

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/01/2023 08:49 PM

Council File No: 23-1066

Comments for Public Posting: The Midvale-Pico interim housing project is only inches away from residential housing as well as small businesses. This project would decimate business's and create an unsafe environment for children and the elderly. There are plenty of other locations such as Cotner for this housing project to go. Cotner would also create more housing units instead of the 32 units that is projected for Midvale Pico.

Communication from Public

Name: Kristina B

Date Submitted: 10/01/2023 09:22 PM

Council File No: 23-1066

Comments for Public Posting: I'm a concerned resident and am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Midvale-Pico interim housing project. I ask the Committee to deny the request to fund this project, which would divert away scarce dollars from alternative options that have a much higher likelihood of success. Midvale-Pico parking lot is a poorly thought-out project that will gravely compromise neighborhood safety for a number of reasons: 1) the project has a high likelihood of housing individuals with a criminal record; 2) the site will only employ one *unarmed* security guard; 3) the proposed site is adjacent to families with young children, senior citizens, and small businesses that lack security to protect their employees and patrons; and 4) Los Angeles Family Housing (LAFH), the vendor selected by Councilmember Yaroslavsky to operate this project, has a catastrophic track record of operating similar shelters in other parts of Los Angeles, which have led to rampant drug use and overdoses, tents, and criminal activity in the neighborhoods in which LAFH shelters are located. I am also deeply concerned that the loss of this parking lot will negatively impact the local businesses that rely on it. Most of these local businesses are minority, immigrant and family owned restaurants. The parking lot is full of cars every single night, which means customers use it to dine at these restaurants. If this lot is converted to a shelter, these restaurants will undoubtedly lose customers, which will lead to a drop in revenue, and then loss of jobs. There are better locations for an interim shelter — locations that will not jeopardize neighborhood safety and force small businesses to close shop. Please make the right decision and deny the funding for Councilmember Yaroslavsky's ill-conceived project.