

July 13, 2021
City Council Meeting
Public Comments

General Public Comment

Jennifer Connally

From: Janice Brownfield
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 2:21 PM
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment Non-Agenda Item

For anyone waiting to see how the Orange County Power Authority fares in bringing energy choices to local residents and businesses, there are numerous successful long-term examples across the country, including 23 in California, beginning in 2010 with Marin Clean Energy as the state's first community choice aggregation. The City of Lancaster in Los Angeles County was the first city in the state to create a stand-alone CCA in 2015 and the first within the Southern California Edison service area.

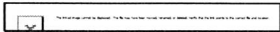
Led by Republican Mayor R. Rex Parris, the Lancaster City Council made its commitment to solar energy the basis of its economic rebirth after the devastating recession of 2009. In praising the courage of the Lancaster City Council, Parris said, "These are people who want a future in Republican politics, yet knowing this may not be the right thing in the short term, they did what they believe is the right thing for the future."

Since its launch in 2015, Lancaster has saved the community more than \$2.8 million, providing 95 percent of its residents and businesses with clean, renewable energy. It also acquired its street lighting infrastructure from SCE, providing local control to make innovative efficiency improvements to the system.

The Cities of Lancaster and San Jacinto subsequently joined forces in 2017 to create California Choice Energy Authority (CalChoice). Like OCPA, it is a joint powers authority, but it is designed expressly to help cities in SCE territory participate in CCA without having to sacrifice control often associated with JPAs or taking on the significant liability of a single entity CCA. CalChoice believes its hybrid approach offers the best of both worlds. Others working with CalChoice include Pico Rivera Innovative Municipal Energy, Rancho Mirage Energy Authority, Apple Valley Choice Energy, the Cities of Baldwin Park and Pomona, and will soon include the Cities of Commerce, Palmdale and Santa Barbara.

Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 9:46 AM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Christina Hall submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

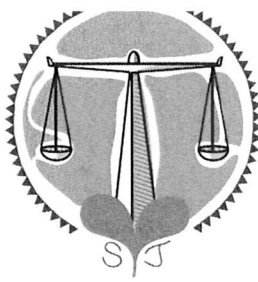
Item: 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

eComment: I oppose the City of Orange's decision to cancel Mary's Kitchen's lease. See the attached letter.

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July 13, 2021

Dear Mayor Murphy, Mayor Pro Tem Nichols, and City Council Members Barrios, Dumitru, Gutierrez, Monaco, and Tavoularis:

It is with great dismay that I write this letter. I am incredibly concerned with the decision to cancel the lease with Mary's Kitchen. Mary's Kitchen is a community organization meeting vital and, in many cases, life-saving services to our neighbors here in Orange County. As the Executive Director of the Orange County Food Access Coalition between 2014-2019, I saw firsthand how important Mary's Kitchen is to those in need as a partner with them. Now, as a nutrition professor and resident of Orange County, I continue to see their services being offered and utilized by people that our county's Board of Supervisors and city decision-makers are ignoring and allowing to die.

Additionally, this decision to cancel Mary's Kitchen's lease was made without any public input. The City of Orange should consult the people before making these kinds of decisions that will impact them. Facilities like Mary's Kitchen are needed because they provide health and hygiene services as well as nutrition to those that need a hand up. The idea that this facility is enabling homelessness shows a true lack of understanding of the causes of homelessness and is frankly embarrassing.

I urge the City of Orange to allow Mary's Kitchen to remain in its current location and for their staff and volunteers to continue their life-saving programming to our underserved neighbors.

Sincerely,

Christina S. Hall
Sprouting Justice

cc: Elder Law & Disability Rights Center

Jennifer Connally

From: Alex Hernandez
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 12:29 PM
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment Non-Agenda Item

Alex Hernandez
Resident of City of Orange District 1

Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers,

I find the recent news coverage on the eviction of Mary's Kitchen, located on Struck Ave near Orange PD headquarters, very troubling. They have been a critical resource in the fight against hunger in our city and community for the last 37 years. It is my view that the city's decision to evict them would have a large negative impact for the neighborhoods and city residents in council districts 1,2, and 3. Currently Mary's Kitchen provides meals, clothes, and showers for the unhoused through the hard work of dedicated volunteers and donations from businesses and residents in Orange. However, if the city evicts them from their present location these resources and services that took decades to put together would be jeopardized and likely lost. And with Mary's Kitchen gone, the consequences would trickle-down and affect not just the unhoused but also the surrounding neighborhoods thru increased and more visible panhandling, littering, etc.

