



**City Council Meeting**  
**Public Comments**  
**February 15, 2023**

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email [hmarr001@ucr.edu](mailto:hmarr001@ucr.edu)

Council Meeting Date 2/15/2023

Item # Oral Communication

Subject

Position In Opposition

First and Last Name Huitzilopochtli Marron

Are you an Escondido Resident? No

Comments

The solution to homelessness is not policing, it is access to housing and special services. The harassment and criminalization of homeless people needs to end! Funding for housing, not police! Especially in a time where recent reports have shown the absolute mistreatment of working class citizens all over San Diego, through acts of excessive force, racist behavior, sexual harassment, etc. Escondido could choose to implement a housing first model and give every homeless person in the city housing and wrap around services, and the cost would be a fraction of what they spend on the EPD. We call for an end to the "enforcement" model of addressing homelessness and a reallocation of funds to efforts that actually prevent crime and reduce homelessness.

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email [mustafaalghanimi694@gmail.com](mailto:mustafaalghanimi694@gmail.com)

Council Meeting Date 03/08/2023 - 4:00pm

Item # Oral Communications

Subject Escondido Housing for All

Position In Favor

First and Last Name Mustafa Al Ghanimi

Are you an Escondido Resident? No

Comments

Housing is a human right. Instead of funding the violent police who often harass and bully homeless people, Escondido should be giving more funds towards safe and affordable housing.

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email [tjsieckman@gmail.com](mailto:tjsieckman@gmail.com)

Council Meeting Date 2/15/2023

Item # Oral Communications

Subject Escondido Housing for All

Position In Favor

First and Last Name Tyler Sieckman

Are you an Escondido Resident? No

Comments

If we hate the sight of the homeless so much, whether it be out of pity or contempt, why do our cities work so hard to ensure that they stay homeless? Why do our policies deny the homeless every opportunity to pull themselves out of the mud? Why do we pour our tax dollars, year after year, into armed janitor squads who could never do more than sweep the homeless from one underpass to the next?

Why not instead give them a place to sleep, a place to wash up, a place to call home? Why not give them the essentials necessary to stand up and engage in society?

Submitted on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 - 9:14am

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email [zbowersock@gmail.com](mailto:zbowersock@gmail.com)

Council Meeting Date 2/15/23

Item # Oral Communication

Subject Escondido Housing For All

Position In Favor

First and Last Name Zachary Bowersock

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

I have lived in Escondido all of my life, and never once have I seen any meaningful, positive, or honest attempt at helping our homeless siblings on the street. I am a union worker, working in Escondido on the MFRO project which has seen millions of dollars poured into it. While I am thankful for the well paying work so close to home, such a grand amount of money put into this project to get more water for avocado farming tells me that between the money put into stuff like my job site and the organized gang we call the police, the city council and the mayor, despite their rhetoric if any progressive, can do way more to aid those in our city in desperate need of help.

Housing should come first and foremost, and let that possible future if landed upon be a shining example that another world is possible.

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email [danny.colmena@gmail.com](mailto:danny.colmena@gmail.com)

Council Meeting Date 2/15/23

Item # Oral Communications

Subject Escondido Housing for All

Position In Favor

First and Last Name Danny Colmenarez

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

Escondido must prioritize the human needs of our homeless neighbors over policing them, which only creates chances for more violence against them. If the goal truly is to eliminate homelessness, then give people permanent housing! This has been shown to be the only effective way to solve homelessness

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email [novawalkerbirch@gmail.com](mailto:novawalkerbirch@gmail.com)

Council Meeting Date 2/15/2023

Item # 12

Subject Escondido Housing for All

Position In Favor

First and Last Name Nova Birch

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

In 2022, the City of Escondido spent more than 49 million dollars on police. 2.05 million dollars was supposed to be used to address homelessness, but instead 68% of it was handed over to EPD and the rest was squandered on building and maintaining hostile architecture. This is an absolutely disgraceful waste of taxpayer money and unfortunately this kind of waste is all too commonplace in this country; some cities like New York and LA have higher police budgets than the militaries of entire countries. Police do not do anything to help the unhoused, all they do is harass them. Police do not prevent crime, they just show up after the fact. All police are good for are protecting the property of rich people and throwing people in cages. The US is home to 5% of the worlds population and yet we have 25% of the worlds prisoners; if you read the 13th amendment, which banned slavery "except as a punishment for a crime," its not hard to connect the dots as to why. It's time to bring an end to this barbaric and ineffective system and start using solutions that are less expensive and actually work: housing the poor and incorporating them into our communities instead of constantly pushing these human beings around like they're animals.

2/15/23. Esco Public Comment: Agenda Item #12. Add more diverse community-based organizations:

As a former care companion and community health worker, I believe these funding proposals need a lot of work.

