest companies that desired to set up shop in opposing rural locations.

Unfortunately, the NRS that helped to protect localities from State preemption was repealed and replaced in 2019. The new NRS removed the localities' ability to object to proposed licensing applications based on existing zoning or land use rules established by the locality. As a result, the State can issue licenses for marijuana dispensaries in localities where the citizens and their representatives object to the existence of marijuana dispensaries.

The marijuana industry itself is well funded and riddled with lawsuits against governing agencies that are expensive and time consuming for local authorities to address. In the case of Qualcan, LLC (the company seeking to change our rules), the license they are in possession of was issued to Nevada Organic Remedies (The Source) during the time that NRS 453D.210e was in place. The very fact that a 3rd license existed prior to the

changed law is questionable as our existing municipal codes only allow for 2 dispensaries to operate in Carson City. The transfer of the third license to Qualcan LLC was a result of a lawsuit settlement against the State of Nevada Department of Taxation. The lawsuit was expensive for our taxpayers, lasted two years, and had to be moved to the Las Vegas Convention Center due to the size of the participants involved to allow for social distancing during the pandemic. This is a <u>perfect</u> example of the type of legal battles that Nevada faces in relation to regulation of the marijuana industry itself. Even a quick Google search reveals many lawsuits that are occurring all over the State of Nevada related to marijuana industries suing state and local governments for opposing them.

The State's ability to destabilize county interests in both Carson City and other rural counties is concerning. Even with the law in place, the State disregarded Carson City's established municipal codes by issuing the original third license. Our local governments do not have the manpower or allocated tax revenue to effectively fight well-funded marijuana lawyers or campaign efforts that work against the citizens in our rural communities. Our citizens will likely be up against this company that intertwines itself with local lobbyists, uses public relations campaigns, and well-paid lawyers; all working to lobby against our existing laws.

Please work with our citizens that oppose the additional dispensaries that do not have the time or money to go up against well-funded special interest companies like Qualcan, LLC. Send a message that Carson City will not be bullied by Clark and Washoe County interests or State preemptions that work against our local values.

Keep the cap in place on the number of dispensaries allowed in Carson City and vote No on items 17D and 17E on the August 18th, 2022, agenda. Do not make it easier for these companies to push their unwanted agendas into our communities.

Voters approved Question 2 — Legalize Marijuana — in Nevada on Tuesday. The initiative calls for legalizing the recreational use of one ounce or less of marijuana by adults 21 and over. Medical marijuana was legalized in Nevada in 2000.



Vote by county Yes No

| Clark | 424,425 | 328,629 |
|-------------|---------|---------|
| Washoe | 111,249 | 95,308 |
| Douglas | 11,702 | 15,766 |
| Carson City | 11,965 | 12,741 |
| Lyon | 10,920 | 12,531 |
| Nye | 9,738 | 9,558 |
| Elko | 8,545 | 9,841 |
| Churchill | 4,358 | 6,499 |
| Humboldt | 2,811 | 3,552 |
| White Pine | 1,598 | 2,132 |
| Storey | 1,299 | 1,220 |
| Lander | 951 | 1,442 |
| Lincoln | 695 | 1,420 |
| Mineral | 922 | 1,061 |
| Pershing | 773 | 1,185 |
| Eureka | 314 | 535 |
| Esmeralda | 198 | 224 |
| | | |

Respectfully,

Tasha Couste Carson City Resident

Sent from Mail for Windows

From: Fallyn Couste
To: Public Comment

Subject: Additional Marijuana Dispensaries

Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022 3:42:47 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Board of Supervisors,

Please keep the Las Vegas standards concerning marijuana out of Carson City. Vote no on increasing the number of dispensaries in town, allowing for curb side pickup, and removing the requirement that retail is co located with medical dispensaries. Two dispensaries are enough for our small city and curb side pickup for marijuana does not send a good message our kids. The medical uses for marijuana are the only arguments that are good. Keep the medical requirement in place.

Also, please add my comments to the other public comments, my previous comments on the July meeting were not attached to the history.

Sincerely,

Fallyn Couste

Carson City Born, Raised, and Current Resident

From: Gladyce Jesse
To: Public Comment
Subject: Marijuana stores

Date: Monday, August 15, 2022 1:11:41 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

I am against any further Marijuana stores in Carson City. It is a known fact that this drug with prolonged use can cause mental illness such as cognitive decline and paranoia and psychosis. Also, we do not have enough medical doctors who are trained in prescribing this drug for patients. So most of the purchasers would be people who use it for their own personal enjoyment. It's use is a terrible path for our young people.

