



Public Comment #28
County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>
BOS Recd. 1-3-21

Re: Item 28 at the Jan.4 mtg EDC BOS

you guy <gregmckinneysq@aol.com>
Reply-To: you guy <gregmckinneysq@aol.com>
To: County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Thu, Dec 30, 2021 at 4:30 PM

To all EDC BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,

I strongly stand opposed to the County purchasing buildings and/or using the hotels in El Dorado County-particularly those in Cameron Park (Quality Inn) and Pollock Pines (Best Western)-for Project Homekey.

I am in favor of Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant.

El Dorado Co. has been using the Quality Inn in Cameron Park for the last several year under Project Roomkey, placing felons and HHSA mental patients in rooms close to businesses frequented by families and their children.

Business leaders, owners, much of the citizenry of Cameron Park, myself included feel that it is inappropriate that this hotel is used for this purpose.

I would like this email placed into the record if possible. Thank you for your time.
Sent from the all new AOL app for Android



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

RE: Item 28

Gail Schabert <gschabert1974@hotmail.com>
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>
Cc: "ccocpfounder@gmail.com" <ccocpfounder@gmail.com>

Thu, Dec 30, 2021 at 10:31 PM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board:

I am writing to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western Hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I vehemently oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures, specifically in Cameron Park. Such action(s) are not for the greater good nor do they benefit to the residents of Cameron Park.

Sincerely,

Gail Schabert
3232 Granada Drive
Cameron Park
(530) 677-2198



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

1/4/22 BOS Meeting Item 28. 22-0075

Dawn Wolfson <dewolfson@aol.com>

Thu, Dec 30, 2021 at 10:54 PM

Reply-To: Dawn Wolfson <dewolfson@aol.com>

To: "bosone@edcgov.us" <bosone@edcgov.us>, "bostwo@edcgov.us" <bostwo@edcgov.us>, "bosthree@edcgov.us" <bosthree@edcgov.us>, "bosfive@edcgov.us" <bosfive@edcgov.us>, "bosfour@edcgov.us" <bosfour@edcgov.us>, "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

All,

I understand the Board is considering dropping the purchase of the Best Western in Pollock Pines due to community opposition. While I understand the concerns of the community up there, this is a really bad time to be considering offering fewer services when we need more. I certainly agree that Pollock Pines shouldn't be singled out and that all communities need to do their part to help alleviate homelessness in our county, but ending this program without an alternative is not the answer. Turning Project Roomkey into Project Homekey is just a start, but we need to start somewhere and then expand, not eliminate, this program that has such a great success rate.

Complaints that this is the only Hotel in Pollock Pines, that this program causes crime and that there are no services there are not valid. There is another hotel there, complaints about crime are exaggerated and transportation to and from services is available.

The necessary parts to run this program are already in place. All it needs is your vote to authorize purchase of the property and to get Volunteers of America started running the program.

Please, please, please do not kick this one piece of the solution to the homeless problem any further down the road. That would not be a solution, but a step backwards.

Think of Pastor Gainsborough and his words every single meeting. These are our neighbors and our children who need our help.

Thank you,

Dawn Wolfson
Cameron Park



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

Item 28, 1/4/2022

Kim Eggen <kmeggen@comcast.net>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Thu, Dec 30, 2021 at 11:30 PM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

I have been a citizen of Cameron Park for over 30 years and have seen the steady decline of our small community. Bringing in projects like this will further diminish the beauty we all moved here to enjoy and raise our families in. Let's look for projects that will improve our surroundings and provide resources for all residents.

Thank you for considering my request.
Kim Eggen



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

Item 28.

bill@billwoodruff.com <bill@billwoodruff.com>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us
Cc: bosone@edcgov.us

Fri, Dec 31, 2021 at 11:33 AM

Kim,

This item is concerning. We are all a few bad breaks from experiencing homelessness. We need to be exploring ways to provide a helping hand, not ways to stiff-arm these folks, hoping they'll go away.

Please continue w/ the Project Roomkey, and look for ways to support our vulnerable populations.

Thanks, Bill

Bill Woodruff

EDH



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

1/4/22 BOS meeting, item 28, File #22-0075

Diane Rabinowitz <drabino1951@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: Diane Rabinowitz <drabino1951@yahoo.com>
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Fri, Dec 31, 2021 at 11:38 AM

Dear Clerk,

Please send this email to all Supervisors and Don Ashton CAO and Don Semon, DHHS. Thank you!

Dear Supervisors:

I am sorry to hear about Supervisor Novasel recommending the Board consider directing staff to discontinue the pursuit of the Homekey Round 2 NOFA application for the purchase of the Best Western Inn in Pollock Pines.

In the past year I have been volunteering at The Upper Room, have become a member of EDOK, and have been serving on the Program committee at Housing El Dorado. In all this time, I've heard only positive reports about the refuge that the Best Western has been providing to our most vulnerable homeless population on the western slope. At the Upper Room, and while transporting our guests to our Placerville winter lodging sites, I find the guests courteous, cooperative, willing to help, even though they are unfortunately dirty and hungry.

South Lake Tahoe purchased three hotels to house the homeless population on the eastern slope. But we don't have a glut of hotels to choose from. The one hotel that was suggested was found to be an untenable solution, while Volunteers of America is already in place to continue the work at the Best Western in Pollock Pines.

I am grateful that we (Housing El Dorado and the Interfaith Collaborative) have been able to provide winter shelter for about 20 individuals in addition to what Project Roomkey has been able to do. Imagine letting sick, old, and vulnerable individuals die because there are some people who don't want to deal with housing the homeless. Our intention is not just to house the homeless, but to provide supports for them to get back on their feet and live a life of dignity in a housed, employed situation. Any additional delays by the county, caused by citizens who can't find their Christian heart of compassion, are unacceptable. Please deny Supervisor Novasel's recommendation.

Thank you.

Best regards and happy New Year!

Diane Rabinowitz

310 404 5252

***** "Inspiration comes to us slowly and quietly... Prime it with a little solitude."



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

RE: Item 28

Kathleen Mathias <kaleenmath@gmail.com>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Fri, Dec 31, 2021 at 11:53 AM

Supervisors and Clerk of the board

I am writing to demonstrate my support for Supervisors Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western Hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures, specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank You for considering my request.

Kathleen Mathias
3075 Cedarhurst Court
Cameron Park



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

1/4/2022 BOS meeting, Item 28

John Garon <jcpagaron@gmail.com>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sat, Jan 1, 2022 at 1:00 PM

We have war on drugs, war on terrorists, war on opioids, war on cancer, war on mental disorders, the list of 'wars' is long. This country loves wars, so why doesn't the BOS act boldly and declare "War on Houselessness". "Home" is not a place, but an abstraction. Using "House" instead of home makes more sense. Unlike other wars, there is no money to be made by private corporations fighting 'houselessness', so the BOS will have to be creative to find funding, although it seems to me that tying houselessness to drug use would be a no-brainer, thereby allowing the BOS to re-program widely available funds from other 'wars' to help people in need. If you need imagination, call me.

John Garon
3860 Wilson Loop, P'ville.
Sue Novasel's district



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

1-4-22 BOS meeting, Item 28

Esther West <banded156@comcast.net>
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Sat, Jan 1, 2022 at 2:41 PM

I'm not sure that I'm agreeing with the whole idea. Why wouldn't that old motel way up on Broadway be a better location? It may be run down, (however, this past week people stopped and stayed there because of 50 being closed). Why couldn't the homeless be the ones to work on the motel while staying there? Then they would have work to do and feel useful and be closer to somewhere that they could find a job. If the homeless are placed up in Pollock Pines, what are they going to do all day, every day? What incentive do they have to try to better themselves?

Please forward my email to all Supervisors and Don Ashton CA, and Don Semon, DHHS.

Thank you for your consideration,

Esther West
Cameron Park, CA 95682



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

1/4/22 BOS meeting, item 28

Judi Angell <jangell@earthlink.net>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sat, Jan 1, 2022 at 3:29 PM

Hello Clerk of the Board (Kim).

Please send my email, which addresses 1/4/22 BOS meeting, item 28, to all Supervisors and Don Ashton CAO and Don Semon, DHHS.

Hello County Leaders!

The issue of your agenda item 28 is nested in several contexts important to keep in mind for making the right decision; I will describe the contexts with selected evidence and concerns.

1. What the current program does and who it is for.

- a. The State provided funding for Project Home Key to enable local governments to meet their public health and safety responsibilities towards their residents most vulnerable to serious illness from Covid. Program participants are seniors, some of whom would be described as frail, persons with disabilities and/or serious health conditions making them more vulnerable to serious health consequences if they get exposed to Covid.
- b. Since last century, the waiting list for subsidized senior and/or disability accessible housing on the western slope has been at least two years. Qualifying for the waiting list requires appropriate documents, that may need to be replaced if you have become unhoused (CA ID or drivers license, birth certificate, social security card) which has been taking longer with Covid.
- c. Getting Social Security income, for either retirement or disability, also requires those documents. A health episode or injury is among the more common reasons for loss of people's housing, and it often takes more than a year, or even two or more years, to become approved for benefits.
- d. During the 1990s the Upper Room began finding the majority they served meals towards the end of the month were seniors; by the turn of the century that was true for most nights as their social security benefits did not keep pace with the increased housing costs on the western slope.
- e. Project Room Key delivers food from the Upper Room and most other needed services to participants at the Best Western in Pollock Pines.
- f. Pony Express is a bus route, so participants have public transportation options for the few services, like specialized medical appointments for their serious health conditions, not brought to the motel for them.
- g. Program staff's goals are to place these vulnerable people into safe, accessible permanent housing, which includes facilitating and navigating all the challenges mentioned above.
- h. The Project Home Key homeless group has daily access to bathing and laundry so would not fit many people's stereotypical views of the homeless, which could often fit those who have been camping in the forests or alone in the Pollock Pines area that has been known as common since last century.
- i. How many program participants have been placed in housing (a measure of program success) should be a consideration for this decision.

