

## Key, Lori

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**From:** Kristi Troyna <k[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 2:59 PM  
**To:** ClerkoftheBoard  
**Cc:** Steve Gaggero; Matthew Earley; BGF-Mark  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Agenda Item 41

Re: Agenda Item 41 - Second Public Hearing Regarding Adoption of an Ordinance Restricting Parking and Establishing a Safe Parking Permit Program Applicable to Portions of North Ventura Avenue, Crooked Palm Road, Canada Larga Road and Casitas Vista Road; and Find Adoption of Ordinance Categorically Exempt from California Environmental Quality Act

Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

Thank you for the work you have put into finding ways to mitigate the RV colony situation on Ventura Avenue near Casitas Vista. The current state of affairs is unsightly and unsanitary. Of more concern is the safety for those both living alongside a busy roadway and for those who encounter them, considering some are mentally unwell, have addiction issues and there is at least one known violent sex offender among them.

Many of the steps you are taking to gain some control over the situation are good ones and have obviously been well thought out. However, as someone who drives that stretch of road daily, I have concerns about your proposed plan being implemented at the current location.

First, allowing people to live on a public right-of-way adjacent to a county road is not a safe solution. Many times I have nearly hit individuals or their pets because they suddenly appeared in the road from behind their RVs. I have also, on multiple occasions, had them pull out onto the road in front of me suddenly in one of their vehicles without looking. I drive slowly along that stretch of road because I am aware of the situation, but it is only a matter of time before someone not aware of the number of people and pets (not to mention roadside livestock), may be driving too quickly and has an accident with one of the roadside residents.

It is also not safe for trail users to be subjected to the trash, debris, human waste, erratic behaviors, etc., caused by this RV colony. There are considerable risks to trail users due to the mental health issues, addictions and known violent sexual behaviors of some of the residents. My family used to be frequent users of the Ojai Valley Trail, but I have encountered drug paraphernalia along that strip of trail and we no longer use that section of the trail at all. I will not allow my teenage son to ride his bike through that section of trail due to concerns about whom he might encounter in the area, which limits his ability to use the trail for transportation.

The RV colony has also been environmentally detrimental to the area. The excessive trash is everywhere. The residents make a giant trash pile, then simply move their living quarters and leave the trash behind. No doubt human waste is also being dumped in the area, and adjacent to or possibly in the Ventura River.

A major concern regarding your proposed plan is the fact that if the residents of the RV colony cannot or will not comply with the steps outlined for permitted parking, they will simply move to adjacent streets outside of your proposed map and enforcement, impacting other areas. There have been some RVs that have attempted to stake a parking spot on Canada Larga Road, which is completely unsuitable for roadside camping. Those of us at Canada Larga Ranch are very concerned. The road is not even wide enough to have two lanes, and the open shoulder of the road is necessary to allow safe passage, especially when there are large vehicles. There have been multiple collisions on the road as it is, due to the narrowness and tight corners. If the shoulders of the road are occupied, it eliminates the options to avoid a collision with another vehicle.

I would like to suggest that the Board consider a more permanent and appropriate solution to RV parking. There are several parking lots within the County that can accommodate your proposed RV parking program. Two options nearby are the Ventura County Fairgrounds and the State Beach parking, which largely remains empty the majority of the year. A location such as this can allow a contained, safe space to implement programs such as this.

I would also like the Board to consider that in addition to implementing a plan such as this, the County also adopt an enforcement plan to keep RVs from accumulating on streets outside of the plan. Included should be parking restrictions, signage installed and enforcement in areas where RV camping becomes a problem.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the above.

Kristi Troyna