Thank you, Gladyce Jesse Carson City Resident 775-720-1471

From: Neil Crowley

To: Public Comment

Subject: Marijuana stores in Carson City

Date: Monday, August 15, 2022 2:32:10 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

The following is an extract from an article in the Royal College of Psychiatrists publication RC PSYCH:

How does cannabis affect mental health?

There is lots of different research into the affects that cannabis can have on mental health.

Some research has shown that young people who use cannabis have an increased risk of psychosis. How strong the cannabis is you use, and how often you use it, can increase the risk of developing psychosis.

Using cannabis can also increase the risk of other mental health problems like depression and suicidal feelings.

Research suggests that people who are already at risk of developing mental health problems might be at an increased risk of showing symptoms if they use cannabis regularly. There is also evidence that if you already have a mental health problem cannabis can, in some cases, make these problems worse.

The younger you are when you start using cannabis, the more at risk of these problems you are. This is because your brain is still developing and can be more easily damaged by the chemicals in cannabis.

Stopping using cannabis can help reduce symptoms of mental health problems such as depression and psychosis. However, some people may need additional support for their mental health problems and help to stop using cannabis safely.

The entire article can be seen at

Cannabis and mental health - for young people | Royal College of Psychiatrists (rcpsych.ac.uk)

Every day we read in the paper where people, particularly young people, commit the worst crimes imaginable. We have gone past the point of not being surprised by mass school shootings.

Here, we have documented research that shows a connection between cannabis and psychosis. Why would we want to make access to such a drug <u>easier</u> for the young people of Carson City? I think there is ample evidence that we not only don't need any more marijuana stores in our city, but we can and should do away with the ones we already have. Please vote NO on any additional dispensaries.

We owe it to our young citizens.

Respectfully,

Neil Crowley 1773 Fair Way Carson City, NV 89701 From: Laurie Whitehead
To: Public Comment
Subject: Cannabis

Date: Monday, August 15, 2022 4:50:47 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

No we do not need more stores. Laurie Whitehead

From: Kathy Floyd

To: Public Comment

Subject: Additional Cannabis Locations

Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2022 10:33:41 AM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Since I cannot be at the meeting in person, I wanted to submit a statement for the meeting. Please do not allow any additional cannabis locations in Carson City! Our city is having enough trouble with crime and drug use, we do not need to make it more prevalent by adding additional cannabis locations. This city needs legitimate, viable businesses, not additional cannabis locations. It's disheartening to even be thinking about this.

As for the individual that is requesting these new locations in Carson City, he needs to be told he missed his opportunity. He should have opened one of the two locations himself when the opportunity arose originally. Just because he claims to be a Nevada based business, and is trying to wave money in the city's face and claiming he'll reinvest back into the community, shouldn't be a reason to violate the muni code and open Carson City up to more drugs. We all know these promises are empty and never happen. Tell him to take his business back to Las Vegas and stay there. By the way, I think its interesting that the website for his company, qualcan.com, doesn't even come up.

We don't need any more of this garbage in Carson City. Concentrate instead on bringing legitimate business such as retail stores and restaurants into town. These stores should never have happened in the first place.

Thank you,

Kathy Floyd

From: mdsherlock@charter.net
To: Public Comment

Subject: Marijuana stores Agenda item 17E

Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2022 11:12:18 AM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Dear Supervisors,

Please accept this email as my public comments on agenda item 17E (Thursday August 18). As a long time Carson City resident, with many family members here, I would like to ask what benefit to the community, to the public, to crime reduction, to impaired driving would the addition of more marijuana stores have? Obviously, none. Though I have certain expertise in this area, you do not have to be an expert to understand the issues. Nearly every study has shown the serious consequences of prolific marijuana sales. Even the City of San Francisco sued to allow the reduction and removal of marijuana stores. Frankly the last thing my children need to see here is more opportunity to purchase marijuana. And if it is about money, the ethics are even more clear. You would exchange the reduction in safety and family oriented culture for money? Clearly unethical. But even more, I would find it hard to believe none of you have read the extensive studies from Colorado and Washington. These studies have concluded that the perceived financial benefit is false, the cost of regulation, criminal enforcement, loss of productivity, increase in health care needs all cost the community far more than any revenue gained.