If the proposal to buy the motel continues, the current vulnerable participants will continue to have their health and safety protected by the County when currently CDC identifies El Dorado County having more community Covid spread than most CA counties currently; the agenda item apparently would put them back on the streets in the middle of winter and a Covid surge. I am horrified a supervisor would recommend something so inhumane and antithetical to responsibilities for the health and safety of all residents.

2. The County's past decisions related to housing and jobs are responsible for much of the current homelessness problem.

a. For many decades, development of housing was seen as our primary economic development vehicle, often independent of jobs creation or needs. In the 1960s, El Dorado Hills was marketed as a retirement community. Cameron Park was marketed as a Bay Area commuter community. Much of our population growth since has been retirees moving here for more affordable housing, from the Bay Area, Sacramento, and Southern California especially. And we also got those who commuted to Sacramento for the jobs that paid well enough to afford our housing costs that kept increasing. By the mid-1980s development had been approved on virtually everything between Hwy 50 and Green Valley Road.

b. By the 1990s construction had stopped being a localized industry with most contractor and subcontractor bids being from out of county and sometimes from other states, which also meant not familiar with building codes. The jobs were mostly not filled by residents and/or were short term.

c. Also by the 1990s, residents became vocal about the lack of enforcement on developers of the portions of approvals related to paying for added demands on roads and schools of their projects. Affordable housing requirements may not have been met and/or not been accessible to public transportation and/or not been appropriate for seniors and persons with disabilities. Multi-story apartments and townhouses were initially what was provided in El Dorado Hills and Cameron Park. Now it is mostly via mobile home parks.

d. The jobs created became mostly minimum wage retail, restaurant, and fast food to provide services to the new developments' residents, who could not afford to live where they worked. In the 1990s, many of these jobs were filled by seniors augmenting their retirement income to preserve and afford their housing. Some doctors, lawyers and dentists who moved here also set up or moved their practice locally, adding a few clerical jobs; with the changes in health insurance, many of the health professionals have closed their local practices.

e. A past Board of Supervisors recognized the need to create good paying jobs in the county to match the increasing costs of housing and created a program to attract businesses; the only large one was what is now the primarily claims processing operation of Anthem Blue Cross near the county line in El Dorado Hills. At one time at least, more of their jobs were filled by commuters from Sacramento and Placer than of our residents.

f. The 2008 crash of the housing bubble reduced the values of most of our housing, yet rents continued rising as those foreclosed became renters. Seniors ready to downsize often sold at a loss, if they were among those who moved here in retirement.

g. More than a decade ago regional media was covering the story that the Sly Park campgrounds were continuously completely full. Journalists covering the story interviewed people who had made that choice who had taken seasonal summer tourism jobs so they could ensure with an off-season job they could afford housing the rest of the months. They also found people working full time doing so to afford housing the other months, primarily in lower paid jobs. Some of our homeless are working full time yet challenged saving enough to pay first and last plus deposit to get back into permanent housing.

h. With 2008 funding, many cities and counties began addressing homeless problems with federal funds. A lot of them chose to target veterans first and our local nonprofit communities have networked to connect our vets with VA services even when our local government did nothing.

i. After the 2008 crash, our whole county became defined as part of the Sacramento Metro Region—a determination based on the proportion of residents whose employers are in another county.

j. After the 2008 crash, a lot more families with children became homeless and our available services (H.E.L.P. primarily) were limited so the non-profit shelters sought further funding to ensure safety in motels when logistics limited that capacity in the winter shelters.

3. The County's past decisions related to deinstitutionalization of cognitive and mental health conditions' populations beginning in the 1960s are also responsible for some of the current homeless problem.

a. Deinstitutionalization meant the communities were supposed to provide the developmental and mental health services needed for the people being discharged back to their communities and for those developing conditions like what had formerly led to admissions to the state hospitals.

b. Alta California RC has succeeded in developing some of what our residents need on the western slope. When the State finally provided a dedicated community mental health funding stream, we did not move to better meet the mental health needs of our residents like most other counties did, even as our population continues growing.

c. Since the 1980s, the data has consistently said 20% of the population has a mental illness and 25% has a disability. Despite this and a growing population, we have not been adequately increasing the small number of crisis beds available or other mental health services.

d. Research found one primary population fueling California's prison population growth was those with cognitive and mental health diagnoses.

e. The courts found our state prisons did a lousy job at providing prisoners health care, especially mental health care.

f. Court orders to reduce our state prison population is bringing many of those with mental health conditions we addressed via our criminal justice system back to our communities; with inadequate re-entry services, and inadequate community mental health services, many of our residents with mental illness are among our homeless population.

4. Although we recruited retirees to move here, we have been slow to develop needed senior services.

a. It was years past when the need was identified before we had our first memory care licensed health facility.

b. Many of those who moved here in retirement do not have local family members to help them.

c. When residents must go to another county for an assisted living bed (or other level of care) it is hard for local family, friends, and churches to provide them the usual support.

d. Many temporary health conditions can impact preserving housing when there is not someone else paying the bills.

e. Many retirees who moved here and bought homes, have sold their homes, and moved to mobile home parks when health or age made them unable to care for their homes and land, or themselves.

f. The journey to homelessness may also come from death, accident, or divorce, which includes retirees.

g. Long-term health insurance has only been available in California for about 30 years and people with pre-existing disabilities, chronic health conditions are usually uninsurable still. Therefore, for people needing ongoing health care or full-time care, Medi-Cal may be their only option, which requires sale of assets beyond the minimal limit. Glitches in continuity of care can also lead to homelessness.

h. Thankfully we do have some Adult Day Care programs that can facilitate some seniors being able to remain at home and preserve their housing.

5. Thankfully the County applied for homeless grants before Covid.

a. Using most of the funds to subsidize rent to prevent homelessness demonstrated the understanding of the insufficiency of affordable housing commensurate with resident incomes, both from local jobs and from retirement incomes.

b. The continued growth of the homeless population reflects the limits of their outreach efforts. Many begin temporarily living with family or friends or couch surfing and unless they have children in public schools, will be easy to miss. This also is common during wait for Social Security disability determinations. Such residents will also require the more expensive beginning to permanent housing (first, last and deposit).

c. Without this program, our homeless numbers would be substantially higher now.

6. Unrealistic to expect to find a more appropriate motel for Project Home Key funds on the western slope

a. Hwy 50 became a freeway as most of our new building began (late 60s to 70s). Most of those buildings are less than 50 years old and few resemble anything like a motel, although some older residential buildings at higher elevations became Bed and Breakfast businesses.

b. Motels got added, in part, when out of town contractors needed a place for their workers to stay during each construction job.

c. The only building in Rescue that could ever have been a motel, that got remodeled as a bar in the 1990s, is now a children's mental health service facility. Rescue had 795 residents in 1990 and had grown to 3500 addresses by 2000.

d. Dilapidated is exceedingly rare before 50+ years, unless damaged in a disaster or never maintained. A motel meeting such a description would rarely be anywhere near public transportation, service providers or other aspects relevant to siting of a homeless transition program on the. Most buildings on the western slope, especially El Dorado Hills, Cameron Park and Rescue, are less than 50 years old. The vast majority are also residential buildings. South Lake Tahoe may be the only area of the county with dilapidated motels that it would be cost-effective and fast enough to refurbish.

e. The construction industry was decimated with the 2008 crash leading to massive retirement numbers, people leaving the industry, fewer contractors and challenges finding enough workers even when using those unqualified for the work.

f. Steel, and other tariffs added since 2016, has significantly increased the cost of construction work, including remodels, with Covid supply chain issues adding to significant delays in project completion.

g. Pollock Pines has the nearby Westhaven Inn, and Camino also has a motel, so the Best Western is not the only area motel. Trip Advisor show the ratings for both the Westhaven Inn and the Best Western to be the same (for residents booking rooms for visitors beyond their own homes' capacity to host, etc.).

h. The one motel possibility on the western slope that needed repair work was found to require way too much to be a prudent or cost-effective option.

i. The intent of the funding provided allowing purchase of motels to use for providing homeless housing services is to speed the start of the services provided; most CA jurisdictions mentioning a purchase that requires any refurbishing or remodeling includes that all such efforts are minimal and fast, which does not align with what a dilapidated building would ordinarily require and what was found for the rare possibility on the western slope.