The city must include more community-based organizations (CBOs) for homeless services contracts in regards to the categories of "prevention" and "outreach." There should especially be an increase in funding towards organizations who specialize in behavioral health. Moreover, there must be investment towards recruiting and retaining local multilingual, diverse, and culturally responsive community health workers.

As trusted community health and resource organizations, I believe local organizations like [Neighborhood Healthcare \(Escondido\)](#) and [Palomar Family YMCA](#) should be included in addition to discussions as potential city contract partners for homeless services prevention and outreach. Retention of local and culturally inclusive health-workers is vital for addressing our homeless residents' needs. There must be more investment in collaborating with more options for diverse youth intervention programs.

Please think outside the box and additionally include more diverse organizations. While I acknowledge that the organizations listed in the current staff report are providing resources, there is still very little working capacity. We need more bodies. We not only need more community health workers, we need these workers set-up for success to avoid burnout. Throwing the same groups, the same money, who use the same methods of outreach, won't change the outcomes or solve this housing crisis.

Respectfully,

Gloria R. Conejo ([She/Her/Ella](#))



Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email [marisajallen@gmail.com](mailto:marisajallen@gmail.com)

Council Meeting Date 2/15/23

Item # 12

Subject

Position No Position

First and Last Name Marisa Allen

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

Hello council members and Mayor White,

As we get closer to budget season, I hope that you will consider allocating funds for serving our unhoused neighbors to community stakeholder groups. For example, Neighborhood Healthcare could help with behavioral health. Interfaith does great work, but I think it would be helpful for our community's most prominent low income clinic to be involved.

However, I think the council should also be doing more to prevent homelessness, through methods like rent control, greater publicization of rental assistance programs, and approving higher density developments with low-income provisions. Throughout the county, the rate of people falling into homelessness is greater than the rate of unsheltered people becoming housed. Many of these people are homeless for the first time, with their wages not keeping up with skyrocketing rents, or becoming disabled by cancer, COVID-19, and other illnesses.

Blackstone Capital purchased apartment complexes in Escondido, and warned Councilmember Martinez that they will soon be processing evictions. The problem is only going to get worse, and we must do better.

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email [danny.colmena@gmail.com](mailto:danny.colmena@gmail.com)

Council Meeting Date 2/15/23

Item # 12

Subject Escondido Housing for All

Position In Favor

First and Last Name Danny Colmenarez

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

49 million dollars spent on the police department is about 49 million too many. Comparing the needs of salaries, equipment to food, clothing, shelter it is glaringly obvious which of the two has a greater need. Why don't these budgets reflect what people need?

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email [christinenava858@gmail.com](mailto:christinenava858@gmail.com)

Council Meeting Date February 15, 2023

Item # #12

Subject Homelessness

Position In Favor

First and Last Name Chris Nava

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

The enormity of the Homeless issue facing the County and Escondido calls for multifaceted solutions, some of which are already in place, or in the process of being implemented. One need that I urge the City council to give serious consideration to is of providing a Safe Parking Program to help individuals and families who are living in their vehicles by providing a safe and secure place to sleep seven days a week. This program can be put in place rather easily and without much cost to the city. Both Vista and Encinitas have implemented Safe Parking Programs that are proving successful. The safety and well-being of the increasing number of homeless families is a need that cannot be ignored. Please act today to protect our homeless population by committing to a Safe Parking Program.

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email [em.vong4@gmail.com](mailto:em.vong4@gmail.com)

Council Meeting Date 02/15/23

Item # 12

Subject Escondido Housing for All!

Position In Favor

First and Last Name Emily Von Gerichten

Are you an Escondido Resident? No

Comments

I am writing as a resident of our San Diego community to voice my FULL SUPPORT for the work being done by the folks pushing Escondido Housing for All. The city's funds should go towards housing and social services to give homeless folks a real, compassionate helping hand—NOT more police harassment of these folks doing what they can to survive in a city that is not doing enough to help them have safe and secure housing. Housing is a human right!

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email [joannetenney@hotmail.com](mailto:joannetenney@hotmail.com)

Council Meeting Date 02/15/23

Item # 12

Subject Homelessness

Position In Favor

First and Last Name Joanne Tenney

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

Create Safe Parking Program for individuals and families who live in their vehicles by providing safe and secure place to sleep 7 days a week.

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email [cnm3425@gmail.com](mailto:cnm3425@gmail.com)

Council Meeting Date 2/15/23

Item # Oral communication

Subject Escondido Housing For All

Position In Favor

First and Last Name Christianne McCormick

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

With the cost of rent frequently rising and the fact that most people's wages cannot keep up with that cost, homelessness can happen to anyone. Let's recognize this reality and provide the appropriate accommodations for all us— and that includes housing.