

Public Comments

Agenda Item #A – Study Session



August 9, 2021
City Council Meeting

From: Scott Anthony [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 9, 2021 5:32 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: For Public Comments For Council Meeting August 9, 2021

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear Council Members,

The following was originally sent to the Council on Saturday afternoon, August 7, 2021 but I am resending it to make sure it is included in the record. Thank you.

RE: City Council Outdoor Dining and Entertainment Emergency Order

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I am writing this email to you in support of A Grape In The Fog and all the others helped by the July 2020 City Of Pacifica Emergency Order allowing outdoor dining and entertainment, an order that is due to expire in December 2021.

As a brief introduction, I am a 73-year-old 15-year-resident of Pacifica and an independent musician with over 50 years experience performing as both a soloist and a member of various small-combo jazz bands (old-time, classic jazz), including eight years as the intermission performer for the Turk Murphy Jazz Band at the historic Earthquake McGoon's in San Francisco.

The pandemic has caused an almost 18-month complete cessation of work for musicians like me due to venue closings, weekend festival cancellations, weddings postponed or cancelled, and much more. As one small example, my cancelled work — just in Pacifica — includes (and still includes):

- Almost monthly solo and duo performances at A Grape In The Fog
- Monthly band (Bay Area All-Stars with Pat Yankee) appearances at Nick's
- A number of scheduled performances at the Pacifica Brewery
- At least monthly date playing at the Wednesday Pacifica Farmers' Market (and Saturday Half Moon Bay Farmers' Market)
- plus more that I cannot recall offhand.

Obviously, these cancellations also severely affected many other occupations including venue owners and management, waitstaff, chefs and cooks, suppliers, etc. The July 2020 Emergency Order by the City Of Pacifica to allow outdoor dining and live music absolutely saved A Grape In The Fog as well as many other Pacifica venues from disaster and the ability of these venues to provide live music attracted additional customers to help pull them away from the brink.

A Grape in the Fog is located in the Rockaway Beach redevelopment district which was specifically designed for visitor-serving businesses. Not only has outdoor dining helped them pivot in order to survive, I and my musician friends and colleagues have been a huge draw for locals and visitors alike. Please renew the Emergency Order and

allow all the parties involved with these venues to survive.

As a final note, please consider removing the ban on all music amplification from the Emergency Order. It is virtually impossible to perform music outdoors without some amplification. This includes singing or playing certain instruments like electronic keyboards, non-acoustic guitars (or acoustic guitars for that matter) without a microphone or plugging into an amplifier. Amplification volume can easily be limited to reasonable levels by the venue to avoid complaints.

Thank you for your consideration of these points. I hope that the City will appreciate and support bringing back our vibrant music scene and take the opportunity to create a vibrant dining scene!!!

Scott Anthony
[REDACTED]



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Public Comments

Oral Comments



August 9, 2021
City Council Meeting

From: Shauna Pickett-Gordon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, August 9, 2021 7:21 PM
To: Public Comment
Cc: Shauna Pickett-Gordon
Subject: My comment on Safe Parking in Pacifica
Attachments: 210809 PacificaCCMtg - My statement on Safe Parking.pdf

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear Pacifica City Council,

Here is my comment for this evening's meeting.

Thank you,
Shauna Pickett-Gordon

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My own statement about SAFE PARKING

To the PACIFICA CITY COUNCIL MEETING

8/9/21

Thanks for this time for public comments.

I'm Shauna Pickett-Gordon, I've lived in Montara for 31 years, and I'm a member of Faith in Action Bay Area.

The shortage of affordable housing affects the entire Bay area including all of the Coastsides. Even those of us who are comfortably and securely housed depend on the essential work of others who have been heavily burdened by this horrible pandemic. Many breadwinners have been sick, have died or have been incapacitated, have lost jobs, and have sold all they have to stay housed. Businesses have closed, variants have arisen, and we are not out of the woods yet.

Some good remedies have begun here on the Coastsides. The city of Half Moon Bay started its first full-time residential center, with professional oversight, case management, and wrap-around services to help homeless Coastsiders transition back to steady work, housing, and normal life. That's a ray of hope.

The Pacifica City Council have offered a ray of hope to people who lost their homes and have been living in vehicles: you've posted street maps and a fact sheet so they can find legal parking. That's a great start! Safe Parking programs have been shown to help people stabilize their lives and find permanent housing. Homelessness can make you crazy! In the interest of sanity, I sincerely hope that Pacifica will build on this ray of hope and use County Project Homekey funds to develop a Safe Parking program.

Everybody will be better off when those who are struggling to live safe have a way back up.

Thank you.