7. Thankfully the County has chosen to adopt as policy the fiscally conservative approach to homelessness, that costs taxpayers the least money: Housing First.

a. Continuing to pursue the purchase of the Best Western is the decision most consistent with the County's adoption of Housing First policy.

b. Pollock Pines could benefit from a community engagement process if the decision is to continue. The 2020 census found 16.5% of residents were age 65 and over and an additional 9% were younger than 65 and had a disability. This group is among those who may be most vulnerable to future challenges preserving their housing (over 77% are owner occupied residences there). Just 56% above age 16 were employed, per capita income was \$31,000 and household median income \$64,216. The percent in poverty was 22.1 percent.
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/pollockpinescdpcalifornia/IPE120219>

c. At a community engagement event, some residents might express a desire, for example, of having local job search/training resources (more) available to themselves. CA's State Unemployment Program provides such services in Placerville and adding a location further up the hill for those with Caldor Fire losses and nearby communities might be possible to request (directly or via OES). Like with many communities, those with nearby businesses might have views which differ from other residents.

d. Given the long history of people choosing to camp in the area, having an early transitional program based so close would facilitate outreach to those individual and group campers, too. Their histories are apt to include some who grew up in the area and returned, some after military service, and some who lost their permanent housing in the area. This is a population most apt to have been undercounted in housing censuses given how remote or hidden their campsites can be.

e. Whenever planners assume what people will think, believe, or want without talking to them (and to more than just a couple) mistakes become more likely in decisions. Similarly, before we blame a program, we have an obligation to verify whether a person observed misbehaving fits the description of any program participants. Newspapers have reported that section of Pollock Pines have had some ghastly misbehavior from tourists who stopped, some in winter and others during warmer months. Many active, back country activities can lead to people looking scruffy until they get home to bathe and change clothes, much like those camping in the area would appear. How would the locals answer if asked if they experience more misbehavior or stealing from tourists or from the homeless?

f. While SLT deserves kudos for their successes in purchasing motels to house their residents who became homeless, when their insufficiency of affordable housing for local employees became among the worst in the nation with Covid, their options for motels is considerably more numerous, possibly exponentially so, than the rest of the county has for using Room Key funds, and those whose history is on the western slope should remain housed on the western slope to better facilitate their transitions to permanent housing.

g. Current plans should the purchase effort continue, include a contractor with decades of experience successfully serving individuals, families, seniors, women, and other subgroups requiring specialized services: Volunteers of America. Their Northern CA and Northern NV chapter is “one of the largest providers of social services in the region, operating more than 40 programs including housing, employment services, substance abuse and recovery services to families, individuals, veterans, seniors, and youth. In fact, VOA NCNN provides shelter or housing to over 3,500 men, women and children every night. Nationally, Volunteers of America helps more than 2.5 million people annually in more than 400 communities.” They currently “are a nonprofit organization comprised of over 400 paid, professional case managers, housing experts, administrators, clinicians, caregivers, psychologists and leaders throughout Northern California and Northern Nevada.”

<https://www.voa-ncnn.org/who-we-are>

h. The County has no other shelter beds for their homeless on the western slope and I believe it would be irresponsible to decide to return to having zero during the winter and a Covid surge. The absence of having added more beds since Covid began almost two years ago begs the question of why the County has not made progress in this area that is unquestionably the legal responsibility of local governments.

All government funding has time periods for expending the funds or losing them. Also grants and other government funding have a variety of applicable limits to how the funds can be used, which should always be considered at the beginning of developing any plans where a source of expected funding has been identified—not developing a recommended plan before checking.

Now is when the County needs to progress quickly on creating permanent programs addressing all our subpopulations’ needs and shelter capacity consistent with Housing First policy to maximize this rare window of plentiful funding to address these neglected responsibilities and better meet the needs of all our residents on the western slope. By making the arrangement with VOA for the Best Western, we finally are well positioned for catching up to our sister counties of Placer and Sacramento. Now is not the time to slow down or to not fully use Project Room Key funds.

I see the research and available evidence, the fiscal circumstances, the legal responsibilities involved, and the ethics all point to the appropriate decision being to continue the purchase effort and voting against Item 28. 22-0075 on the Jan. 4th agenda of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors. Please vote no.

Thank you for considering my perspective and concerns related to this important decision.

Sincerely,
Judith Angell
Rescue, CA



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

Project Homekey Meeting 1/4/22

Elaine Maynard <elamay227@gmail.com>
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Sat, Jan 1, 2022 at 10:00 AM

Regarding: Item 28

To Supervisors and Clerk of the Board:

I am writing in to ask to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

I also STRONGLY oppose the county pursuing any further Project Homekey Grants for the purpose of buying hotels or ANY other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you for your attention to and considering this request.



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

1/4/2022 BOS meeting, Item 28

John Garon <jcpagaron@gmail.com>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sat, Jan 1, 2022 at 1:00 PM

We have war on drugs, war on terrorists, war on opioids, war on cancer, war on mental disorders, the list of 'wars' is long. This country loves wars, so why doesn't the BOS act boldly and declare "War on Houselessness". "Home" is not a place, but an abstraction. Using "House" instead of home makes more sense. Unlike other wars, there is no money to be made by private corporations fighting 'houselessness', so the BOS will have to be creative to find funding, although it seems to me that tying houselessness to drug use would be a no-brainer, thereby allowing the BOS to re-program widely available funds from other 'wars' to help people in need. If you need imagination, call me.

John Garon
3860 Wilson Loop, P'ville.
Sue Novasel's district



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

Pollock Pines Motel for Homeless

BETSY KERR <d.bkerr@sbcglobal.net>
Reply-To: BETSY KERR <d.bkerr@sbcglobal.net>
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 1:11 PM

Clerk of the Board, Kim: edc.cob@edcgov.us

1/4/22 BOS meeting item 28.

Dear Kim:

Please forward this email to all supervisors, Don Ashton and Don Semon.

We support the project of purchasing the Best Western motel in Pollock Pines to house the vulnerable homeless.

El Dorado County is one of just three counties in California that has **no** publicly proscribed program for the homeless population. THIS IS A DISGRACE. Private parties and churches have struggled for years to feed and house our homeless population, but lack sufficient funds to buy or build simple housing or low-income housing.

A grant has been awarded to 'Volunteers of America' to manage Project HomeKey at the Pollock Pines motel, so necessary arrangements have already been made. The clients in the motel are basically well-behaved, have necessities brought to them, and have a county bus transportation readily available.

It is well known that the county behavioral services branch has strict requirements for admitting people with mental illness, so many of our homeless cannot access those services. You seem to be willing to let these people sleep on the streets while we turn up our furnaces and snuggle in warm beds – just because we don't happen to be ill.

It seems as though there is a power in the county that has decided we should not help our homeless population. At any cost. That would be a disgrace, also.

Sincerely,

Richard and Betsy Kerr

Placerville



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

supporting the Project HomeKey project

Richard Boylan PhD <drboylan@outlook.com>

Sat, Jan 1, 2022 at 4:42 PM

To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>, Supervisor Wendy Thomas-3 <bosthree@edcgov.us>, Supervisor George Turnboo-2 <bostwo@edcgov.us>, Supervisor John Hidahl - 1 <bosone@edcgov.us>, Supervisor Sue Novasel-5/SLT <bosfive@edcgov.us>, "Lori Parlin (I), Supervisor-Dist4" <bosfour@edcgov.us>

Cc: "donashton@edcgov.us" <donashton@edcgov.us>, "don.semon@edcgov.us" <don.semon@edcgov.us>

Honorable Supervisors,

I write in support of Project HomeKey, Item 28 on the Jan. 4 Agenda (22-00075).

The homeless need shelter. In this brutal cold, that fact is indisputable.

The HomeKey Project - Round 2 NOFA application should proceed to acquire the Best Western Inn-Pollock Pines as shelter for the unhoused.

A public bus runs along Pony Express Trail, so transportation to needed services is available.

There is another hotel in Pollock Pines for paying travelers to our county.

Are you your brother's and sister's keeper? You bet you are. We all are, and we put you in office to help with this obligation. We do not need to read in the local paper about frozen bodies found outdoors.

Act now. Approve Project HomeKey's acquisition of the Pollack Pines facility to get our unhoused in out of the cold, rain and snow.

Vote right. God will bless you.

Richard Boylan, Ph.D.
Diamond Springs
drboylan@outlook.com



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

1/4/22 BOS meeting, item 28.

shunn@comcast.net <shunn@comcast.net>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sat, Jan 1, 2022 at 5:39 PM

To the Clerk of the Board: Please send this email to all El Dorado County supervisors; Don Ashton, CAO; Don Semon, DHHS. Thank you!

Dear Supervisors,

It was with shock and grave disappointment that I heard of the proposal to discontinue the pursuit of the Homekey Round 2 NOFA application for the purchase of the Best Western Inn in Pollock Pines. Please do not approve this destructive motion.

Project Homekey promises to provide a solution for the most vulnerable of our county, with all the necessary parts in place, including adequate facilities and experienced staffing from Volunteers of America. Finally. Finally, we have a concrete, workable plan to begin to adequately house our homeless population. Why would we shut it down?

It has been embarrassing and shameful to be part of a county that treats our most needy people so ruthlessly, an otherwise caring community that is 20 to 30 years behind most communities in housing our homeless people. Project Homekey is an act of hope, a demonstration of our humanity. Addressing the fact of homelessness is a step towards the solution, and a boon to the esteem of El Dorado County.

I urge you to **vote against Item 28. 22-0075**, and continue Project Homekey.