I hope the supervisors place value in our family oriented community. Adding marijuana stores does absolutely nothing to advance the family culture and in fact is the exact opposite. If Carson City loses its perception as family friendly, they will lose far more than any revenue derived from the addition of more marijuana stores regardless of whether the "company" is based in Nevada or not.

For our families, for our kids, for those of us hard working residence, do what is right. We do not need a single additional marijuana distribution location or business. My family and hard working friends and co workers are watching this issue and hope yu vote for a better Carson City, not more marijuana.

Thank for your time,

Mike Sherlock South Carson City resident From: Fawn Lamb
To: Public Comment

Cc: Fawn Lamb; James Lamb

Subject: Marijuana store License increase, Special use permit for location at 5100 S Carson St.

Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2022 10:01:32 AM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

8/17/22

Carson City Board of Supervisors

James & Fawn Lamb 640 W Roland St Carson City, Nv. 89703

RE: Additional Licenses for Marijuana Dispensaries in Carson City and Special Use Permit for 5100 S Carson St.

Dear Sirs/Madam,

We are writing today on a few topics:

- 1. Additional Medical/Recreational Dispensaries in Carson City.
- 2. Special Use Permit for 5100 S Carson St.
- 3. Drive Thru Dispensaries

First, we respectfully request you to DENY any additional licenses for Medical/Recreation Marijuana Dispensaries in Carson City.

We do not believe there is a sufficient demand for additional Dispensaries in our area. Currently there are 12 locations in the area within 40 miles. Most of them are well UNDER 40 miles. I have driven by many of them & have NOT seen large crowds of people waiting for services.

The following is a list of Dispensaries in our area:

- 1. Sierra Well
 2765 US 50 E Ste A
 Carson City, NV
 89701
- Rise Recreational Dispensary Carson City
 Clearview Dr. Ste 119
 Carson City, NV
 89701
- 3. Sol Cannabis 275 Old US 395 New Washoe City, NV 89704

The other 9 Locations are:

Dispensary NV
NuLeaf Lake Tahoe Dispensary
REEF Dispensaries (2 Locations)
Mynt Cannabis Marketplace
Silver State Relief
Sierra Well
Thrive Cannabis Marketplace
The Source & Reno Dispensary

We Love Carson City & have lived & worked here for well over 25 years.

One of the reasons that we Love Carson City is because it has always had a "small town" feeling.

I am very sad to say that we are losing that feeling.

The growth in our area has been Staggering!

We are NOT Las Vegas NOR are we California.

PLEASE, do NOT go down that path.

The quality of life in our beloved area is going downhill.

PLEASE, apply the brakes......

Now, I understand that some growth is a good thing.

But we strongly believe that we need to pull the reins in on this growth, especially for new Dispensaries.

We also request that the Special Use Permit, for 5100 S Carson St, to open a 4000 sq foot Marijuana Dispensary, Bar & Restaurant be DENIED as well.

Not only is it way to close to our residential area, that combination of business, in that location is a DISASTER just waiting to happen.

I have personally witnessed some very bad auto accidents at the intersection of Hwy 50 & 580.

Adding alcohol & marijuana to the mix is bound to increase the number & severity of auto accidents as well as the risk of Lawsuits.

I have read the restrictions that state that no consumption of Marijuana is allowed on the property.

Do you really think that is going to stop the consumption?

If they are asked to leave, they will just drive-up W Roland St. to get high & check out the view.

That puts them right in front of our home as well as our neighbors.

That, then brings the involvement of our local Sheriff's Department.

Doesn't our Sheriff have enough to deal with now?

The potential for conflict with Trespassers is increased exponentially.

We have had NO Control over the mass numbers of people moving into our community, good or bad.

I will tell you for a fact that there has been a large increase of "Unsavory" people who are hanging around our city.

PLEASE, DO NOT give them a reason to come closer to our homes!

And finally, we respectfully request that you DO NOT ALLOW DRIVE THRU SALES OF MARIJUANA. This concept has been tried with Alcohol with a very bad outcome.

Thank you for your time. I hope our opinions on this matter make sense to you & you vote NO on all the above issues.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at the following numbers.

