



City Council Meeting
Public Comments
August 23, 2023

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email Tamera.Kohler@rtfhdsd.org

Council Meeting Date August 23, 2023

Item # 11

Subject Short-Form Rent Increase Application for Carefree Ranch Mobilehome Park (File No. 0697-20-10330)

Position In Opposition

First and Last Name Tamera Kohler

Are you an Escondido Resident? No

Comments

The Regional Task Force on Homelessness (RTFH) strongly encourages the City Council to oppose the proposed rent increase for vulnerable seniors living at Carefree Ranch Mobile Home Park. On a monthly basis, the RTFH publishes a Monthly Data Newsletter. Each month, since March 2022, more people have fallen into homelessness for the first time than have been housed. Homelessness among older adults has steadily increased over the past three years, with an increase of 14% between 2020-2022 according to the recently released Homeless Crisis Response System 2022 Annual Data and Performance Report. The Regional Community Action Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in San Diego includes a "People Goal" of preventing and ending homelessness among older adults. Serving Seniors conducted a study in 2021 that found economic hardship is the primary driver of homelessness among older adults. A seemingly nominal increase of \$37.95 per month, may result in a vulnerable older adult on a fixed income being in a position to have to choose to pay for rent or medication, or not have enough food to make it through the month. The proposed rent increase is compounded by the \$30.74 monthly increase that was approved in August 2022, resulting in potentially a \$68 per month increase within 2 years to older adults on fixed incomes. We cannot stem the tide of people falling into homelessness when annual rent increases are approved in rent controlled properties and impact people who are on fixed incomes.