Thank you,

Susan Hunn

1404 Cypress Lane

Placerville, CA 95667

shunn@comcast.net



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

1/4/22 BOS meeting, item 28

Charles Schnell <cschnell098@gmail.com>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sat, Jan 1, 2022 at 8:23 PM

To: El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

[Please copy this to all Supervisors, Don Ashton, and Don Semon]

Dear Supervisors:

I wish to express consternation at the idea of discontinuing pursuit of the Homekey Round 2 NOFA application for the purchase of the Best Western Inn in Pollock Pines.

After years of largely neglecting its unhoused populations, county government is finally on the verge of implementing the first step toward a long-term solution via outside funding. That step should be taken.

It makes no sense to abandon this project, as there are urgent immediate needs for our county's most vulnerable population on the western slope. The Best Western facility has been selected as the most viable option currently available. It should be seen as the first of several projects that hopefully will be taken to house our homeless, preferably one or more in each Supervisorial district.

The successful use of the Best Western Inn for Project Roomkey has shown its potential as a temporary housing and navigation center. Well managed, it addressed a range of immediate needs of its residents and successfully placed a number in more permanent housing. Help with food, clothing, getting meds, health and mental health connections, locating employment and housing opportunities, and other services in a safe place made for development of self-sufficiency. Public transport to fill other needs was easily available. There was no evidence that it was in any way a nuisance to the community. For Project Homekey, experienced staffing and volunteer support for similar services is available.

It is clear that the growing challenges of working with unhoused citizens have exceeded the capacity of the various dedicated community groups, as well as those of the HOT Team.

Good governance demands that the County address its responsibility in this area. Project Homekey promises to be an effective beginning. Please do not abandon the Homekey Round 2 NOFA application.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Schnell

4157 Carson Road

Camino, CA 95709



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

No on Project Room Key yes on an emergency center

us@drummondfamily.org <us@drummondfamily.org>

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 9:33 AM

To: The Bosone <bosone@edcgov.us>, BOS Two <bostwo@edcgov.us>, Three Bos <bosthree@edcgov.us>, Four Bos <bosfour@edcgov.us>, The BOSFIVE <bosfive@edcgov.us>, Donald Ashton <don.ashton@edcgov.us>, edc.cob@edcgov.us
Cc: John D'Agostini <DAgostiniJ@edso.org>, Liz Drummond <us@drummondfamily.org>, Todd White <todd.white@edcgov.us>, Colleen Hearn <ccocpfounder@gmail.com>

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my **support for Supervisor Novatel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Home key grant application** for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Home key grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

You know how homeless are not welcome in El Dorado Hills? Just ditto that in Camerson Park/Shingle Springs/Recue and surrounding communities.

You may not have liked the Sheriff's proposal, but if you had accepted it, all the homeless currently on the street right now would have shelter and support available to them.

Instead of churches becoming overnight sleeping places for a few homeless, they could be providing human contact, mentoring, food, clothing, and all the things they are so good at doing. They would enhance the current situation instead of scrambling to just provide a place to sleep. Project Room key has too many restrictions and cannot address the wide range of needs. Additionally it does not create a community where homeless can help each other.

We need a place for ALL homeless. A safe place. An emergency place, not permanent housing. The state and federal government is providing plenty of funding for housing, there is little to nothing for emergencies.

I appreciate the vast areas of concern you handle on a daily basis. Homelessness is going to need a bold, risk taking approach. Get the homeless into an emergency shelter like the HOSTESS or HOME and then address the issues that got them there. Please don't say these programs are against the laws. A few minor tweaks in them is all you need.



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

1/4/22 BOS meeting, item 28

Karen Tustin <ktustin@omsoft.com>
To: Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 10:03 AM

Dear Clerk,

Please forward this email to each member of the Board of Supervisors, to Don Ashton and Don Semon before Tuesday's meeting.

I was distressed to learn that Supervisor Novasel wants the Board to discontinue the pursuit of the Homekey Round 2 NOFA application for the purchase of the Best Western Inn in Pollock Pines.

First, let me state that I have no connection with the homeless community or any groups working to help find housing for them. I am writing as a concerned community member. I am astonished that the Board would consider abandoning the only project now before you to help alleviate the homeless situation, particularly after our heavy snowstorms and power outages.

As I understand it, this isn't a situation in which your Board can choose among several viable options. Abandoning this purchase now would mean kicking the can further down the road. Meanwhile, the homeless are freezing and remain unhoused. A lot of work has been done by many people, including your staff, to bring this potential purchase as far as it is. PLEASE, don't abandon it now. Whether it is the ideal location or the best property, the truth is that it is the only option available right now. I'm hopeful there will be other properties in other El Dorado County communities in the future, and that this is just the first of several. But right now, it is the ONLY viable option.

Needed services have been brought to this hotel, and a bus or van is available to transport residents to needed services in Placerville, so the argument that it is too far from services is simply not true.

I have been told that a grant has been awarded to run the Project Homekey at the Pollock Pines facility, and that the necessary parts are in place.

Please allow this project to go forward, allowing for community input.

Thank you for your consideration.

Karen Tustin



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

Project Homekey

Julie Willson <omawillson@gmail.com>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 10:26 AM

RE: Item 28

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you for considering my request.

Julie Willson
Concerned Citizen of Camero Park



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

January 4, 2022 BOS agenda Item #28

Frank Porter <fspsm520@gmail.com>
To: EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 3:17 PM

To: EDC Board of Supervisors,
Don Ashton, CAO
Don Semon, DHHS

From: Frank Porter

Date: January 2, 2022

Re: January 4, 2022 BOS meeting, Item 28; Proposal to abandon pursuit of HomeKey Round 2 funding for the Best Western Inn, Pollock Pines

Dear Members of the EDC Board of Supervisors:

I urge you to **not** abandon efforts to seek HomeKey Round 2 funding for the Best Western Inn, Pollock Pines. Given the severe lack of transitional and interim housing on the west slope, along with the availability now of HomeKey Round 2 funding, this delay will increase the likelihood that EDC will miss out on this opportunity to address this critical need.

The search and negotiations on the West Slope for suitable motel properties for HomeKey transitional/interim housing has been protracted and exasperating. I anticipate that virtually any motel conversion on the West Slope will face local opposition. Now that a facility has finally been located, due diligence completed and funding available now to purchase the property, abandoning this effort will be a significant step backwards.

The Homekey Round 2 program provides funding for both the capital needed for the county to purchase and renovate suitable properties, but equally important, it provides funding to operate the program for the initial 2 to 3 years. Further, there's bonus funding provided to jurisdictions that file their Homekey 2 applications by the end of January 31, 2022.

By abandoning the Pollock Pines Best Western Motel as the site for a Homekey 2 project, El Dorado county is going to miss out on bonus funding and, more importantly, will likely be unable to find and negotiate the purchase of a different suitable property before the final May 2, 2022 final deadline to even submit an application for HomeKey 2 funding. There's no guarantee that a HomeKey Round 3 will occur, nor that a potential Round 3 will include the level of operational or bonus funding.

Further you're going frustrate the efforts to put this project together, including;

- Enormous amounts of time and effort by staff and non-profit organizations to launch and successfully operate the current Roomkey program at the Pollock Pines Best Western.
- Enormous amounts of time and effort by county staff to identify potential properties that would be suitable for both the Roomkey and the Homekey funding.

- Enormous amounts of time and effort by staff and non profit organizations to plan, negotiate, write grant applications, etc. to prepare for transitioning the Best Western property from the Roomkey program to a HomeKey project at the Best Western in Pollock Pines.

The consequences:

- Risk losing the one facility on the west slope that provides some interim, transitional housing
- Risk losing HomeKey 2 funding to purchase and convert a suitable, effective, permanent interim housing facility.

For all practical purposes, unless the county staff pulls off some miracle by rapidly locating and completing due diligence on a suitable alternative property, EDC's homeless residents will once again have another significant delay in getting assistance. In the meantime the homeless population in our county continues to grow.

The EDC BOS has made multiple declarations and motions over the years in support of providing housing options to assist homeless residents in their efforts to regain housing. At the moment when you have the opportunity to make a significant step forward, I urge you to proceed and not abandon this effort to convert the Best Western Inn, Pollock Pines into a HomeKey 2 project.

Sincerely,

Frank Porter



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

Re Jan 4 BOS Meeting Item 28. 22-0075

Craig Styles <cncstyles@gmail.com>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 4:28 PM

To: Clerk of the Board Kim ,
(Please forward this email to to all Supervisors, Don Ashton CAO and Don Semon DHHS)

As a volunteer for Project RoomKey last year, as a member of Housing El Dorado, and as a longtime volunteer with the Nomadic Shelter in previous years, I would like to express my strong disappointment with Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue pursuit of the purchase of the Best Western Inn in Pollock Pines for Project HomeKey.

Just as the city and county have finally shown an interest in dealing with homelessness on the Western Slope, discontinuing this effort to fund Project HomeKey would be a major setback for all concerned. We need more than a band-aid approach to helping the homeless that a winter shelter provides. RoomKey was a major step in the right direction for housing the homeless and providing navigation services. Project HomeKey is the next logical step toward a more permanent solution for housing.

The Pollock Pines location would be a good beginning and a model for bringing such housing to other locations throughout the county. Project RoomKey was undertaken very successfully there with volunteers, and HomeKey has already been set up for successful operation with experienced staffing from Volunteers of America.