Jim Lamb 775-671-2771

Fawn Lamb 775-721-1425

Respectfully,

James Lamb Fawn Lamb Carson City Board of Supervisors August 18, 2022 meeting Public Comment by Maxine Bradshaw on Agenda Items 17d and 17e.

I am requesting that this letter be placed on the record in it's entirety.

In the 2016 election a majority vote of 'NO' by Carson City voters was verified against the Question of marijuana dispensaries in Nevada. Most of the rural counties voted the same way. The two largest counties, Washoe and Clark supported this Question. To uphold the individual counties decision, NRS 453D.210(5)(e) was established to protect the citizens. Shockingly, this law was overturned by Qualcan LLC and other special interest groups with an endless supply of money and lawyers, ending the people's protection on November 22, 2019.

Carson City is still considered a rural community in so many respects. But sadly there is a growing number of it's people who are forced into fighting to keep it that way. Qualcan LLC represents Las Vegas. They do not, nor should they ever represent Carson City in any way. They are not the voice of the people of this town who live and work and raise their families here. No law should ever be twisted or created for any reason to satisfy the will of special interest groups. Especially when their ultimate goal is their love of money having dominion over the rights of the citizens of the community that they are infringing upon.

I am among those who voted against ANY marijuana dispensaries in Nevada and yet we ended up with two, regardless of the 2016 majority vote, due to the repeal of NRS 453d.210 (5)(e). The fact that this action conflicted with the unconsolidated municipality of Carson City's existing zoning/land use codes is also unconscionable. The marijuana industry has resulted in 11 lawsuits filed by Cannabis businesses in Nevada against state and local governments. Who is paying for these lawsuits? WE ARE! Once again the majority voice of the people has been suppressed. Based on my comments presented, I strongly urge the Board to vote 'No' on agenda items 17d and 17e. Thank you.

/s/ Maxine Bradshaw

From: Mariann Humphrey
To: Public Comment
Subject: Fwd: Dispensary

Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2022 3:00:01 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mariann Humphrey <paintedcreations@att.net>

Date: August 17, 2022 at 1:54:56 PM PDT

Subject: Dispensary

My name is MariannHumphrey....I am a resident of Carson City and Carson City County.

I oppose putting any Marijuana Stores/Dispensories in this city at any cost. We have two in the city which is plentiful to meet the needs of our population. We also have two others in a very short distance one in Mound House off Hiway 50 and the other in Washoe Valley. We currently have a limit on just having two in the city and the planning commission denied Qualcom LLC to put in a dispenser in Carson city. We will become a gateway for people coming from Lake Tahoe to buy, smoke, etc it causes health/brain issues, check out what Dr. Daniel Amen has to say. We live in Carson because we don't want to live in Reno or Las Vegas which allows this. The people don't want this, and you will be destroying our quality of life in which is why we live here. Remember by the people for the people and of the people.....you work for us not the other way around we can vote you out next election. Don't let Sisalak ruin Carson City!!!

Sent from my iPad

From: Jeff Denton To: **Public Comment**

Subject: COMMENT ON ITEM 22D & 26 Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:02:35 PM Date:

Late Material Public Comment Item # 22d & 26A (Homeless)

08/18/2022

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Planning Commission,

Item 22D and 26: Homeless buildings and minipods.

INstead of catering to the homeless because of staff shortages in the prisons. Hire more Staff!

My family and I do not want to see these shelter pods and this agenda to evaluate and train them to become good citizens is a Farce. The Majority of them have a drug use problem. Those with mental illness can already be treated. You say there is no impact, I strongly disagree, once you move them in they will be loitering at local businesses and eateries and I will stop using those vendors because of this.

Once you take them in you will only by default invite more in and then they will be an eyesore to our community. Use some common sense and vote NO on these issues

Does Carson City have the tax base to handle homelessness alone when There are "open borders" between Storey, Lyon, Douglas and Carson. Even if you have the tax base this is not a priority for our city, repaying some of the streets would be a good start.

None of these Counties have homeless shelters and MiniPods. I strongly urge to vote NO



Jeff Denton 775-691-1857

From: Charlotte Stewart
To: Public Comment
Subject: Agenda item 26.A

Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2022 4:28:43 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Hi my name is Charlotte Stewart and I would like my comment to be on record. I think more research needs to be done before spending this money on temporary or housing for homeless. We need more affordable housing here also housing that accepts dogs, it's very hard for families and elderly to remain in their homes and more people are homeless now then I have ever saw.

