

Kristy Tanguay Cole
601 N. McPherson St.
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

November 23, 2015

City of Fort Bragg
416 N. Franklin St.
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
ATTN: June Lemos, City Clerk

Dear Ms. Lemos,

I am writing as a community member who happens to work for Parents and Friends, a non-profit agency that has been providing services to persons with developmental challenges and similar needs in Fort Bragg since 1955.

I feel that the Central Business District ballot measure is discriminatory, and was only written to try, once again, to put a stop to the conversion of the old Coast Hotel over to the Hospitality Center where a variety of services are to be provided to the homeless as well as to those in transition and prevention status. If passed, this ballot measure will prevent any further social service providers from hanging their hats to provide their services within in the Fort Bragg business district. It will not serve the greater good.

As the number of given program consumers grow, the need to expand into affordable and accessible facilities comes into the forefront. As an employee of a social service provider, I understand the need for expansion due to an increased number of consumers requiring and requesting services. In my three years with PFI, we have grown several times, as is evident with the purchase of our new Thrift Store & Furniture Annex location at 350 S. Main Street, our day programs facility at 521 E. Chestnut Street, and our leased Administrative offices at 306 E. Redwood Avenue. *Without these expanded locations, we would be otherwise be unable to serve our vulnerable adult clients.* Also of note is that many of the individuals whom we serve and advocate for are also consumers of other social service programs that are accessible in the city of Fort Bragg.

I am outraged and disgusted at this misguided and costly effort by a few people looking to protect their personal preferences toward a long vacant former hotel building that has not operated in what I believe has been over a decade. To me, this ballot measure looks like an attempt to veil a low blow aimed at the most vulnerable members of our community: those who are consuming from a variety of services; including persons who are disabled, of low income status, victims of domestic violence and their families, seniors, veterans, and so forth.

Fort Bragg is my chosen home, as it has always done well as an inclusive community, and this is what I want my family to understand: that we all need to support each other. Fort Bragg can continue to be an inclusive community by standing up to protect the interests and services available to those who need our help the most in Fort Bragg.

Sincerely,



Kristy Tanguay Cole