I urge the BOS to continue pursuit of the HomeKey round 2 NOFA application for purchase of the Pollock Pines property. Further procrastination of this effort should not be considered a viable strategy. And do we want to continue the health risk and the added fire risk of leaving the homeless unsheltered?

Sincerely,
Craig Styles
Placerville



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

BOS 1/4/21 Meeting, Item 29

Ruth Michelson <ruthmichelson@sbcglobal.net>
To: BOS Clerk EDC <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 4:29 PM

(Dear Board Clerk Kim- Please distribute this to all Board Members, Don Ashton, and Don Semon. Thank you.)

Dear Chair of the Board Parlin, Board Members, CAO Ashton, HHS Director Semon-

I am in support of continuing with the Best Western as a Project Homekey location. Hopefully, you will find locations in all 5 Supervisorial Districts to create similar Homekey projects for our homeless population.

I think the many letters received already discuss the reasons why this project should be continued.

I'm going to discuss a different issue; why the long delays over the decades here in El Dorado County and the possible reasons for the resistance to provide a permanent shelter, and, then a summary.

Delays

For a long, long time sheltering the homeless was pushed off to the Churches. I remember vividly in the 90's and beyond the BOS saying it was not a governmental issue; they'd have nothing to do with it. Maybe that's why we're 20-30 years behind most communities in dealing with this issue head on.

The BOS provides leadership and guides our county by both their actions and inactions. Inaction is as impactful, and in many cases MORE impactful, than the actual actions the BOS has taken over time.

Each Supervisor is meant to represent their constituents. But, of course, these constituents have a myriad of opinions, so they can't all be made happy. As a result, often, decisions fall back on the individual opinions of the Supervisors. And, a segment of constituents complain that they "weren't heard" while others are pleased.

Possible reasons for resistance

Why would Supervisors choose not to help the homeless by providing a shelter? I don't know, they haven't said.

Citizens in the "dissenting community" (against homeless services and shelters) have been vocal. Many of them feel disdain for the homeless, and treat them like lepers. Some people get very emotional and angry when they discuss homelessness. They say about the homeless; "get a job" "stop being lazy" "stop taking handouts, I never have taken any" "If you give them anything, they'll just want more." "they're just druggies" "they all have mental health issues." In truth, one size doesn't fit all. People are homeless for so many reasons. Making generalized assumptions isn't helpful.

If we built a facility for cancer patients, some who'd become addicted to pain-killers, some who had lost their homes due to the expense of treatment, and lost their jobs due to their incapacities, would we say the same nasty derogatory things towards them? No. We would not judge them. But, somehow people feel they have the right to judge the homeless, even though they have no idea what brought these people to their circumstances.

In our society, being a productive contributor is penultimate. We are a society of workers, which helps make us the great country we are. If someone falls off that productive worker model, the mob often attacks. But, how can you become productive if you're living in a tent, cannot bathe regularly, can't wear clean clothes for an interview and the work environment, don't have a car to get yourself to an interview and work, and may be self-numbing the misery of the situation with drugs or alcohol, et cetera? Many homeless do not start out as drug and alcohol abusers, but the situation of homelessness can be the catalyst.

Summary

To help those who have found themselves homeless get back on their feet, housing must be offered first. With housing, then many of the other issues can be dealt with. Then, the person can slow and then stop the downward spiral and work towards being an independent person in society once again. Sure, some refuse help now and want to stay in their situation. A drug addled mind is not a clear mind. Those with mental health issues may have good reason to distrust the system. Only patience and care will make headway in those situations, but headway won't be made by demonizing people.

Please, Supervisors, see this project as the beginning of turning the corner in our homeless problem here in El Dorado County. This is a very good start. Many other communities have done this with great success; let them be a model for us.

Sincerely,

Ruth Michelson
District 4



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

1/4/22 BOS Meeting, Item #28 - 22-0075 Project Homekey

Marti Knight <msknight565@gmail.com>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 4:45 PM

Clerk of the Board: Please forward my letter to each of the Supervisors and also to Don Ashton, CAO and Don Semon DHHS. Thank you very much.

I am writing to urge you all of you to NOT discontinue the pursuit of the Homekey Round 2 NOFA application for the purchase of the Best Western Inn in Pollock Pines.

I am a long time Camino resident who drives past this location regularly on my way to shop at the only large grocery store in our area. The location is convenient to the El Dorado Transit bus route and the retail area of Pollock Pines. This area serves residents all the way up to Echo Summit and possibly beyond for groceries, pharmacy, gasoline, mailing, etc. I only recently realized it was being used for Project Homekey. I had thought it was housing first responders during the Caldor Fire or CalTrans workers during highway construction when I noticed that the signage was blocked off. The parking lot and facility are well maintained, quiet and non obtrusive.

I am a long time supporter of programs sponsored by the Seventh Day Adventist Church of Camino. They have a busy food bank and clothes closet for those trying to stay afloat during hard times. They have participated in programs for the homeless as well as stepping forward to house fire evacuees during the King Fire and the more recent Caldor Fire. Their local programs help people from all over the County and have not been found to be a negative for our community. Actually Camino residents have been very proud to help where we can.

Any well run and supported program that exists in our County serves a large swath of county residents and should be encouraged, not given up on. Being able to purchase a piece of property that has additional building potential is a wise proposition. This is particularly true when you have a spreadsheet in front of you to weigh the costs, usage potential and expenses that may be incurred. This issue should not be decided upon one way or the other without a full accounting of costs of the purchase, full knowledge of all available facilities that might be used to house the homeless (with their locations specified), and a healthy discussion of the pros and cons of each site in front of the public.

Item 28 - 22-0075 will throw the "baby out with the bathwater" before even giving this valuable program a chance to prove itself. You will be wasting money already spent and time already invested in something El Dorado County can be proud of. We are already sadly behind other counties in stepping forward to do something for the less fortunate. Please don't make it worse by supporting this illogical agenda item.

Marti Knight
PO Box 565
Camino, CA. 95709



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

1/4/22 BOS meeting, item 28

Lorraine King <lorraine.king@sbcglobal.net>
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 5:32 PM

To: Clerk of the Board, Kim
edc.cob@edcgov.us
Regarding 1/4/22 BOS meeting, item 28

Kim, please forward my email statement to all 5 Supervisors, as well as Don Ashton, CAO and Don Semon, DHHS.
Thank you!

Hello Supervisors,

As a county resident who is very concerned about our lack of affordable and workforce housing, I have been very heartened by the efforts of Housing El Dorado and the County to make improvements. I was pleased with Project Roomkey, using the Pollock Pines Best Western Hotel, to provide temporary housing for our unhoused friends and neighbors. And I was glad that Project Roomkey was supposed to transition to Project Homekey.

Now I am distressed to hear that there may be efforts to end this transition. Why? I understood it was working well, for both the residents who are receiving services and the local Pollock Pines community. I understood that Volunteers of America has been awarded the grant to run Project Homekey at this location and it was ready to move forward.

As a taxpayer, I also want to see the most efficient use of our tax money and the 'Housing First' model, providing stability and reducing emergency service costs, has been proven all over the country to do that.

I urge the BOS to continue with this project. EDC needs to add to and expand housing options in more of our communities, in Pollock Pines and other towns in the county. These unhoused people are not the "Other". They are "us," but for the grace of God and if we are to have real "quality of life" in our county we need to provide for these people too.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,
Lorraine King
El Dorado Hills, zipcode 95762
lorraine.king@sbcglobal.net



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

1/4/22 BOS meeting, item 28

Mary Elliott-Klemm <ml.elliott@sbcglobal.net>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 5:57 PM

To: Clerk of the Board, Kim,

Please send this email to all Supervisors, Don Ashton CAO and Don Semon, DHHS.

Thank you.

January 2, 2022

To the Board of Supervisors of El Dorado County,

Homelessness is a problem that you well know plagues El Dorado County. There are never any perfect solutions to such a complex problem, but the important thing is to keep the momentum moving in a positive direction.

The Housing El Dorado group has been working on Project Homekey for a very long time. Our County is fortunate to have a group that has so diligently been working with the county to provide a solution for the Homeless.

Project Homekey is a step forward, providing a transitional longer-term housing program.

The necessary parts are in place and Volunteers of America has been awarded the grant to run the Project Homekey at the Pollock Pines facility.

As you well know, there are always those that will complain about a proposal. Quite often, those complaints are rooted in fear and not in reality. If we had listened to local complaints we would never have built the El Dorado Trail, one of the county's most successful parks.

Clearly, Project Homekey should be allowed to move forward at the Pollock Pines Best Western Hotel. It should be evaluated after a significant amount of time has passed to see if it has been successful.

Otherwise, our county will have taken a step backwards, taking away housing for the most vulnerable homeless and abandoning them to the streets.

It seems particularly cruel, in the dead of winter, to cancel this project and force the homeless to remain so.

In summary, there is no other solution proposed, whereas the necessary parts are in place to provide this longer-term housing facility.

Please continue with this project. May it be the first of many to adequately house our homeless population.

