

McClenagan, Laura

From: Isabella White <isabellawhite@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2022 10:39 PM
To: Planning Clerk
Subject: 15399; Figas Coastal Development; 04/06/22

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Hello,

To the city of Arcata, I have prepared the following statements that I hope will be read aloud for all to hear in the hearing of this issue.

1. We hold these houseless folks of Arcata's community to be bright, kind individuals and friends of our circles. As gentrification in Arcata sweeps home-challenged folks under the rug as the university expands and corporations push out small businesses, we pray that our small communities who've found home here won't be pushed out.
2. It is an atrocious proposal to arrest these individuals who are being wrongly forced to move out of the side of the road where they have sought sanctuary and resided for many weeks. These threats further displace these people and offer them no hope. Arcata is a sanctuary city afterall. It is proposed that this tiny strip on the outside of Arcata where they are residing will be turned into camps for the houseless. Then what is the point of arresting them first? Where do you propose these folks will go? They are already denied so many resources.
3. If the city and lumbar business are truly concerned about the lives of these home-challenged folks, I ask why the side of the road is such a cumbersome place for them to reside until shelters are built? Plenty of new housing is going up in Arcata, but are we sure that our community members are being prioritized? Clearly not. Imagine if we focused on integrating the folks that call Arcata's streets home into the actual space of the community. Or even yet, be left alone on the outskirts. Why would our resources not be used on our own kind before we bring in people from out of the area? Mind you these people from out of town gentrify Arcata as they raise rent prices for the people who've lived here for decades.
4. It is my dearest wish that our community is respected and not pushed away, let alone arrested. For there is no chance that we can truly be kept away, as this is our home. We make this area of Arcata diverse and are kept in the town's heart. If you are worried about how we look, provide us the resources to clean up. I wish to challenge your presumptions on what a healthy community looks like and the forces that drive us apart.

Sincerely,

Your neighbor & local resident of Arcata for nearly 20 years,

Isabella June White