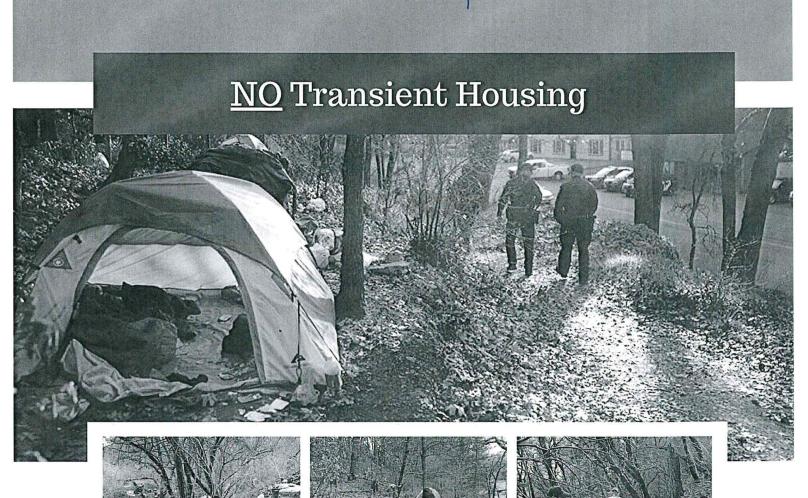
Public comment #25



## THEFT | VANDALISM | DRUGS

The El Dorado Co. Fair Association <u>opposes</u> the installation of transitional housing at the Armory. Theft, vandalism, and drug paraphernalia left behind are just a few of the reasons why allowing and encouraging the transient community to congregate at the fairgrounds would be bad for our community.

## Dispatchers, Teachers & Local Business Owners agree

# Transient Housing has no place on the Fairgrounds

## Here's why..

- The Fairgrounds is host to many rentals that do not blend with the transient community which ultimately means they will have to cancel their events. All these events and more would be displaced if the armory was used as transient housing. It doesn't make sense.
  - Farm Bureau's Farm Day, annually in May, over 900 3rd Graders
  - 4-H uses the Fairgrounds throughout the year for educational activities and contests
  - The County Health Department holds flu shot clinics
  - The Red Cross uses the fairgrounds as an evacuation site, heating/cooling center, and animal rescue.
  - CalFire and other uses the fairgrounds as a staging ground for fire camps
  - All County Cross Country Meet utilizes the Fairgrounds for their annual race, attended by almost 1,000 3rd Grade Kids.
- The Annual County Fair is the largest fundraiser for many groups such as; The American Legion, 20/30 Club, High School Music Boosters, 4-H, and Rotary Clubs.
- The homeless bring drugs, fights, vandalism, disease and filth. They don't follow rules.
- Research has shown that where the transient community congregates there are more diseases such as MERSA, AIDS, HEP C, & more.
- The Armory is directly across the street from New Morning's *Children's Shelter*, 76 families, dozens of small businesses, and only 350 ft from Joe's Skate Park, a local youth hang out. Transient housing being located at the Armory endangers our youth.
- The Fairgrounds ALREADY has fallen victim to the transient community, we frequently
  find drug paraphernalia (including used needles) in our restrooms and bushes, feces and
  waste on the grounds, and mentally unstable transients have harassed Fair staff and
  guests.

We ask that you take a moment to contact City and County officials and share your  $\downarrow$  concerns regarding this type of housing/shelter.  $\downarrow$ 

Brian Dahl, Senator, (530) 271-1022, (530) 235-6883, senator.dahle@sen.ca.gov
Frank Bigelow, assemblymember.Bigelow@outreach.assembly.ca.gov
Cleve Morris, City Manager, 530-642-5538, cmorris@cityofplacerville.org
Mayor Saragosa, msaragosa@cityofplacerville.org
Councilmember Dennis Thomas, dthomas@cityofplacerville.org
Councilmember Mark Acuna, macula@cityofplacerville.org
Councilmember Patty Borelli, borellicouncil@sbcglobal.net
Councilmember Kara Taylor, ktaylor@cityofplacerville.org
Supervisor Hidahl, (530) 621-5650, bosone@edcgov.us
Supervisor Frentzen, (530) 621-5651, bostwo@edcgov.us
Supervisor Veerkamp, (530) 621-5652, bosthree@edcgov.us

Wo

Supervisor Parlin, (530) 621-6513, bosfour@edcgov.us Supervisor Novasel, (530) 621-6577, bosfive@edcgov.us CAO Don Ashton, (530) 621-5567, clay.russell@edcgov.us Sample letter attached or call 530.621.5860 email:
fair@eldoradocountyfair.org
We'll send it to you!

#### Dear

It has come to my attention that the City of Placerville and El Dorado County are considering installing transitional housing at the old Armory location, next to the Fairgrounds to benefit the transient community. With endorsement from the Fair Board and Staff, I send this letter of opposition to using the Fairgrounds as housing or shelter for the homeless population. The Fairgrounds is a community hub where our residents use the beautiful grounds daily to walk, exercise their horses, walk their dogs, practice fire crew drills, picnic, etc.

The Fair staff already struggles with vandalism and theft done by the homeless community, and they frequently find drug paraphernalia (including used needles) in restrooms and bushes. The staff has been verbally harassed, threatened with physical harm and in one instance physically attacked. Bringing more of the homeless/transient community, which inherently suffers from mental disease/drug & alcohol addiction, would bring more of this to our fairgrounds.

The Armory is also directly across the street from New Morning's Children's Shelter, and only 350 ft from Joe's Skate Park, a local youth hang out. The Fairgrounds is also the venue for the many large youth activities, including the All County Cross Country Meet's annual race which is attended by almost 1,000 3rd Grade Kids and Farm Day, with 800 4th Graders. Transient housing being located at the Armory endangers our youth.