Sincerely,
Mary Elliott-Klemm
Somerset, CA 95684



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

Fwd: Project HomeKey - Item 28, BOS Agenda 1/4/2022

Kim Dawson <kim.dawson@edcgov.us>

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 6:41 PM

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

Please include with public comments thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Maureen** <dionperry@att.net>

Date: Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 3:22 PM

Subject: Project HomeKey - Item 28, BOS Agenda 1/4/2022

To: Kim Dawson <kim.dawson@edcgov.us>, Wendy Thomas <wendy.thomas@edcgov.us>, Sue Novasel <sue.novase@edcgov.us>, Lori Parlin <lori.parlin@edcgov.us>, George Turnboo <george.turnboo@edcgov.us>, John Hidahl <john.hidahl@edcgov.us>

CC: Donald Ashton <don.ashton@edcgov.us>, Don Semon <don.semon@edcgov.us>, Daniel Del Monte <daniel.delmonte@edcgov.us>

Happy New Year to Supervisors and Staff: I hope that 2022 will be a better year for our homeless neighbors. They desperately need your help.

I am writing this as I get ready to volunteer at the Winter Shelter. The incredible trauma I am hearing about in our homeless neighbors makes my heart cry. We are in desperate need of a variety of housing for our homeless. I was incredibly sad and disappointed to see Supervisor Novasels motion to discontinue support for the purchase of the Pollock Pines Hotel via Project HomeKey.

We were so close to our first transitional housing for highly vulnerable homeless adults. This location has worked very well for almost 2 years and needs to continue. The results of Project Room Key at this facility have been excellent, as evidenced by the presentations of Don Semon and Daniel DelMonte. Our community has worked hard to make this program a success and so have the homeless people who have passed through the doors.

It is well known that we do not have any housing to navigate our homeless folks to and that is a big problem. Volunteers of America is prepared to run the Pollock Pines Transitional Housing facility. They are experience throughout the west and will do an incredible job, as they have in many other places.

I ask you why now at the 11th hour are you responding to NIMBYISM. In order to reduce and eliminate homelessness in our County we need many Pathways and more housing in every district of our County.

It would be nice if we had more run-down hotels, as there are in SLT to utilize as Tahoe Coalition did - but we don't. Housing El Dorado has been looking and the only available of the rundown variety was the Hangtown Hotel - but it is so rundown with an owner who wants an exorbitant price - that when County staff explored this facility, it was rejected. Also - I am not aware of any community engagement held in SLT before the Home Key purchases there.

I ask you sincerely to allow the negotiations to continue for purchase of the Hotel. We desperately need Transitional Housing for our homeless neighbors coming out of homelessness. PLEASE BE PART OF THE SOLUTION and stand up to the community who

is speaking out against this purchase. It is not easy but it is our responsibility to speak for those who cannot.

**Warm Regards
Maureen Dion-Perry
President Housing El Dorado
Volunteer, Pathways Winter Shelter**

--

Kim Dawson
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of El Dorado
330 Fair Lane, Building A
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-5393
kim.dawson@edcgov.us

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

Fwd: Project HomeKey - Item 28, BOS Agenda 1/4/2022

Kim Dawson <kim.dawson@edcgov.us>

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 6:41 PM

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

Please include with public comments thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Maureen** <dionperry@att.net>

Date: Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 3:22 PM

Subject: Project HomeKey - Item 28, BOS Agenda 1/4/2022

To: Kim Dawson <kim.dawson@edcgov.us>, Wendy Thomas <wendy.thomas@edcgov.us>, Sue Novasel <sue.novase@edcgov.us>, Lori Parlin <lori.parlin@edcgov.us>, George Turnboo <george.turnboo@edcgov.us>, John Hidahl <john.hidahl@edcgov.us>

CC: Donald Ashton <don.ashton@edcgov.us>, Don Semon <don.semon@edcgov.us>, Daniel Del Monte <daniel.delmonte@edcgov.us>

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It is well known that we do not have any housing to navigate our homeless folks to and that is a big problem. Volunteers of America is prepared to run the Pollock Pines Transitional Housing facility. They are experience throughout the west and will do an incredible job, as they have in many other places.

I ask you why now at the 11th hour are you responding to NIMBYISM. In order to reduce and eliminate homelessness in our County we need many Pathways and more housing in every district of our County.

It would be nice if we had more run-down hotels, as there are in SLT to utilize as Tahoe Coalition did - but we don't. Housing El Dorado has been looking and the only available of the rundown variety was the Hangtown Hotel - but it is so rundown with an owner who wants an exorbitant price - that when County staff explored this facility, it was rejected. Also - I am not aware of any community engagement held in SLT before the Home Key purchases there.

I ask you sincerely to allow the negotiations to continue for purchase of the Hotel. We desperately need Transitional Housing for our homeless neighbors coming out of homelessness. PLEASE BE PART OF THE SOLUTION and stand up to the community who

is speaking out against this purchase. It is not easy but it is our responsibility to speak for those who cannot.

**Warm Regards
Maureen Dion-Perry
President Housing El Dorado
Volunteer, Pathways Winter Shelter**

--

Kim Dawson
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of El Dorado
330 Fair Lane, Building A
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-5393
kim.dawson@edcgov.us

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

Letter opposing Item 28.22-0075 for January 4 BOS meeting

dpvanderkar@comcast.net <dpvanderkar@comcast.net>
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 8:41 PM

To Clerk of Board of Supervisors, Kim Dawson,
Please distribute for the January 4 meeting my letter regarding Item 28.22-0075 to the full Board of Supervisors as well as Don Ashton, CAO, and Don Semon, DHHS.

Thank you,
Peg Vanderkar



Letter to EDCo BOS re Item 28 on Jan 4.docx
33K

For EDCo BOS Item 28.22-0075, for Jan 4, 2022

Letter To the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, for distribution to all Supervisors, CAO Don Ashton, and HHS Director Don Semon.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Supervisor Novasel has proposed directing County staff to stop all work moving forward on the purchase of the Best Western in Pollock Pines for the purpose of transitional housing under Project HOMEKEY. As a 42-year resident of District 3, I am writing in opposition to this proposed directive. I will explain why as briefly as possible.

First, this transitional housing should not be confused with the current year and a half old Project Roomkey established during summer of 2020 and run for about a year with mostly volunteer navigators, now under County supervision. Project Roomkey is a program to serve older, frail, homeless residents particularly vulnerable to COVID19 to avoid spread of the virus among homeless. HOMEKEY, in contrast, is for all ages of homeless folks in need of housing. This Best Western facility will offer approximately 26 units at once, available to one or two persons each, and over time can serve many, many persons.

One reason there are so many homeless residents on the Western Slope is that there is insufficient affordable housing for them to move into, even if they have income and jobs. INSUFFICIENT HOUSING is an understatement, as we all know. There are a few affordable housing developments in the works on the Western Slope, but lengthy permitting processes have been time consuming and the developments are not under construction yet. Project HOMEKEY will give a transitional respite with navigation help (obtaining document readiness and life skills) for people preparing to move into permanent housing.

I realize that there is opposition by some to having transitional housing in the Pollock Pines community. Understandably it is an unknown process on the El Dorado County Western Slope. As with anything new, people have their concerns. Keep in mind, a similar concept has an 18- month track record of success at this location. You know that El Dorado County is one of a very tiny number of California counties that does not have a permanent shelter for homeless residents. The HOT cannot do everything. This County is unique in many beautiful ways, but this particular uniqueness is not beautiful.

The Pollock Pines facility should be only a first on the Western Slope. There needs to be transitional housing options in all districts of the County because there are homeless “communities” in all districts.

We on the Western Slope also desperately need a 24/7/365 accessible Navigation facility that homeless persons can use, with showers, toilets, laundry, classrooms, mail reception, lockers, respite from bad weather, safe parking. With such a facility, persons who have work can maintain jobs and others can build life skills to move forward.

In closing, The Western Slope needs all these facilities. *All are possible!* They all use different funding! COVID19 times gave us the example of a facility that is low key, well kept, and successful. Many in Roomkey have moved on to other housing. HOMEKEY has experienced professional program administrators selected and ready to go; they only need the facility to start. Affordable housing developers only need final permissions from County and City to get building. A Navigation Center only needs identifying and other grants pursued that are available.

PLEASE DO NOT STOP THE PROGRESS OF THIS CRITICAL PIECE OF HELP FOR HOMELESS. IT IS A DESPERATELY NEEDED START IN THIS COUNTY.

Sincerely, and with much respect
for all of you in these difficult decisions,

Peg Vanderkar

Secretary, Housing El Dorado. Long-time Volunteer-- Nomadic Shelters, Project Roomkey 2021, and Pathways Winter Lodging 2022. Retired LMFC. Retired State performance auditor.



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

Regarding Item 28.22-0075, for January 4 , 2022, BOS meeting.

Donald Vanderkar <donvdk@gmail.com>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 10:09 PM

January 2, 2022

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors of El Dorado County,
Chief Executive Officer Don Ashton, and Director of Health and Human Services Don Semon,

Please proceed with the Project HomeKey. This project is sorely needed. Through Transitional Housing it will provide desperately needed care and hope.

People suffer when they are not sheltered. Many unsheltered people die. Many people are homeless due to circumstances out of their control. I have worked for over two decades as a Court Appointed Special Advocate, New Morning volunteer, and an advocate for those in need of shelter. I have worked closely with many people suffering from lack of care and shelter. Unfortunately, I have attended too many memorial services for those who died prematurely. Many of those remembered in these services have died due to exposure to the elements, lack of proper medical care, addictions, and lack of opportunities to work with special recovery programs.

Please continue working on Project HomeKey as well as searching for a Navigation center location. I understand that funding exists to allow many supportive programs.

