

**From:** [Shreya Svoboda](#)  
**To:** [Mary Gourley](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Homeless Shelter 845 Gravenstein  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2021 11:53:39 AM

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Dear Mary Gourly,

I'd like to add my thoughts on the proximity of a homeless shelter to my daughter's school. Given the percentage of mental illness predominate in our homeless population, it seems irresponsible to create an uncontrolled concentration of these unfortunates near a school. In our experience while donating food to other shelters in Sonoma County, we have found the streets to feel risky and have been accosted by anger and insults on multiple occasions for no apparent reason we are able to understand. I want the surrounding areas of my daughter's school to continue to feel safe and stay clean. She sometimes walks to town from school and I am not sure I will continue to feel comfortable letting her do so if I know that there is an increased risk of unpredictable behaviour and confrontation from strangers.

I know that not all homeless are mentally ill, I know that not all of them struggle with drug and alcohol addiction, I also know that many of them do and that close proximity of this population with young children is not responsible, communicates opposition to the basic sense of why we send our children to school, and it does not promote a sense of safety.

Thank you.

Regards,

Shreya Readette A Svoboda DuBois