I would kindly like to know how the following councilmembers stand on the issue of the eviction of Mary's Kitchen: Councilmember Arianna Barrios of District 1, Councilmember Jon Dumitru of District 2, and Councilmember Kathy Tavoularis of District 3.

Thank you for your time.

Jennifer Connally

From: Trish Rosman
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 2:18 PM
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment Non-Agenda Item for July 13, 2021 - Mary's Kitchen

Dear Council Members:

I have been a resident of Orange since November 2018. I am proud to call this little slice of heaven my home. But I am very disappointed in the City's decision to shut down Mary's Kitchen for a few reasons. First, the City's publicly articulated reasons for terminating its contract with Mary's Kitchen is nothing more than pretext, aimed at running the homeless population out of the City. Second, I am concerned that the City's recent decision to terminate its contract with Mary's Kitchen will not only cause great harm to the indigent and ill population that it directly serves, but will also cause harm to the more fortunate/privileged members of the community as well. Finally, I feel that it is shameful for the City to make such a decision, that would impact its most vulnerable residents, without so much as a public hearing.

As to the first point, the City's decision is pre-textual and is really based on the concept that poor people are to blame for crime. On July 10, 2021, the OC Register quoted city officials as stating that the decision to shut down Mary's Kitchen' was partially based on its "lack of focus on permanent, long-term solutions for its clients" and that "the nonprofit hasn't updated its operations to help find permanent solutions for the people who seek its services." However, the license agreement, executed on June 11, 2019, very clearly states that the license was "granted solely for the purpose of providing a location from which Licensee may operate Licensee's human service program. Use of the Premises shall be limited to the preparation and serving of food and incidental services such as the distribution of clothing, showers, laundry services, and mobile health services to patrons." Mary's Kitchen, in not providing "long term solutions" for its clients, was simply complying with the terms of the agreement. If the City wanted Mary's Kitchen to provide other services or partner with other agencies for long term solutions, the City could have asked. That being said, it is clear that the City's decision is focused more on crime in the area, since the same article cites officials as saying 911 calls "this year were 'likely to exceed those in 2019 and 2020.'" The City has decided that an increase in crime is caused by homeless people - and the way to combat the problem is to run the homeless people out of town; not by grabbing their pitchforks, but by shutting down Mary's Kitchen.

As to my second point, the license agreement executed June 11, 2019 between the City and Mary's Kitchen states that the agreement between the parties "benefits the residents of Orange by providing a safe and sanitary location for needy persons to obtain a nutritious meal, clothing, indoor shower and laundry area." I believe that the City's decision is being made in the hopes that when Mary's shuts down, the homeless will simply "go somewhere else" to get services like laundry, meals, showers, and a bathroom - like Santa Ana, Anaheim, or Los Angeles. And that may be correct. However, what is also likely to happen is that the homeless will have nowhere to perform these critical services in the City and local businesses will bear the burden of providing those facilities. And if the local businesses don't allow the homeless to use their facilities for urinating and defecating, then we will surely see more people in the streets tending to their needs. It not only robs these homeless people of their dignity, but it presents a public health problem when human urine and feces are on the streets, instead of a designated facility.

Finally, Mary's Kitchen has been in this location for 30 years. It is shameful that you would make this kind of decision with a health and human services organization that has been here for 30 years without ANY requests to hear from the public. Whether the people Mary's serves live in a house, an apartment, or a tent, they are

RESIDENTS of the City of Orange, and they have a right to be heard about how this decision will impact their lives. And it is even more shameful that you would publicly state that Mary's didn't provide long term solutions, without also addressing the FACT that your agreement did not require them to do so - as has been the case for 30 years.

I am asking the City to rethink this decision. It is based on fear, not on actual solutions to the problems you seek to address.

