Dear Ms Gourley,

I just learned of the proposed Homeless RV Village located at 845 Gravenstein Hwy North in Sebastopol. I am very concerned about this proposed location, because of its proximity to Sebastopol Charter School, where my children attend school.

I realize that there is a very real need to find a problem to the homeless crisis in our community. And I do support the relocation of the homeless RV's that are parked on Morris Street. I know that the county and city need to solve this problem.

However, I think that the well being and safety of our children must be prioritized when thinking about where to locate a homeless shelter. I used to take my children walking and biking along Morris Street and no longer feel safe doing so because of the homeless encampment that has formed there.

Who will patrol the proposed Homeless Village? Who will monitor the bike path and the public spaces that border the Charter School? What is the plan for dealing with the inevitable "overflow" from the homeless village? What is the city's plan for supporting and protecting students as they walk and bicycle to school?

Our school is already being used by some as a "public space" and I am very concerned that the homeless community will do so as well, if this proposal goes through. I will worry about my children's safety and their using the bike path, should this proposal go through. Having a homeless shelter next to a school will jeopardize not only the feeling of safety and protection that our children deserve, but it will stretch our school's resources and capacity to mitigate the problems that come with homeless shelters.

There are serious implications for how a homeless shelter affects public spaces. This is not a decision that should be made quickly or lightly.

I urge you to not approve the Homeless RV Village at 845 Gravenstein North, and to find another location, far from any school or bike path. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Edda Loranger

Sent from my iPhone