The homeless/transient community does not blend well with the events that utilize these facilities. Events such as; Kids Expo, the Annual Fair, Fire Camps, fundraisers for local nonprofits, flu clinics, just to name a few. Many events will likely move to venues outside of the county or cancel. This would be a significant loss of revenue to our local economy.

Please join us in opposition of the Armory being transformed into transitional housing for the homeless and stand with us to protect our community.

Sincerely



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

#### correction to original email

2 messages

Jody Gray <jody@eldoradocountyfair.org>

Thu, Apr 9, 2020 at 2:19 PM

To: Allen Feathers <feathers44@comcast.net>, Brian Veerkamp <br/>
sucarmeyer@sbcglobal.net>, Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>, Dianne Wright <cooldiannew@gmail.com>, Emma<br/>
Owens <emma.owens@edcgov.us>, Fred Hunt <frmahunt@gmail.com>, Gay Wiilyard <gathai@prodigy.net>, Jim & Maureen<br/>
Carter <jimc@carterkelly.com>, Joan Stek <j.stek@wildblue.net>, Joellene Vakulich <vjoellene@yahoo.com>, Joy Knight<br/>
<sjk12876@yahoo.com>, Kami Arnold <office@placervillespeedway.com>, Kathy Dunkak <kathy@eldoradocountyfair.org>,<br/>
Mary Ann Harper <harmarharper@sbcglobal.net>, Maureen Carter <maureenc@carterkelly.com>, Michael Schiavone<br/>
<mls@directcon.net>, Suzanne Wright <suz@thewrightdesign.com>, Tom Lemos <tlemos@live.com>, Trish and Dallas<br/>
Sweeney <t.sweeney0936@gmail.com>

The County and City are "discussing" the idea of turning the Armory into a Homeless Facility. Please give them your input before next Tuesday. Thank you, Jody

Jody W. Gray

CEO | El Dorado County Fair & Event Center

a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization 100 Placerville Drive, Placerville CA 95667 P. (530) 621-5860 F. (530) 295-2566

EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Thu, Apr 9, 2020 at 2:32 PM

To: The BOSONE <bostneededgov.us>, The BOSTWO <bostwo@edcgov.us>, The BOSTHREE <bosthree@edcgov.us>, The BOSFOUR <bostneededgov.us>, The BOSFIVE <bostive@edcgov.us>, Donald Ashton <don.ashton@edcgov.us>

**FYI** 

Office of the Clerk of the Board El Dorado County 330 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667 530-621-5390

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

From: Jody Gray <jody@eldoradocountyfair.org>

Date: Thu, Apr 9, 2020 at 2:19 PM Subject: correction to original email

To: Allen Feathers <feathers44@comcast.net>, Brian Veerkamp

<bkveerkamp@sbcglobal.net>, Carlan & Susan Meyer

[Quoted text hidden]

<sucarmeyer@sbcglobal.net>, Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>,
Dianne Wright <cooldiannew@gmail.com>, Emma Owens
<emma.owens@edcgov.us>, Fred Hunt <frmahunt@gmail.com>, Gay Wiilyard
<gathai@prodigy.net>, Jim & Maureen Carter <jimc@carterkelly.com>,
Joan Stek <j.stek@wildblue.net>, Joellene Vakulich
<vjoellene@yahoo.com>, Joy Knight <sjk12876@yahoo.com>, Kami Arnold
<office@placervillespeedway.com>, Kathy Dunkak
<kathy@eldoradocountyfair.org>, Mary Ann Harper
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<maureenc@carterkelly.com>, Michael Schiavone <mls@directcon.net>,
Suzanne Wright <suz@thewrightdesign.com>, Tom Lemos <tlemos@live.com>,
Trish and Dallas Sweeney <t.sweeney0936@gmail.com>

Public comment 25



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

### **Proposed homeless shelter**

3 messages

Peter Bacco <coolbacco@yahoo.com>
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Thu, Apr 9, 2020 at 4:09 PM

Dear County Supervisors,

I would like to express my concerns about using the old Amory as a homeless shelter. It is my belief that the location is too close to recreational areas used by many people. The skate park and fairgrounds are often used by minors and even adults who may not be capable of dealing with the challenges of the homeless population.

My family moved from Roseville for this very reason when my kids were young. Our neighborhood became inundated with homeless and this cause many problems. The parks were no longer safe. Drugs and public intoxication were very common. We even had one man walk right in our front door. I was not home and if it wasn't for the fact that we had a very large dog that made him back out, who knows what could have happened to my wife and kids.

While there are cases of people becoming homeless due to unfortunate events, a large part of the population are addicted to drugs and alcohol and have other severe mental problems. Many are also transient and have criminal records.

I am all for helping people in need but we have to be smart and there are no easy solutions. Having the shelter so close to these recreational areas will make them unsafe and devastate them. Shelters should be placed in areas that can be monitored better like an industrial park. The undeniable truth is that wherever the shelter is placed crime will increase. Putting it next to the skate park and fairgrounds would be a mistake.

Best regards,

Peter Bacco

Cool, Ca.

EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>
To: Peter Bacco <coolbacco@yahoo.com>

Thu, Apr 9, 2020 at 4:17 PM

Thank you. Appropriate public comment provided for upcoming agenda items will be added to the corresponding file.

Office of the Clerk of the Board El Dorado County 330 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667 530-621-5390

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[Quoted text hidden]

To: The BOSONE <bostneededgov.us>, The BOSTWO <bostwo@edcgov.us>, The BOSTHREE <bosthree@edcgov.us>, The BOSFOUR <bostwo@edcgov.us>, Donald Ashton <don.ashton@edcgov.us>

FYI

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[Quoted text hidden]