Don Vanderkar
17173 Country Club Dr.
Placerville, CA

Emailed to Clerk of Board, K. Dawson
edc.cob@edcgov.us



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

1/4/22 BOS meeting, item 27

Dan & Robin Clark <dwc95672@gmail.com>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sun, Jan 2, 2022 at 10:52 PM

Please forward to all Supervisors, Don Aston CAO and Don Semon DHHS.

~~~~~  
Hello,

Those without homes are not in a position to receive the services they need to promote change and improvement in their lives. When those without homes are housed due to endeavors such as Project Room Key law enforcement are not needed to monitor their camp areas and keep them moving.

Those without homes deserve the efforts and supports that VOA can make a available to El Dorado County. It's a win win for all.

Thank you,  
Robin Clark  
34 years in this County  
Big Sister  
SHARE volunteer  
Believer in helping others on the road to a better life.



County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

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**Regarding 1/4/21 Agenda Item #28 Legistar #22-0075 - Purchase of hotel**

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Sue Taylor <sue-taylor@comcast.net>  
To: Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 6:43 AM

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I agree with Supervisor Novasel that the application for the Homekey project purchase of the Best Western in Pollock Pines should be discontinued. I also believe that the Board should give the Sheriff the opportunity to implement the Hostess Concept ASAP.

The County needs to stop their action of looking for hotels to be used as homeless shelters and move forward with the Sheriff's Hostess Concept as was agreed to prior to the Caldor fire. The Homeless Non-Governmental Organizations that have been lobbying against the Sheriff's Hostess Concept are doing more harm than good to those on the street. They seem to be more interested in keeping their grant funds coming in than getting these people help and integrated back into society.

Stacking the homeless into a permanent location and taking needed hotels out of the tourist economy only makes the homeless condition permanent, degrades the surrounding neighborhoods and creates a new agency that is dependent on keeping people in that condition.

The hostess program will be a one stop location for rehabilitation, where funds can be used for medical and mental health services. It will be temporary with a hand up to get folks into housing. Rather than being turned out during each day, the homeless will have a safe and sanitary place to stay. This is an emergency shelter NOT housing. Putting it near the jail puts them near Health and Human Services Department and the County's employment resource center that will help them to get back on their feet and gives non-profits one place to reach those they wish to serve.

Rather than following the State Plan which is creating horrific, unhealthy living conditions and devastating neighborhoods throughout the State, let El Dorado County be an example to other jurisdictions of how to change the course of homelessness into living success stories.

Thank you,  
Sue Taylor  
El Dorado County Resident



County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

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**Regarding 1/4/21 Agenda Item #28 Legistar #22-0075 - Purchase of hotel**

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Mary Lou Shelton <marylou.shelton@comcast.net>  
To: County El Dorado Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 8:21 AM

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I agree with Supervisor Novasel that the application for the Homekey project purchase of the Best Western in Pollock Pines should be discontinued. I also believe that the Board should give the Sheriff the opportunity to implement the Hostess Concept ASAP.

The County needs to stop their action of looking for hotels to be used as homeless shelters and move forward with the Sheriff's Hostess Concept as was agreed to prior to the Caldor fire. The Homeless Non-Governmental Organizations that have been lobbying against the Sheriff's Hostess Concept are doing more harm than good to those on the street. They seem to be more interested in keeping their grant funds coming in than getting these people help and integrated back into society.

Stacking the homeless into a permanent location and taking needed hotels out of the tourist economy only makes the homeless condition permanent, degrades the surrounding neighborhoods and creates a new agency that is dependent on keeping people in that condition.

The hostess program will be a one stop location for rehabilitation, where funds can be used for medical and mental health services. It will be temporary with a hand up to get folks into housing. Rather than being turned out during each day, the homeless will have a safe and sanitary place to stay. This is an emergency shelter NOT housing. Putting it near the jail puts them near Health and Human Services Department and the County's employment resource center that will help them to get back on their feet and gives non-profits one place to reach those they wish to serve.

Rather than following the State Plan which is creating horrific, unhealthy living conditions and devastating neighborhoods throughout the State, let El Dorado County be an example to other jurisdictions of how to change the course of homelessness into living success stories.

Thank you,  
Mary Lou Shelton  
El Dorado County Resident since 1986

Sent from my iPhone



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

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## 1/4/22 BOS meeting, item 28

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**Christine Rorden** <chris@cantigawine.com>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 8:21 AM

Dear Kim,

Would you kindly share the message below with all board members, as well as Don Ashton CAO and Don Semon, DHHS? Thank you!

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I urge you to continue to move forward with the proposed purchase by the county of the old Best Western in Pollock Pines for Project Homekey.

This initiative would be a very important first step in helping our county's most vulnerable population to get back on its feet. For too long, the local homeless crisis has been given inadequate attention, and with the pandemic and economic strain on so many families, more and more need the crucial help of getting housed, re-employed and re-established as productive community members.

You have a unique opportunity to make a difference. The funding and plans are in place, and now is the time for action. Please support this initiative--it is one of the most important steps you can take for our county!

Respectfully,

Christine Rorden  
Business Owner



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

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## Item #28 BOS meeting 1/4/2021

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**Wanda Demarest** <wanda42536@sbcglobal.net>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 8:21 AM

Dear Supervisors,

I do not understand the reasoning behind Supervisor Sue Norvasel's recommendation that the BOS consider directing staff to discontinue the pursuit of the Homekey application for the purchase of the Best Western Inn in Pollock Pines.

It makes no sense as staff have already reported to the BOS about the tremendous success of Project Roomkey in this location. Success that included the placement of many of its participants into permanent housing.

While there may be problems associated at motels within close proximity, it does not justify including the Best Western Inn where there have been few, if any, notable disturbances as the program provides 24/7 supervision.

With respect,  
Wanda Demarest  
42 year Resident of El Dorado County

Sent from my iPad



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

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## Project Homekey

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**Saxon Johnson** <saxonskincare@gmail.com>  
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 10:15 AM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to DISCONTINUE the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I STRONGLY OPPOSE the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures SPECIFICALLY IN CAMERON PARK.

Thank you for considering my request.

--

Saxon Johnson  
Rodan + Fields  
Executive Consultant  
Clinically proven products: [saxonjohnson.myrandf.com](http://saxonjohnson.myrandf.com)  
(916) 390-7743



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

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## Project homekey

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**Saxon Johnson** <saxonskincare@gmail.com>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 10:18 AM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to DISCONTINUE the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I STRONGLY OPPOSE the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures SPECIFICALLY IN CAMERON PARK.

Thank you for considering my request.

--

Saxon Johnson  
Rodan + Fields  
Executive Consultant  
Clinically proven products: [saxonjohnson.myrandf.com](http://saxonjohnson.myrandf.com)  
(916) 390-7743



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

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## Project homekey

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Eric Johnson <ericorej@gmail.com>  
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 10:19 AM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to DISCONTINUE the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I STRONGLY OPPOSE the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures SPECIFICALLY IN CAMERON PARK.

Thank you for considering my request.





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

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## Project homekey

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**Eric Johnson** <eric.d.johnson@exprealty.com>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 10:19 AM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to DISCONTINUE the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I STRONGLY OPPOSE the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures SPECIFICALLY IN CAMERON PARK.

Thank you for considering my request.



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

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## Project homekey

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**Saxon Johnson** <nursingschoolsax@gmail.com>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 10:20 AM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to DISCONTINUE the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I STRONGLY OPPOSE the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures SPECIFICALLY IN CAMERON PARK.

Thank you for considering my request.



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

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## Project Homekey

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Pam Dunkelmann <memapamy@gmail.com>  
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 10:20 AM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to DISCONTINUE the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I STRONGLY OPPOSE the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures SPECIFICALLY IN CAMERON PARK.

Thank you for considering my request.



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

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## Project Homekey

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**Mark Dunckelmann** <stonespepa@gmail.com>  
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 10:21 AM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to DISCONTINUE the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I STRONGLY OPPOSE the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures SPECIFICALLY IN CAMERON PARK.

Thank you for considering my request.



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

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## Project Homekey

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**Pam Dunkelmann** <stonesmema@gmail.com>  
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 10:22 AM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to DISCONTINUE the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I STRONGLY OPPOSE the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures SPECIFICALLY IN CAMERON PARK.

Thank you for considering my request.



County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

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**BOS Meeting 1/4/22 - Agenda Item #28 / File #22-0075**

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Alicia Selby &lt;newcreation00@gmail.com&gt;

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 10:32 AM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Cc: The BOSONE &lt;bosone@edcgov.us&gt;, bostwo@edcgov.us, BOS Three &lt;bosthree@edcgov.us&gt;, bosfour@edcgov.us, bosfive@edcgov.us

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Thank you for discussing the discontinuance of the pursuit to purchase the Best Western Inn in Pollock Pines as a permanent homeless shelter through the Homekey Program.

I support the discontinuance of this purchase for the following reasons:

--The site is located in a remote part of our County that does not offer access to needed services for the homeless who will live there. Pollock Pines is an isolated community, with few amenities or services. The homeless will be largely left to their own devices much of the time, and that is not helpful to them as they seek to heal, grow, and regain their lives. During the winter, Pollock Pines receives more snow than most of the rest of the county which adds to difficulty in transporting homeless individuals to needed services. In addition, the potential for becoming house-bound during a snowstorm and its aftermath (as recently occurred this winter) could have a detrimental impact on the residents' emotional well-being.

