

Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 7:13 PM

To: Ruffing, Linda; Peters, Lindy (Personal); Norvell, Bernie; Cimolino, Michael (Personal); Dave Turner; Desmond, Debbie; Will Lee; Lizarraga, Fabian; Oneal, Thomas

Subject: Fort Bragg City Council

Dear Councilmembers,

Thank you for your time and attention in regards to my concerns about problems I have experienced as a neighboring business near Hospitality House and my desire to work with The City to address those problems. I appreciate the time you give in service to this community to help us in solving problems.

I have informed you of issues that have impacted my business, my quality of life, and use of my property. Some of those issues are:

Drug use, alcohol use, violent outbursts, aggressive behavior, animal cruelty, domestic violence, garbage, human feces and public urination, just to name a few issues.

I have attempted to work with Hospitality House/Center in terms of informing them of problems so that they may address them and offering suggestions. I have contacted law enforcement repeatedly for help, as well as The City Manager.

I have obtained some documents that appear to be from The Planning Commission regarding a use permit for the facility. There is specific language in staff's recommendation for approval of that permit. Following are some specifics. Under "Findings" 2. The City is not authorizing an increase in the intensity of use at the site, as such, the project would not have a greater impact upon the surrounding neighborhood than at present. Under "Standard Conditions" 6. This permit shall be subject to revocation or modification upon a finding of anyone (1) or more of the following: (b) That one or more of the conditions upon which such permit was granted have been violated. (c) That the use for which the permit was granted is so conducted as to be detrimental to the public, health, welfare or safety or as to be a nuisance.

I also question how much of a staffing increase there has been at Hospitality House. The number of meals has doubled, while the number of beds nightly has only gone up slightly, from 6,000 to 7,600 in thirteen years, from the 2003 permit. While meals have increased to 23,000 per year, from 12,000, this is an increase from approximately 33 meals per day to 63 meals per day, in 2016.

I believe the lengthy and continuous problems associated with Hospitality House are due to the fact that though it was approved as a 24-bed shelter for the temporarily homeless, the facility's use is intensified as a meal service provider to innumerable individuals which, unfortunately, has created an attractive nuisance for the neighborhood. I saw nowhere in the related documents any mention of a meal service station for any homeless person, not a resident of the facility, to come to this facility to be served daily meals. Restaurants are required to provide restrooms and have limitations of capacity and are subject to many requirements and for good reason. They must keep their clients safe, so they must obtain permits to store, prepare and serve food safely. They are inspected by the health department for that. The Hospitality House is not a restaurant, but by becoming a food-serving station for homeless individuals, it does more than it was permitted to do

without input of the surrounding community. I believe it is unfair for the community to have this situation exist without public input for their concerns and this is why we are having this issue raised today.

My business is impacted by the activities of people drawn to Hospitality House not for shelter, as intended, but for free meals and they are not under the control of rules as clients living in the facility and some affect the surrounding area negatively by the results of their drug use, alcohol intoxication, public urination or worse, litter, aggressive behavior, to name a few "nuisances". Using the surrounding neighborhood for toilet purposes is definitely detrimental to the public health. I believe The City must require that Hospitality House cease and desist from serving meals to the homeless at their location and find another way to provide this service that is compliant with city permits and community input. The City has definitely been made aware that there are ongoing problems associated with the food service conducted by Hospitality House. While there is a need for providing food to homeless people, there are churches that historically have performed this service. Perhaps one option could be that Hospitality House could contract with them or work with them to provide meals if their situations are appropriate. If the intensification of use of Hospitality House beyond being a 24-bed shelter for the temporarily homeless had not occurred, the associated nuisance problems would not be taking up such a great deal my time, or yours, right now.

I am an invested business owner in this community with interests of the same value as Hospitality House, neighborhood homeowners or the general public and I appreciate that rules created to benefit all of us are honored and enforced. Thank you for your consideration and action on addressing nuisances and serious negative impacts due to non-compliance of the use permit issued to Hospitality House.

Thank you for your hard work and input towards problem-solving and improvement for Fort Bragg.

Respectfully,