That being said, what has happened in Washoe should be a lesson we don't need more homeless coming here because they think they can stay, drink do drugs etc. There needs to be be oversight not rules that are based on capacity that get broken. The mess in Washoe, San Francisco, Seattle should not be encouraged here. How will the city get funding to maintain these facilities once the initial funds run out? What can be done to make sure we aren't signing up for another money pit? What kind of safe guards will be put in place to ensure violence won't happen? Has any thought been put into how to make sure long term housing will be available? Has anyone thought about giving the money to FISH because they have more experience at helping homeless?

Thank you, Charlotte Stewart From: Mariann Humphrey
To: Public Comment

Subject: Fwd: Public comment -Board of Supervisors **Date:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 2:45:15 PM

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

Date: August 17, 2022 at 2:36:27 PM PDT

Subject: Public comment

Mariann Humphrey.....Resident of Carson City... I am very much opposed to putting in homeless pods, leasing buildings, etc. Have you not followed, San Francisco, Seattle, Oakland, Reno, so many cities...they are all failures. I resent using tax payer money for this...at least it should be voted on by the people. They will get Medicare, psychological help, etc, which is already strained with all the illegals. The moneys you're getting, the tax payers are still paying for it. FISH is building a housing project to help people get back on their feet, which is fantastic it is a wonderful organization. We will get a migration of homeless from who knows where. You are on a path of destroying this beautiful city. Crime will increase. We have seen it everywhere already when the government tries to step in. Please let the people vote on this too big of an issue for 6 or 7 people to decide the fate of the city.. Remember by the people for the people of the people.....You work for us, we shouldn't have to suffer for your hasty decisions. Just remember we can vote you out in the next elections.

In Room Distributed material 8/18/2022

To:

The Carson City Board

Date: August 17, 2022

From: Marinka Willig RE:

Agenda Item No: 22.D / Strategic Goal of: Quality of Life

Submitted by Nicki Aaker, Health & Human Services Director and

Mary Jane Ostrander, Human Services Division Manager

An (American Rescue Plan Act, passed by the Feds, post COVID), ARPA, of which approximately \$1.1million was given to Carson City, and is being reserved by the CC Board of Supervisors for allocation to non-profit organizations. The money was for recovery from the Government having shut down the state because of COVID.

The Board of Health's Request for this money

Background/Issues & Analysis

- 1. Committee has been working on the housing plan since Dec 2021. Takes into consideration "individuals transitioning off the streets" ~
 - Question 1: Are these folks who have lost their housing because of The Shut Down? Hence, loss of jobs?
 - Question 2: Why are they not immediately prepared to "meet the criteria required" to live in permanent housing? Where were they living prior to and during the state shut-down?
- 2. What is "intensive case management"? Is this for 1 month, 2 months, a year, their lifetime? "with barriers and challenges to independent living" How did The Shut Down cause this barrier/challenge? What are the "barriers/challenges"? Are you saying they were not living independently prior to COVID shut down? People who suffered mentally due to the shut-down, job loss, home loss, because of the COVID shut down, DO deserve assistance! 100%!

It is my understanding this money is for recovery from COVID Government Shut Down of the State.

"This housing Plan will be funded by ARPA funds if the Board of Supervisors formally recognize that unsheltered individuals and emergency housing are a critical issue in Carson City."

Carson City Housing Plan Aug 18, 2022

As of February 24, 2022, there were 69 "Unsheltered Individuals"

Question: Were these "unsheltered individuals" unsheltered because of The COVID Shutdown? Hence, loss of job & unable to pay rent.

Housing Committee Formed to Address Unsheltered Individuals

Were these committees formed because of COVID Shut Down?

Along with: Homeless Advocates

Housing Developers

Individuals who have experienced homelessness (from the shut-down and have

recovered?)

Multi-Unit housing owners ~ (what was their input? That they can help? How?)

Goal / Street Outreach Program – Phase One / Survive / Potential Street Outreach Team / Housing Priorities - Phase Two / Stabilize / Group Living - Short Term Housing / Modular Shelter / Stabilize Modular Shelter / Phase Three: Thrive

Recommendation From Board of Health

Proposed recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to recognize that both unsheltered individuals and emergency housing are critical issues in Carson City and that the American Rescue Plan Act funding be awarded for programs that support unsheltered individuals and emergency housing, as well as the Carson City Plan (Housing Plan).

