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County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

**BOS meeting 7.27.21 Consent Calendar items 5, 6 and 7**

2 messages

Sarah Saunders <cmyst123@gmail.com>

To: County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

**LATE DISTRIBUTION**

Mon, Jul 26, 2021 at 11:56 AM

**DATE**

7/26/2021

BUS 7/27/2021

Please forward to the BOS, thank you:

It has come to my attention that these items may be requested to be pulled. All of them are related, but my observations are based on Placerville. To my knowledge, the owner of the Best Western Stagecoach Inn is not objecting to the use of the motel for housing the unhoused. It is obvious when one drives along Placerville Dr past Jacquier Rd. that the unhoused exist in large number in Placerville. I have also personally interacted with unhoused people in Georgetown, and I can only assume that South Lake Tahoe also has a significant unhoused population.

There is government funding available to use for this purpose, both state and federal. Whether one supports the use of their taxes for such is beside the point, as it has been designated and set aside for this and if we do not avail ourselves of it, when facing an obvious need, that is not good leadership or management of the situation. Many of us donate volunteer hours, money, food, clothing and hygiene items monthly in addition to the taxes we pay, and we know that this is not adequate to meet the situation locally.

When society begins to fray and homelessness, drug abuse, mental health crisis and other symptoms of a lack of social safety nets and civic responsibility increase, who are we to expect to deal with these issues if not the people that we have put into power? We can't make the unhoused disappear by ignoring them or by refusing to consider them as human beings, or by blaming them for their condition no matter the evidence that for many their attempts to deal with a harsh reality by numbing themselves to it with drugs or alcohol was their response. The less resources a person has, the more they will turn to the cheapest and easiest way possible to deal with their problems, which can seem insurmountable. As a society, we have a moral and ethical obligation to care for those who for whatever reason are unable to care for themselves. We have to at LEAST attempt to do this, whether people accept this assistance or not. To object to this is frankly incredibly puzzling to me, coming from people who often proclaim their Christian faith to be a foundation for their own emotional well-being and sense of community.

The unhoused population seems to me to represent "the least of those among us". They have the least voice, the least resources, the least will to continue to strive in a society that only gives voice to those with power and money. Most people want to do what is ethical and beneficial for themselves and for their community. Sometimes, they do not see that what benefits "the least of those among us" also benefits ALL of us, in reducing disease, crime, eyesores and trash. Please vote Yes on all of these agenda items.

Respectfully,  
**Sarah Saunders**

El Dorado Progressives Co-Chair  
Central Sierra Foothills DSA Co-Chair  
El Dorado County Democratic Central Committee SD04  
DSCC delegate, El Dorado County

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**County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board** <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Mon, Jul 26, 2021 at 12:05 PM

To: The BOSONE <bosone@edcgov.us>, The BOSTWO <bostwo@edcgov.us>, The BOSTHREE <bosthree@edcgov.us>, The BOSFOUR <bosfour@edcgov.us>, The BOSFIVE <bosfive@edcgov.us>, Sue Hennike <sue.hennike@edcgov.us>, Laura Schwartz <laura.schwartz@edcgov.us>, Don Semon <don.semon@edcgov.us>, Traci Stilwell <traci.stilwell@edcgov.us>

Fyi

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