

Martinez, Mia

From: steve <steve@pcmlc.com>
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2020 4:34 PM
To: ClerkoftheBoard
Subject: North Ventura Avenue Area Parking Ordinance

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

We just found out late Friday night about the proposed North Ventura Avenue Area Parking Ordinance (Ordinance”) to make portions of Ventura Ave. and Cooked Palm a Homeless RV park. While we understand the need for Homeless RV parking and agree that some kind of permit process is appropriate, Ventura Avenue and the surrounding area is a woefully inappropriate location. **This is an extremely high fire risk area.** The Santa Ana winds are upon us and will continue until January. Have you forgotten where the Thomas fire started and how quickly it spread to this excat location, and where it went from there? How many months it took to put it out. How about the deaths and injuries, the hundreds of millions of dollars of damage, the wildlife and wildlife habitat destruction. It is indisputable many of the people living out of their vans and RVs smoke. They also get intoxicated. One cigarette, joint, crack pipe, BBQ, spark or other incendiary device in the surrounding dry brush and there will be another Thomas fire, you can count on it. **And make no mistake, this time it will be the fault of the Supervisors of the County of Ventura that voted for this inappropriate use, in this high fire risk location, not Southern California Edison.**

There are many alternatives in the County of Ventura for Homeless RV Parking. Several State Beaches, several County Beach parking lots, the large homeless shelter by the Ventura and Channel Islands Harbor, and of course the Ventura Fair Grounds. All far more appropriate and all capable of accommodating outreach service centers, job postings boards, drug counselor office trailers, and sanitary facilities.

There is no way this proposed Ordinance on the subject location is CEQA compliant. Trying to disguise the authorization of this use in this location as “protection of the environment” is a thinly veiled attempt to pass something that would never withstand appropriate legal scrutiny. Think for a moment what any developer would have to do before you would grant RV Park permits near the Ventura River and the brush laden hillsides. You would require months if not years of studies of the risks and impacts, and mitigation measures far beyond what the ordinance proposes.

The map and Ordinance are silent about surrounding neighborhood streets and Canada Larga Road from the 0.194 mile marker East. The overflow of RVs will be funneled down those streets that are not addressed on the map. Many are so narrow with sharp curves RV parking on the shoulders will surely cause head-on collisions.

This Ordinance is a public threat, it endangers human life, wildlife, the environment and the very Homeless people it attempts to accommodate. We urge you to refuse to pass the Ordinance, find a more suitable location, and install no overnight parking signs on the Avenue, Crooked Palm, Canada Larga Road and all the surrounding neighborhood streets before a tragedy far beyond where to park an RV occurs.

Respectfully,

Steve Gaggero
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PO Box 25070
Ventura, CA 93002

cc: Ferguson, Case, Orr, Paterson LLP