Comment: I do not read this as a "COVID Government Shut Down of the State" <u>Emergency</u>. We have existing funding for the issues of existing homeless/unsheltered/mentally ill folk. They are already receiving the services needed for them.

The ARPA funding is strictly for those seriously affected by the shutting down of businesses, causing these folks to lose their jobs! These are the folks this money is intended for. I would appreciate the Integrity of staying focused on these folks, as they have lost a huge part of their once normal lives, which was impeded upon by this government, and of which they most certainly did not deserve it! These are the people we need to bat for! These are the folks the Emergency Fund is intended for.

I am not saying that those who were in a tough spot prior to COVID should be ignored, but they are <u>already</u> receiving the services we have available for them! Now, if you need more funding for this issue, then a separate request needs to be submitted to the board.

I appreciate you wanting to work with the Housing Developers, I have already noticed a LOT of housing being built all around Carson City, as well as Reno. It scares me, because this happened in CA, they built housing like there was no tomorrow, and we were constantly being told to "watch our water usage" and some people were being punished for "using too much water" while they continued to build new structures requiring hook ups! CA has had a drought and water shortage for years, yet they continued to build structures requiring water hook ups! Now they have a problem with Power, the government turns their power off and on at his whim. Will he do this with water usage as well?

We are in a recession, so whether or not the current houses being built will be sold in a timely manner is a gamble. This had happened in CA as well, building like there was no tomorrow, then the crash, and home sales dropped. It took CA years to recover from that.

As well, In Carson City, I see too many empty structures that need businesses to move into them. We could create jobs for our homeless, by having them revamp these buildings and properties, make them look great for businesses to want to move into. There is so much we can do here that is productive, rather than constantly looking for money, which is increasingly coming in short supply.

As you were also discussing building modular housing (page 8) this requires covering more land with structures. Land is beautiful! Please don't look at covering more land with concrete!

Attached, is a list of lots of existing housing (apartments) available for rent, that we could assist the homeless with getting into, without having to BUILD MORE. There are also LOTS of "help wanted" in many businesses. We should utilize existing structures for whatever our needs rather than slapping on the concrete on every bare piece of land. Plus, new structures require water and power hookups, garbage pick-ups, increased mail. For some strange reason, these are the details government fails to address until it becomes a problem. This part of Nevada is beautiful because of the beautiful landscapes! Let's not turn into CA. and cover every inch of land with concrete.

Last but not least (per attached), I wish to share our experiences in CA. with the homeless/ shelterless folks who, because of poor decisions made for them, ended up being such a disgrace and danger to the communities. Why don't we look for ways to make the "homeless" a positive part of society, help 'build' them up instead of....what they have done in CA? We can do better!

Thank you for your time,

Marinka Willig 5 Yorktown Dr. Carson City, NV 89703 775-301-6840

August 17, 2022

Apartments for Rent in Carson City NV | Apartments.com / Carson Catalina Apartments 1-3 Beds, \$1,350 - 1,850 Villa at Dolphin Bay Apartments Studio - 3 Beds, \$1,450 - 2,675 Griffin House 1-3 Beds, \$1,195 - 1,680 Tanglewood Village 2-3 Beds, \$1,470 - 1,792 The Chaparral Apartments 1-2 Beds, \$1,095 - 1,495 Royal Apartments 1-2 Beds, \$1,095 - 1,399 Nearby Home Carson City Apartments for Rent

https://www.apartmentlist.com > nv > carson-city / 20 Best Apartments In Carson City, NV (with pictures)! / 4 days ago Check out / 243 verified apartments for rent in Carson City, NV. Some apartments for rent in Carson City might offer rent specials. Look out for the rent special icon! 1 of 1 1 Unit Available 1765 Camille Dr 1765 Camille Drive, Carson City, NV 89706

https://www.zillow.com > carson-city-nv > apartments / Apartments For Rent in Carson City NV | Zillow / Carson City NV Apartments For Rent 4 results Sort by: Default Royal Vista, 3230 Imperial Way #0, Carson City, NV 89706 \$1,095/mo 1 bd 1 ba 595 sqft - Apartment for rent 5 days ago 3347 S Carson St #3, Carson City, NV 89701 \$1,550/mo 2 bds 1 ba 720 sqft

