

Public Comments

Item 6 – Emergency Shelter Ordinance

Written Comments Received By 12pm on 11/27/2023



November 27, 2023

City Council Meeting

From: Suzanne Moore [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 27, 2023 12:51 PM
To: _City Council; Murdock, Christian; Public Comment
Subject: RE: Public hearing item #6 - emergency shelter zoning

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Thank you, City Staff and Planning Commission, for providing guidance on required zoning for emergency shelters. This zoning is required by law and can benefit neighbors in our community in need of emergency resources for shelter.

This is obviously a difficult topic because previous commissions and councils have not addressed it. We have been negligent in our procrastination - many Pacificans were displaced from their homes because these services were unavailable. It is truly important at this time to recall that over half of our homeless were previously housed in Pacifica and were priced out of their homes; that many of our unhoused are veterans, seniors, and the disabled; that the economic downturn of COVID has put the most stress on the lowest paid and those on fixed income; and evictions City and Countywide have increased.

Pacifica has been divided in its approach to reducing displacement in our community. Our Safe Parking Program demonstrates how our division results in some members of the community breaking the law and harassing and vandalizing property of participants in the program. To successfully help our neighbors, we need to address our prejudice of poverty.

I want us all to look beyond our fears and protection of our immediate space - and envision a Pacifica without homelessness, with housing at all levels of affordability, and in an environment that protects our fragile ecosystem. I believe this is possible, but an important pathway there is interim and supportive housing: interim or temporary housing until permanent housing is available, supportive housing for those unable to live independently.

I am not sure if C-2 districts in the Coastal Zone should necessarily be excluded from consideration. There may be spaces especially appropriate for temporary or interim shelters. City and government owned properties could be leased until coastal situations make their use unviable.

I am interested in listening further to my neighbors. Thank you.

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Suzanne Moore

Home [REDACTED]

Cell [REDACTED]

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