

# CWSP North County: Meeting Participants' Questions/Concerns

August 17, 2015

1. Homeless shelters should not be in residential areas; this site is not appropriate. Why not in an industrial area? The County is not solving the problem, it is creating one. How does it help the homeless by putting a shelter in a neighborhood? This approach is also affecting people's decisions to purchase a home in the area. There is a day care center near the proposed site. The operator of this business is concerned about losing her clientele. Also, residents here are trying to beautify this neighborhood. There is a diverse kind of people (good and not so good). We need a permanent place that is not in a residential neighborhood. Please do it right by siting the shelter in a different location.
2. Will Staff/Public Safety respond to a call?
3. What other options exist in lieu of a shelter?
4. How much drug dealing is related to the homeless?
5. Overflow management—What is the plan to transfer the overflow? The homeless use the flood control channel contiguous to Bartlett. If they are turned down at the shelter, they will continue to be in the neighborhood. What will be done to prevent that? The homeless will not leave the area, even with bus passes.
6. Clarify the transportation plan.
7. There were 6,500 homeless counted last January. This shelter is for only 100; what about the other 6,400? What is the total County shelter bed capacity?
8. Lighting is an issue—What is the solution on the roads adjacent to the proposed shelter?
9. Is there a high wall along E. California?
10. What about the charge by businesses to call 911 (c. \$300/call)?
11. If a person does not have a reserved bed, what is the intake process—timing wise?
12. Can clients leave earlier than 8:30 a.m. and can they come earlier than 5:00 p.m.? How will HomeFirst manage the lines of people at the shelter?
13. The speed at the intersection is a cause for concern. The traffic on the ramp to Central Expressway is terrible.
14. Shelter Pods at Parks in San José. Why is the County not more proactive?
15. Will there be social workers at this site?
16. What about initiating an Urban Garden and having clients participate in it?
17. What are the long-term strategies of this program?
18. During the day, where will the clients go?
19. How far will the clients be monitored—2 blocks, ½ mile?
20. How can the public give input into the siting of this shelter?
21. What is the plan for Fair Oaks Park? There are existing issues with the homeless there. It is believed that it will be filled up with more homeless people.
22. There are currently problems with existing homeless trashing and defecating near fences and residences.
23. Efforts should be made to approach corporations such as Apple to get them to donate one of their buildings to shelter the homeless.
24. If the homeless are offered money to go elsewhere, it would be interesting to see how many would leave.
25. Trees don't stop homeless from using them for urination.
26. How can this project be stopped?
27. Why is Sunnyvale having to own the solution to homelessness? There are other cities and areas.
28. What about other site options, accessible by VTA and close to the Mayor's house?
29. We should not be in this situation next year.

30. Parking is already an issue—Will there be parking permits for the neighborhood?
31. The current zoning is RO—the proposed site is owned by the County. How does the zoning affect the proposed project?
32. How will the City and County address any drop in property values of nearby residences?
33. Will the community members get a document signed by the attorneys of the County and City that this is a “temporary” shelter? Some members of the community feel that they are being discriminated against because they are having to experience a homeless shelter again. Another area should be given the opportunity. It is believed that this will be like the Armory, which was used as a shelter for 22 years.
34. Will the CEQA report address the impacts of the shelter on the local community?
35. What is the definition of “chronic homeless”?
36. What help will the County provide if any house is vandalized and property insurance rates increase?
37. Will this “temporary” shelter be back next year?
38. Make the site look prettier with landscaping and lighting.
39. Contact the VTA to increase # of buses/lines that will help transport the clients to/from the site.
40. Was siting the shelter at the City Senior Center considered?
41. What is the cost comparison of the CWSP between last year and this year?
42. There is no grocery or other supermarket near the proposed site.
43. Why was the Braly Park Community Center meeting room chosen for the meeting?
44. The HomeFirst website states that the siting of the shelter is an effort of the City and the County.
45. What is the staffing plan for the proposed shelter? What will be the maximum number of staff/volunteers at any given time at the shelter? Will there be any psychologists at the shelter to help those who need mental health assistance? What professionals will be on site to make sure that there will be an ability to control those that need additional help?
46. What is the assurance that the staff will monitor the clients outside the shelter?
47. What made the other locations considered inappropriate? Was 915 DeGuigne looked at as an option?
48. What about Baylands Park as a possible site?
49. How many of the decision-makers live in this neighborhood or are here?
50. Crime is on the rise in this area; that was not the case before.
51. Putting in the shelter is enabling.
52. How are you going to serve the community needs?