

## Communication from Public

**Name:** J Anderson

**Date Submitted:** 10/04/2023 10:23 AM

**Council File No:** 23-1066

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am extremely concerned about the homeless project planned for the Midvale-Pico public parking lot. This location is the heart of a commercial district that was once vibrant and is now slowly returning post pandemic. Putting a temporary homeless shelter next door to restaurants and commercial businesses will force them to leave (many have stated they will not renew leases given the lack of safety for the customers). The shelter would have unvetted mentally-unstable and substance abusers roaming around during the day. This is huge public safety concern for the neighborhood residents and will do irreparable economic harm to the nearby commercial businesses and tax revenues collected. Put the project were the safety and economic impact is a location where the homeless already congregate, like on Cotner near the freeway. We demand common sense solutions that deal with the root cause and not throw tax payer money to developers and political donations to "solve" problems the homeless don't need or want. The homeless need mental health and substance abuse services with housing being very low on their needs.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jack Rose  
**Date Submitted:** 10/04/2023 12:27 PM  
**Council File No:** 23-1066  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Don't take away needed parking for Pico Blvd..

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nancy Russell

**Date Submitted:** 10/04/2023 12:45 PM

**Council File No:** 23-1066

**Comments for Public Posting:** Both my husband and I oppose the loss of the Midvale Pico parking lot for the following reasons: -The current parking lot is needed for businesses. Already, the landlord of the adjacent vacant building lost a planned tenant due to the proposed use of the parking lot for homeless housing. It is our understanding that a survey by the Department of Transportation found the lot was "under utilized." However, the survey was done during City employee working hours and did not consider key evening hours that the parking lot is used. There is no parking allowed on Pico Blvd. during rush hours at key business hours for restaurants and other businesses on Pico Blvd. This creates an untenable situation for the businesses which are just now getting over the impact of Covid. -The use of the lot for a homeless housing site also is a poor location for homeless since it is immediately adjacent to residential housing. The neighborhood has a large number of families with young children since many families seek the area due to its well-respected elementary school. While homeless housing residents will be vetted for Megan Law pedophiles, drug addicts and mentally-ill homeless will be considered for the housing. It is difficult to believe that such individuals will stay within their small homes 24 hours and not go into the adjacent area. -The cost of operating the site for homeless housing is not well thought out and only a contractor with a poor history of homeless housing operation was willing to contract with the City to operate the site. (There is also some question of the ethics involved in the contractor's selection.) It is highly questionable whether the promised service can be provided under the proposed budget. Moreover, given the limited number of homeless to be served, the project, at any cost, is clearly not cost-effective. As taxpayers, we find this unacceptable. -The site also was selected without any community input or involvement in finding a more suitable site. The community historically has been supportive of appropriately located social service facilities as witnessed by multiple social service facilities less than a mile from the Midvale lot. The rush to establish this project is poorly thought out and does not balance the needs for effective homeless housing with the need to maintain a workable business and neighborhood environment. Therefore, as citizens and taxpayers, we strongly oppose this project.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Celeste Wolfe

**Date Submitted:** 10/05/2023 03:41 PM

**Council File No:** 23-1066

**Comments for Public Posting:** Having listened to the Public Comment on 10/4/23 -- "Item #5" the Midvale/Pico Interim Homeless Housing Project -- I would like to go on record that the "low barrier" admittance paradigm of no curfew and no mandated compliance toward treatment goals \*\*\*\*does not guarantee increased utilization.\*\*\*\* Project Room Key (at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel) and the Cheviot Hills Park Trailers Program for Homeless with COVID infections, of which THIS COMMUNITY WAS AN ACTIVE part, had at best 50% utilization. These programs also DID NOT DECREASE the homeless encampments in our community area. It did quite the opposite, and you can call the businesses at 2215 Westwood Blvd, namely the Starbucks and the Chase Bank who had to deal with new encampments on the sidewalks surrounding these businesses during the time we ran Project Room Key and the Cheviot Hills Trailer Park Homeless with Covid. It was at this time, that Midvale began to experience its difficulties with the unhoused as well. No mandated compliance toward meeting treatment goals is a nightmare. And inadequate staffing with ONE mental health service provider for 34 cts means these clients are seen for one hour (at best), and this one Mental Health Service provider must track 5 patients/day for medical, financial, substance use, and discharge planning. This is an impossible schedule for one person. The staffing is inadequate. This community was NOT NIMBY, it had Project Room Key and the Homeless-with-Covid Trailers. Project Room Key had only 50% utilization. The trailers 40%. And in regards to the homeless man, Bill, who lived in the F&S Fabric Store; he REFUSED to go to PATH or a shelter because he felt safer not having his stuff stolen at an overnight facility. So our community supported him with food as best as we could. But his death was not because of dearth of beds. Sadly, he did not feel safe enough utilizing services -- like a shelter bed -- that ARE currently available.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** flora siman

**Date Submitted:** 10/05/2023 12:52 PM

**Council File No:** 23-1066

**Comments for Public Posting:** We are totally against of the idea of homeless shelter on Midvale and Pico. We have young girls walking in this area all the time. and it isn't going to be safe for them. all the restaurant next to it, have no choices to close because it wont be any parking for the customer to park. and we are sure all the homeless will be sitting all around that area so no-one will be able to get in the restaurants. Why this housing has to be middle of the city? there is so many places that you can make houses for them. please stop destroying our neighborhood. there is so many small kids in our area which it won't be safe any more for them to walk around. please consider to find a new place for your project. we been living in this area for 26 years and very happy please don't make us leave our house and go somewhere else Which I am sure we can't afford with this economy.