

From: [Melissa Staggs](#)
To: [Mary Gourley](#)
Subject: Homeless Safe Parking Program
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 10:44:06 AM

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I am writing to express my **extreme opposition** to the site proposed for a homeless safe parking program at 845 Gravenstein Hwy. Not only is the site inappropriate for such use based on zoning alone, the decision has been thrown on the neighbors and surrounding businesses with less than 24 hours notice to research and digest the full consequences of allowing this happen. There are so many critical questions that haven't been answered, but most importantly WHERE DOES IT STOP? There are shelters and resources available to those that want it. The people who illegally set up these encampments are not "down on their luck".....they are not "innocent families affected by a downturn". We can not continue to tolerate the degradation of our communities in this way. The City of Sebastopol just purchased a 31 room supportive living hotel less than a year ago to alleviate these encampments, but it's only gotten worse.

- Where is the due diligence? Has there been any neighbor impact reports, traffic studies, or consensus building?
- What are the zoning impacts?
- Who is responsible for density, setback, and compliance?
- Who is responsible for security?
- How will the city handle the water/sewer/debris?
- Why aren't those in the current encampments housed in the Sebastopol Inn that was purchased?
- What other locations have been proposed? Why not the old flea market site? Why wouldn't the city or SAVS purchase the flea market and develop a robust, profitable but socially responsible RV park?
- What is the END GAME?

I beg the council to consider our community- the ones who contribute and participate and LOVE our little town. These are not easy issues to address, but we have to look through a lens of both compassion and reality. The reality is that compassion can only go so far.

Melissa Staggs
Business owner & Sebastopol resident

