

Public Comment #23
BOS Recd. 1-27-25

From: BOS-Clerk of the Board
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 1:10 PM
To: BOS-Clerk of the Board
Subject: RE: 01-28-25 EDC BOS Item #23 Input

From: Todd White <toddwhite2006@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 10:19 AM
To: bosone@edcgov.us <bosone@edcgov.us>; BOS Two <bostwo@edcgov.us>; Brian Veerkamp <bosthree@edcgov.us>;
bosfour@edcgov.us <bosfour@edcgov.us>; brooke.laine@edcgov.us <brooke.laine@edcgov.us>
Subject: 01-28-25 EDC BOS Item #23 Input

Good morning Supervisors,

I hope you are doing well!

Please see the attached letter approved by the El Dorado County Republican Party as it pertains to Item #23. Our Party believes that the community hubs need to be re-evaluated at the Placerville Branch of the County Library, due to its proximity to the Homeless Navigation Center.

The significant homeless population that has been allowed to congregate around the Placerville Branch Library and the Government Center in general, has put the public and county employees at risk.

Also, attached are current photos of the homeless population living outside the Placerville Branch of the County Library.

Thank you for your time.

Have a good day,

Todd
(530) 417-0807



January 27th, 2025

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

Re: EDC BOS Meeting 01/28/25 Item #23

Dear Members of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors:

We write to you with great urgency following the recent violent incident that took place outside the Placerville branch of the El Dorado County Library. This deeply concerning event, involving a homeless individual attacking another with a knife, highlights an urgent need for the county to reassess its approach to funding and managing community hubs such as the library and the nearby homeless navigation center.

The library is a cornerstone of our community, a space meant to foster learning, safety, and inclusivity for all residents. However, its proximity to the homeless navigation center has raised significant concerns about public safety. The recent stabbing is not an isolated incident, as there have been numerous reports of safety issues affecting both county employees and local residents since the navigation center was relocated to Fair Lane.

While the navigation center provides much-needed services to the homeless population, the current structure and oversight appear insufficient to ensure the safety of the surrounding community. The attacker in this case, identified as Jacob Gonzalez, had a prior criminal record and was on Post Release Community Supervision at the time of the incident. This underscores the need for stricter protocols and better coordination between the navigation center, law enforcement, and the community to address risks posed by individuals with violent tendencies. As representatives of the El Dorado County Republican Party, we urge the Board of Supervisors to take immediate action by:

1. **Reevaluating Funding Priorities:** Allocate additional resources to improve safety measures at community hubs, including increased security personnel, enhanced surveillance, and more robust monitoring of individuals utilizing the navigation center's services.
2. **Implementing Policy Changes:** Work with law enforcement to ensure individuals on parole or with a history of violence are closely monitored and that their integration into the community is handled with appropriate safeguards.

3. **Reconsidering the Navigation Center's Location:** Assess whether the current location of the navigation center is suitable given its proximity to essential community spaces like the library. If necessary, relocate the center to an area better equipped to manage its impact on public safety.

The safety and well-being of El Dorado County residents must remain a top priority. Without immediate and decisive action, we risk further incidents that erode public trust and harm our community. We strongly believe that a comprehensive reevaluation of current strategies can lead to solutions that balance compassion for the homeless population with the safety of all citizens. Thank you for your attention to this matter. We are committed to working with the Board of Supervisors to ensure that Placerville remains a safe and welcoming place for all.

Sincerely,

Todd White
Chairman
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