--The proposed purchase requires great taxpayer expense, with little benefit to the local homeless community. The site will not be able to house a large number of our County's homeless population at one time, and will not provide a level of assistance that is in accordance with the associated cost.

--The proposed purchase will negatively affect the community of Pollock Pines. There is already a shortage of accomodation for tourists and other visitors, in addition to utility crews from companies such as PG&E and CalFire, that frequently use the Best Western Inn while they are in the area during outages, or for other emergencies. Clientele staying at the Inn provide economic benefit to the rest of Pollock Pines and surrounding communities , as they visit stores and restaurants in the area.

--The proposed purchase has almost no support from the local community. The residents and business owners in Pollock Pines do not want a permanent homeless shelter in their small, isolated, rural community. They realize that the negative impacts overwhelm any potential, hypothetical benefits.

Members of the Board, please consider revisiting the HOSTESS program proposed by Sherif D'Agostini. It is less expensive, and widely supported by the community. The HOSTESS program will provide a structured and well-supervised environment for our local struggling homeless individuals who want help to change their lives. It is the best chance we can provide to them, and is the option that is most in their best interest.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Alicia Selby  
Placerville



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

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## Item 28 1.4.2022 Meeting

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**Julie Willson** <omawillson@gmail.com>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 12:30 PM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you for considering my request.

Julie Willson  
Concerned Citizen of Cameron Park



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

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## Item 28

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**John Juhrend** <juhrend@geoconinc.com>  
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>  
Cc: "ccocpfounder@gmail.com" <ccocpfounder@gmail.com>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 12:32 PM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board -

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you for considering my request.

John Juhrend





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

**RE: Item 28**

**Colette Thiel** <Colette@thielhomes.com>  
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>  
Cc: "ccocpfounder@gmail.com" <ccocpfounder@gmail.com>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 12:35 PM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you.



**Colette Thiel**

**Broker/Owner**

Thiel Real Estate & Property  
Management

DRE#01455972

Phone: 877-805-7348

Mobile: 805-501-4872

Email: [colette@thielhomes.com](mailto:colette@thielhomes.com)

[www.thielhomes.com](http://www.thielhomes.com)



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**Where you are ALWAYS treated like part of the family!**



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

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**Agenda item 28 on 1-4-21**

George MacDougall <gmacdoug1@yahoo.com>  
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>  
Cc: "ccocpfounder@gmail.com" <ccocpfounder@gmail.com>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park. I am confident that the board is keenly aware of the crime statistics in the past year of the Coach Lane corridor due to the transient population in the nearby area.

Thank you for considering my request.

George MacDougall  
Cameron Park



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

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## Regarding Item 28

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Bill Morganstein <abmorgans@yahoo.com>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 12:38 PM

To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Cc: "ccocpfounder@gmail.com" <ccocpfounder@gmail.com>

Good Morning - Supervisors and Clerk of the Board,

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you for considering my request.

Bill Morganstein  
3677 Fairway Drive  
Cameron Park, CA 95682



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

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## Item 28

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**Nicole Sharoian** <nsharoian@gmail.com>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 12:38 PM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Cc: "ccocpfounder@gmail.com" <ccocpfounder@gmail.com>

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you for considering my request.

Nicole A. Sharoian  
Resident, Cameron Park - Bar J Ranch Community



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

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## Item 28

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**Nancy Kay Smithson** <nswenson1@me.com>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 12:52 PM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Cc: ccocpfounder@gmail.com

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you for considering my request.

Nancy Smithson  
3681 Mira Loma Dr.  
Cameron Park, CA 95682



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

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## Best Western Inn Pollock Pines

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**Jamie Beutler** <beutlerjamie@gmail.com>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 1:53 PM

To: EDC Board of Supervisors  
Don Aston CAO  
Don Semon DHHS

From Jamie Beutler

January 3, 2022

Dear Board of Supervisors,

While I believe the reasons for this resolution have some merit, I also believe that to waste all the time and effort the county has spent on this endeavor, not to mention the available funds, and the success that this project could have for the homeless that are looking to get back into society, I think outweighs the disadvantages.

The homeless are not going away. They have not been given a fair chance on the West Slope. We owe it to our community to help make them taxpaying citizens again, and that is the segment of the homeless population that this project would serve.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jamie Beutler



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

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## NO on Project HomeKey

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Karen Tucker <kattalk@att.net>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 2:26 PM

RE: Item 28

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,  
~ Karen

Karen Tucker  
Cameron Estates





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

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**RE: Item 28**

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**Roy Simpson** <rsimpson53@msn.com>  
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>  
Cc: Colleen Hearn <ccocpfounder@gmail.com>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 2:03 PM

Dear Supervisors:

I am writing in support of Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the El Dorado County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Also, I oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park. We have seen this project proceed in Lake Tahoe will ill effects and little effectiveness. The decreased availability of low paid worker housing, the blight it brings to the community, and the ongoing burden on taxpayers' is not what we deserve.

I hope someone there is listening,

Roy Simpson

**"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."  
- Frederick Douglass -**



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

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**RE: Item 28**

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**Roy Simpson** <rsimpson53@msn.com>  
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>  
Cc: Colleen Hearn <ccocpfounder@gmail.com>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 2:28 PM

Orienting to subject line. Item 28 1.4.22 meeting

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**From:** Roy Simpson  
**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 2:03:36 PM  
**To:** edc.cob@edcgov.us <edc.cob@edcgov.us>  
**Cc:** Colleen Hearn <ccocpfounder@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Item 28

[Quoted text hidden]



County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

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**ITEM 28**

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**Sharon Steffens** <Sharon@trinitybuilt.net>  
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>  
Cc: Colleen Hearn <ccocpfounder@gmail.com>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 2:59 PM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board,

I am writing to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures, specifically in Cameron Park. From what I have learned, it makes no fiscal sense and history has shown it will only do damage to the community.

Thank you for considering my request.

*Sharon Steffens*  
*Chief Financial Officer*  
Trinity Built  
Office (530) 677-1600  
Fax (530) 677-1657  
Cell (916) 897-3927  
[sharon@trinitybuilt.net](mailto:sharon@trinitybuilt.net)



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

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**RE: Item 28**

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**Geri Payne** <garekindled@gmail.com>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us  
Cc: ccocpfounder@gmail.com

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 3:12 PM

RE: Item 28

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you for considering my request.

Geri Payne



County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

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**Item 28 January 4, 2022**

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**John Steffens** <John@trinitybuilt.net>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 3:34 PM

To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

Cc: "ccocpfounder@gmail.com" &lt;ccocpfounder@gmail.com&gt;

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board,

I am writing to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines. Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures, specifically in Cameron Park. Last quarter we met with Colleen Hearn, the mayor of Lake Tahoe, and local concerned citizens and it makes no fiscal sense for the County to enter into these contracts and could very well damage the quality of living in our local communities.

Thank you for considering this request.

*John Steffens**President**Trinity Built**Office (530) 677-1600**Fax (530) 677-1657**Cell (916) 467-0344**john@trinitybuilt.net*



County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

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## Board Item 28

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**Michael Finen** <mfinen@finenlaw.com>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 3:48 PM

Dear Board of Supervisors:


Please see the attached letter opposing Board Item 28.

Onward,

*C. Michael Finen*  
Law Offices of C. Michael Finen  
3461 Robin Lane, Suite 4  
Cameron Park, CA 95682  
530-677-7100  
530-677-5049 (fax)  
[mfinen@finenlaw.com](mailto:mfinen@finenlaw.com)

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LAW OFFICES OF  
C. MICHAEL FINEN  
3461 ROBIN LANE  
SUITE 4  
CAMERON PARK, CA 95682

C. MICHAEL FINEN  
WENDY S. FINEN

TELEPHONE: (530) 677-7100  
TELEFAX: (530) 677-5049  
MFINEN@FINENLAW.COM

January 3, 2022

RE: Item 28

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Michael Finen", written in a cursive style.

C. Michael Finen



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

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**RE: Item 28**

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**Susan Kimball** <skbaler74@gmail.com>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 3:46 PM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing in to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you for considering my request.  
Susan Kimball





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

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## Item 28

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**Teri Harness** <teriharness@comcast.net>  
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>  
Cc: "ccocpfounder@gmail.com" <ccocpfounder@gmail.com>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 3:50 PM

Supervisors and Clerk of the Board-

I am writing to demonstrate my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purposes of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you for considering my request.

Teri and Roger Harness  
El Dorado County Residents



County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

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**Item 28**

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**Wendy Finen** <wfinen@finenlaw.com>

Mon, Jan 3, 2022 at 3:54 PM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Cc: ccocpfounder@gmail.com

Dear El Dorado County Supervisors and Clerk of the Board:

I am writing to state my support for Supervisor Novasel's recommendation to discontinue the County's Project Homekey grant application for the purchase of the Best Western Hotel in Pollock Pines.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the County pursuing any further Project Homekey grants for the purpose of buying hotels or other structures specifically in Cameron Park.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I look forward to determining which of you will share my position and which of you will oppose it.

Sincerely,

Wendy S. Finen  
Law Offices of C. Michael Finen  
3461 Robin Lane, Suite 4  
Cameron Park, CA 95682  
530-677-7100  
530-677-5049 (fax)

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