Apartments for Rent In Carson City, NV - 28 Rentals Available | Zumper Create Alert Apts for Rent in Carson City, NV \$1,972+ 1 - 2 Beds • 1 - 2 Baths 12h ago Parkway Terraces (775) 420-3094 Carson City Apartment for Rent • Available May 7 + Balcony + Hardwood Floor + Furnished + Central Heat + Ceiling Fan + 15 more Request a tour

https://hotpads.com > carson-city-nv > apartments-for-rent / Carson City, NV Apartments for Rent - 78 rentals | HotPads / Check with your local Carson City utilities for estimates. How many Apartments are available now in Carson City, NV? There are currently 78 apartments for rent on the Zillow platform in Carson City, which fluctuated 5.59% over the past 30-days.

https://www.rent.com > nevada > carson-city-apartments / Apartments For Rent in Carson City, NV - 190 Apartments Rentals | Rent.com® / 4 days ago 603 College Pkwy, Carson City, NV, 89706 1-3 Beds • 1-2 Baths 2 Units Available Details ã 1 Bed, 1 Bath \$1,811-\$2,300 808+ Sqft 1 Floor Plan 2 Beds, 2 Baths \$2,003-\$2,433 920-1,054 Sqft 2 Floor Plans 3 Beds, 2 Baths Contact for Price 1,223+ Sqft 1 Floor Plan Top Amenities Washer & Dry

https://www.apartmentlist.com > nv > carson-city > c > apartments-for-rent-with-garage

198 Apartments for rent in Carson City, NV with Garages / Find top apartments for rent
with garages in Carson City, NV! Apartment List's personalized search, up-to-date prices, and
photos make your apartment search easy. Start your Carson City apartment search!
Select how many bedrooms you want. S. Studio. 1. 1 Bed.

https://www.superpages.com > carson-city-nv > apartments-available / Apartments Available in Carson City, NV | superpages.com / Find 1422 listings related to Apartments Available in Carson City on YP.com. See reviews, photos, directions, phone numbers and more for Apartments Available locations in Carson City, NV.

https://www.apartments.com > 1848-alpine-st-carson-city-nv > hwyjse2 1848 Alpine St, Carson City, NV 89703 - apartments.com / See all available apartments for rent at 1848 Alpine St in Carson City, NV. 1848 Alpine St has rental units starting at \$2600. Map. Menu. Add a Property ... Renters insurance required.

https://www.zumper.com > apartments-for-rent > carson-city-nv > 1-beds

1 Bedroom Apartments for Rent in Carson City, NV - Zumper / 1 Bed • 1 Bath. 1d ago. 1600

Airport Road. 1600 Airport Rd, Carson City, NV 89701. Carson City. 1 Beds Apartment for Rent

• Available Aug 22.

Some Background ~ experiences of the Homeless Population in CA.

I wish to share some background of our experiences with the "Homeless." When you create a "Homeless System," people will perpetually fill it up...to a point the shelter becomes overwhelmed because people will perpetually come to collect the available services. Word, amazingly, DOES get around. Guaranteed.

Because the shelters became overwhelmed, people chose to camp out along San Lorenzo River, San Lorenzo Park, along the Railroad tracks, along Hwy 1. At the freeway off/on ramps. The parks became dangerous places because of the mentally ill and drug users. So they became off limits for the taxpaying citizens & their families.

What public bathrooms we did have, had to be removed because they became not only dangerous places, but were abused/destroyed as well! Some tried to utilize the bathrooms in coffee shops & restaurants, and that became a problem.

The homeless population began using the backsides of stores in the business district, to defecate and urinate. Store owners became upset having to step over feces in order to open up their stores. It perpetually smelled very bad.

Panhandlers became aggressive. I've seen panhandlers on Topsy Lane, but noticed they were eventually removed. That was a relief! People who hand out money, just don't get it that they are actually encouraging the behavior, not helping. Obviously, some people don't look beyond that one handout. Although each city has services, some homeless do not go there because they do not like rules or are anti-social.

In the mtns right outside of NW Santa Cruz, it got so bad that Santa Cruz had to hire extra park rangers, just to clear out an approximate 2-acre area that was infiltrated with trash, mattresses, belongings. They cleared it out (chopped down trees) and to this day, are continuing to clear this area out. Nearby, under the train bridge, same thing. Perpetual trash and drug paraphernalia. All this, just in the visible areas. The mtns/woods do go deeper.

