



*Public Comment #32*  
County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

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## Agenda ítem 32, BoS meeting 11/09/2021

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Debra Lee <debrahuntlee@gmail.com>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Nov 8, 2021 at 4:00 PM

I would like the Supervisors to address the financial impact of the Sheriff's HOSTESS program in terms of the potential \$5.6 million in grant and other monies that this program would place at risk of forfeiture.

Debra Lee  
4019 Nugget Lane  
Placerville

**LATE DISTRIBUTION**  
**DATE** 11-9-21



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

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**Public Comment - Item " 32. 21-1668" for meeting on 11/9/21**

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Leigh Wayne Miller <lwmiller8@msn.com>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Tue, Nov 9, 2021 at 4:10 AM

To Whom It May Concern -

I am writing to address the proposal for the HOSTESS encampment set forth by Sheriff D'Agostini. I am a physician at Barton Hospital in South Lake Tahoe and have been a part of the creation and development of Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless addressing the homeless population in South Lake Tahoe. I certainly understand the controversies surrounding homeless encampments and the difficulties they create for a community, especially one so recently traumatized by fire disaster. The desire to eliminate those difficult elements from a community is a topic of continued debate. I have several concerns with this proposal:

I have learned a tremendous amount about homeless strategies in the 7 years I have been a part of the Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless project. Our organization has had exponential growth in the last 2 years of the pandemic and has had to dramatically change and grow its efforts in response to the difficulties surrounding mass sheltering with the ever present reality of COVID 19. Isolation and quarantine are challenging in this population and would be so in the proposed encampment. Our organization partnered with the hospital to help with sheltering and isolation of medically vulnerable homeless individuals in transitional units supported by our staff. This significantly helped offload the already congested medical system without creating more transmission and illness by providing shelter (more than a tent) and access to hygiene. These services were largely funded with the assistance of the COC. The funding they have helped secure for our county through compliance with a Housing First approach, has not only created jobs with our nonprofit organization and others, but has helped stabilize the financial impact on our community and our hospital in a time where we already stretched so thin. The access to these funding streams are going to be even more important as we face the post fire, pandemic burdened economy where more of our neighbors are facing the realities of homelessness.

I have personally housed a homeless person in my own home and have developed relationships with others through my work at the hospital and through the coalition. I have questioned them about my own efforts to help in addition to the approach of the coalition. I have found that so many of our efforts to help strip them of dignity. The challenges of just maintaining personal hygiene on the street are challenging to say the least. I am concerned that the proposed encampment, adjacent to the jail, with their only other alternatives being to leave the area they know or be arrested, does not consider the human. It is difficult for me to imagine homelessness myself, but this proposal does not sound like assistance that supports the well-being of the person, rather makes them feel criminalized, or at the very least marginalized. This is certainly not the intention the proposal, I am sure.

No matter what faith background you come from, the golden rule seems a common element of many. Treating others as I would prefer to be treated is how I hope to live my life. If you ask yourself, should you ever face disaster enough to not know where you are going to sleep or when you might next have a chance to clean yourself or your clothes, is the proposed encampment somewhere you would want to find yourself? I have a hard time believing it would be any of our choice over a bed and a shower. Housing First philosophy understands this. Shelter the person first, then wrap services around them to help them with a solution out of homelessness. This is what the COC and partners in the community are successfully working toward and doing even now.

Let's rethink the solution to the ever present difficulties that come with homeless encampments in a way that considers the human suffering aspect and stabilizes the funding that can help our county continue to solve homelessness into the future.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this important matter.

Leigh Wayne Miller





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County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>  
*Bea RCOD 11-9-21*

**Comment on item 21-1668**

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

Tue, Nov 9, 2021 at 10:21 AM

Sorry I am unable to attend this morning's meeting to comment on item 21-1668.

I would like to express appreciation for the Sheriff for considering the HOSTESS proposal to provide emergency shelter to the homeless population of our county. I hope that the Board and indeed all stakeholders are able to collaborate on developing this emergency homeless shelter plus navigation that in no way threatens state and federal funding to our county. This would entail honoring the Housing First principles, as well as tapping all the talent and resources present in this county, to create emergency shelter as soon as possible. It may require bringing in an outside organization such as VOA that is skilled at meeting the needs of extremely vulnerable folks. Participation in helping EDOK develop its strategic plan is our opportunity to consider short and long term consequences and opportunities here. People with serious and persistent mental illness and/or substance abuse challenges need the full and supported participation of HHS and the Department of Behavioral Health to design programmatic changes that will provide a true continuum of care from crisis to recovery. I urge the Board to support full participation by all stakeholders in developing a true, caring safety net that will help assuage people's fears and generate a feeling of community for all of us.

Diane Rabinowitz  
310 404 5252

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

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**DATE** 11-9-21



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*Bos RCVD 11-9-21*

## For Public Comment- Agenda Item 32- Sheriff's Hostess

bdrummond <us@drummondfamily.org>

Tue, Nov 9, 2021 at 10:47 AM

To: Colleen Hearn <ccocpfounder@gmail.com>, 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, John D'Agostini <DAGostiniJ@edso.org>, Mike Sproull <mikes@foodbankedc.org>, Todd White <todd.white@edcgov.us>, Bryan Golmitz <golmitzb@edso.org>, john.dagostini@edso.org, Shaunda Crane <scrane@marshallmedical.org>

Agree with the below statement. I am unable to attend today due to appointment for my 94 year old mother.

- No project room key ,especially in CP. Pretend it is EDH or Camino where you wouldn't even consider it.
- The HOSTESS is a concept meant to create a place for common ground and ultimately a place of ALL homeless. Instead it seems to be a way to punish the Sherriff for something he did a few years ago.
- Project #Room key could have 4 people in a room if you put in bunk beds. I know there are laws about privacy. But those laws don't apply to the Nomadic Shelter with 10 to 20 people on a floor in one room. Can you explain.
- Laws were made by politicians. The can be changed by the same people that made them. So please no talk that Housing First is the only thing you can do even though it doesn't work.
- The Hot Team has a housing unit that would meet "Housing First".
- We need to look at ROI in homeless not what kind of grand programs we can create that have big administration costs.
- We do need to pay people...the people directly helping the homeless.
- We know that every homeless person as different needs. We need to address them all, not just the ones we want to address.
- Stop with the politics and start with the common ground and what it is needed to meet the needs on ALL the residents, not just the homeless or people benefiting financially for being in the homeless business.
- Thank you for your work to make our county the wonderful place it is to live.

Kind Regards, Liz Drummond

Mobile Text: 916-804-9799 Email:us@drummondfamily.org

**LATE DISTRIBUTION**

**DATE** 11-9-21

Thoughts for the day - pick one 😊

- Don't find fault; find a remedy. Henry Ford
- Without forgiveness there is no future. Desmond Tutu
- The ability to see order in chaos is called creativity. - Simon Sinek
- The most common way people give up their power is thinking they don't have any. - Alice Walker
- Imagination will often carry us to worlds that never were. But without it we go nowhere. - Carl Sagan

- To see what is in front of one's nose is a constant struggle. - George Orwell
- Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of overcoming it. - Helen Keller
- Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere - Albert Einstein

[Quoted text hidden]

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