

Communication from Public

Name: Margaret Healy
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Council File No: 23-1066

Comments for Public Posting: My family is very sympathetic to the need for housing and rehabilitation of the homeless, but that won't happen at the Midvale /Pico site. *There is no clearly defined rehabilitation program. *There is a low bar for placement meaning that clients with criminal records, addiction, high acuity mental illness (i.e. are a danger to themselves or others) will be crowded together in hope they will live harmoniously. * Clients are likely to wander onto local streets interfering with traffic and jeopardizing their safety as well as that of the young and elderly throughout the neighborhood. *The one security officer on site may not leave the lot even if they see a break-in or assault on the street. *the children and the elderly, or indeed any resident are not equipped or trained to deal with an acutely mentally ill person or one who is impaired by drug use. The claim that lot #707 is underutilized is FALSE. DOT did not survey the lot at the dinner hour when the restaurants in the area are busiest. Lot # 707 is a City owned lot and is the only public parking lot for use by the restaurants and other businesses adjacent to it. If it is taken away from these businesses they will likely shut down leaving a boarded-up stretch of Pico Boulevard just when these businesses are recovering after the pandemic and Google is about to open a block away. Does it make sense to bring about closure of over 25 businesses in order to house 30 -34 individuals when larger sites have been found for CD5 that would better provide housing and services for a much larger number of clients? The City's funds for homeless people is being wasted by the choice of the Midvale lot over a much larger site on Cotner Avenue. A facility to house the homeless is a good thing, but not one adjacent to homes. Because part of the lot is in the R1 zone it is mere feet from a large home under construction which would probably be purchased by a family with children. Such a sensitive setting is not one our City officials should tolerate. Driving out small mom and pop neighborhood-serving businesses is a policy we believed Mayor Bass would not sanction since she has declared that one of her goals is to protect small businesses and see that they thrive. We are therefore strongly opposed to placing a interim housing site on lot #707 at Midvale and Pico. We ask that you not fund this project. We hope you can persuade Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky and Mayor Bass that the Cotner Avenue site will save the City money while better

serving a far larger number of the homeless. Thank for reading
our input on this issue. Sincerely, Margaret and Charles Healy
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