There are people who advocate for the homeless population. The homeless population became so large it is difficult to decipher the real homeless vs the perpetual homelessness (i.e., homelessness being one's lifestyle choice.) The homeless advocates would disrupt Board meetings and it became difficult to conduct productive board meetings.

The infamous Salz Tannery (a historic area taxpayers hoped to keep as historic) was turned into an "Artsy Community" where only Artsy, low income could live (hmmm...just another liberal move of dividing the people). A 7- year- old girl-was raped and murdered in this apt complex, by an 11-year-old boy. She was found in a trash bin in the parking area downstairs. The parents of both kids were away at work. Hmmmm....not doing any art at home, supervising the kids?

CA does not believe in following the direction of existing laws for criminal or mental health, to *keep society safe*. Mentally ill people and criminal people, who have shown themselves to be a danger to themselves or others, are not safe to have wandering around society! This is most frustrating for the taxpayers. CA has a higher regard for allowing indigent people roam around freely, than to allow taxpayers to live freely and in safety.

Incidentally, Santa Cruz was the only city who allowed children to go to school without an address. Everything to embrace the homeless lifestyle, rather than the safety and freedoms of the taxpaying citizens.

The bottom line I am trying to share is, when you build a homeless shelter, it only invites more people whose *chosen lifestyle* is living freely, 'homeless', without rules. And word does get around and they will come to get the services to support their lifestyle. It continues to happen in A,

In room distributed material 8/28/2022

The homeless, an emergency physician's perspective

By Dr. Richard Hencke / 04/29/18

At the end of December, I retired from the Dominican emergency room in my 44th year of emergency medicine. I had previously worked in San Jose, mostly in the trauma centers. This problem has been mine for over 45 years. We take care of the homeless, and often have nothing other than ER care to offer them. But, who are they?

When we ask, "Where are you from," it seems they are usually from out of town. I'm sure the out of towners are overrepresented, as being new, they are unfamiliar with Emeline Clinic, the excellent Homeless Peoples' Health Service, and other local resources. However, the nonlocal seem to arrive in great number, and usually have substance abuse and/or psychiatric issues.

Our homeless people seem to roughly divide into three groups: the mentally ill, the unfortunate and the voluntarily homeless. The first group is disabled. Cast out onto the streets about 30 years ago, these folks are truly disabled and can't be expected to do well on their own. Since one symptom of a mental illness is not realizing you have one, people often do not take their medication and/or self medicate with substance abuse. These people need housing, case management and a basic income.

The second group is the unfortunate. These have poor job skills and education, and are not the thieves that are currently running amok in Santa Cruz. These are often the locals who some of our local leaders seem to feel represent the majority of the homeless. In my opinion and that of most of my ER colleagues, this is the smallest of the three groups, but are a good prospect for housing, job retraining and social assistance.

It is a sad fact that Santa Cruz has a reputation for lax enforcement of laws, especially those regarding property crimes, and to a lesser degree personal violence. Word gets out. There are many people who like to live off the efforts of others, and steal from them to support their lifestyle, invariably involving substance abuse and crime. These are the voluntarily homeless people. When some of our local homeless people are repeatedly arrested for theft, and released repeatedly with no significant consequences, more individuals of the same ilk are encouraged to come share in our bounty. This is one way we let our problem get out of control. We can't change the fact that our weather is better than that in Fresno or New York, but we don't have to encourage their criminals to move to Santa Cruz County.

My son lives in the Morrissey neighborhood. He and his neighbors have been victimized by multiple thefts and damage to their property. He and others are considering moving out of town. Do we want our employed tax paying citizens run out of town by thieves who seem to steal with total impunity?

This group needs to be dealt with by strict enforcement of applicable laws. If word gets out that crime, even petty crime, does not pay here, those who wish to live that way will no longer come expecting to live that lifestyle. That will leave the neglected psychiatric patients and the truly unfortunate. Since social assistance dollars are quite limited, providing this assistance is a zero sum game. That means every dollar we spend supporting thieves is a dollar we cannot spend housing and helping those who deserve it

most. Taking money needed for helpless mentally ill people and giving it to thieves is morally reprehensible on the most basic level.