

SCHOOL & COLLEGE LEGAL SERVICES

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Una Glass, Mayor Sebastopol City Council Members City of Sebastopol 7120 Bodega Ave Sebastopol, CA 95473

Re: Temporary RV Village Pilot Program

Dear Mayor Glass and Sebastopol City Council Members:

On behalf of the Sebastopol Independent Charter School ("Charter School"), I write this letter in opposition to the proposed Temporary RV Village Pilot Program ("Program"), located at 845 Gravenstein Highway North.

First, we want to express our disappointment that the Sebastopol City Council did not provide direct notification to the Charter School that this matter was going to be considered at its special meeting on November 30, 2021. In light of the fact that the Charter School is located approximately 1,397 feet from the proposed Program site, it would seem reasonable for the City Council to have given the Charter School and its community sufficient notice to provide input.

The Charter School's substantive objection to the proposed Program is based on its close proximity to the Charter School site. Contrary to the November 30th Staff Report from the Committee of the Unhoused, included in the meeting agenda materials, the Charter School is located 1,397 feet from the proposed site, not one half mile. If the RV Village goes forward at this location, young students between the ages of 5-14 will be required to walk/bike by the RV Village on their route to and from the Charter School and the public bus stop on a daily basis. This will pose a safety risk to the Charter School students and a liability risk for the City of Sebastopol and St. Vincent de Paul.

Further, the City has failed to address how residents of the RV Village will be screened and regulated to ensure that all laws are being followed and the Charter School students are being protected. For example, will individuals who are registered sex offenders and/or who have committed other crimes involving minors be permitted to reside in the RV Village? It is disheartening that the City did not discuss these issues with the Charter School prior to bringing this matter before the City Council.

The Charter School remains supportive of this Program. However, the current proposed location poses significant liability issues and is not in the best interest of the Charter School or the community. Respectfully, this requires further public consideration.



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Sincerely,

Loren W. Soukup, Senior Associate General Counsel

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