

*public comment 57*

Agenda items # 5 and 7

1 message

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To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

I am writing to object to the homeless housing that has been ongoing at the Best Western in Pollock Pines. I have been a resident and property owner in Pollock Pines for 25yrs and have watched our town fall into neglect. Half the restaurants and many businesses have closed and it is not getting any better. Adding what will become a permanent homeless situation will not be in "the public's best interest". This was supposed to be a temporary situation during the Covid pandemic, but we all know that was never the real intention. This is just an extension of Governor Newsom's policy's that failed in San Francisco and have now been unleashed on all of California and you don't need a crystal ball to see where it is headed. What happens if stores start closing like all the Walgreens in the bay area, we can't afford to lose CVS or any other business. And why does someone like Jeanne Harper have to go begging for funds to get a park up here that really is in "the public's best interest" but all of a sudden we have all kinds of money to throw at the homeless? This is what should be called the Homeless Industrial Complex. There is no longer a desire to fix the problem as too many people now make a living at "solving" the issue. My solution is we attempt to comply with the ridiculous 9th circuit ruling that for some reason we are responsible for putting a roof over anyone's head. Lets find a place to hold 600+ beds so we can actually clear the bums and junkies off of public land. They will not go to a shelter and the people who want help will still be able to access it. Renting hotel rooms only prolongs what really needs to be done. I have watched what has happened to upper Broadway since the Upper room opened in 2002 and do not want to see a repeat in my town, which is of course the logical next step for those who believe that if we just throw more money at it that will fix it. And since I am on the upper room at what point does a "charity" become just another Government agency? Should not the people who foisted this on the community be the one's responsible for it's costs? I can guarantee that if you really ask the people who are affected by this they do not have the warm and fuzzy feeling that its supporters do. Sorry if this comes off as if I don't care but honestly I am done with the homeless situation, at what point do the real constituents get paid attention to? All of this will just be money wasted as the problem continues to get worse, has any of this improved the situation anywhere? You know what needs to be done, the current path is unsustainable.

John Van Schoyck

EDC Taxpayer