--

Patricia C. Rosman, Esq.
Resident of Orange

Jennifer Connally

From: Tony Chargualaf
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 2:52 PM
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment Non-Agenda Item

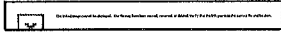
Eviction of Mary's Kitchen the OC Homeless Institution

Members of the Council,

For me the eviction of Marys from its home and eventually the city of orange is a tragedy, its saddens me and drives the stake deeper into what s left of the heart of us homeless. I m homeless and activist since 1988 via Chairman of Ingram Micros Philanthropic Team. Our goal then was to help the small mom n pop groups or charity's. Thus more money to the people they served. I ate with them when serving food a Hart Park. Marys has become a beacon to the homeless the volunteers the sponsors hence our Institution our candle in the wind. Yet once again another resource knight in shining armor is on the verge of done gotta. Read the mission statement of the UN Refuge Agency's IDP, simply states driven from spot to spot relentlessly. The eviction of Mary from your city will break those of us that still hope and faith that we can overcome being homeless but when we stand together we can do great things. We all need Mary s in Orange and Marys the city of orange have yet to reach their calling as to we homeless. Learn listen and plan for tomorrow. Stepping up game. Sincerely Mr Chargualaf I was involved from the start. I do figure things out. Please join me and save the Institution Mary s Kitchen

Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 5:32 PM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

C. Watt submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

eComment: I oppose to the notice to Mary's Kitchen indicating that they must vacate their location. That will create more hardships for the homeless. There should be positive solutions, not cruel and heartless demands. You are paid to think for everyone in Orange, not just those with means. Work on a solution that everyone can benefit from.

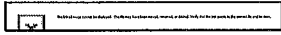
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Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 3:14 PM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Michelle Byerly submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

eComment: July 13, 2021 Dear Mayor Murphy, Mayor Pro Tem Nichols, and City Council Members Barrios, Dumitru, Gutierrez, Monaco, and Tavoularis: I was very disappointed to hear that the City has decided to cancel the lease with Mary's Kitchen. Mary's Kitchen is a community organization meeting vital and, in many cases, life-saving services to our neighbors here in Orange County. As an Orange resident for 14 years, I have seen firsthand how important Mary's Kitchen is to those in need as a partner with them. Additionally, this decision to cancel Mary's Kitchen's lease was made without any public input. The City of Orange should consult the people before making these kinds of decisions that will impact them. Facilities like Mary's Kitchen are needed because they provide health and hygiene services as well as nutrition to those that need a hand up. The idea that this facility is enabling homelessness shows a true lack of understanding of the causes of homelessness and is frankly embarrassing. I urge the City of Orange to allow Mary's Kitchen to remain in its current location and for their staff and volunteers to continue their life-saving programming to our underserved neighbors. Sincerely, Michelle Byerly

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Item 3.33

Request for Permit
Parking on Mayfair
Avenue between
Grand and Shaffer
Streets

Jennifer Connally

From: jim dinwiddie
Sent: Sunday, July 11, 2021 12:29 PM
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment Item 3.33 7/13/2021 Agenda

James F. Dinwiddie

Orange, Ca 92865

I am Jim Dinwiddie, a 60 year resident of Orange. Since 1963, I have owned the residence on the northeast corner of Shaffer and Mayfair. That was our family home in the 1960s and my daughter has lived there for the last 30 years. We assert there is no ongoing parking problem on Mayfair, and we oppose the request for oppressive restrictive permit parking on Mayfair between Grand and Shaffer.

However, the request for Mayfair permit parking is not based on the existence of an ongoing parking problem. Since Mayfair is in Neighborhood Parking Permit Area A, there is no requirement to demonstrate need. All that is required is for 55 percent of Mayfair residents to sign a petition in favor of permit parking. That threshold has been met.

Parking Permit Area A was established about 20 years ago and includes several neighborhood blocks surrounding Chapman University. Since then, many changes influencing parking needs have occurred in Orange and around Chapman. Are Area A parking solutions developed 20 years ago still relevant in making current permit parking decisions?

The City's current neighborhood parking permit program implementation policy was approved by the Council on July 14, 2015. Under this policy, permit parking is allowed only when a parking problem is ongoing, not occasional or temporary. Also, to demonstrate a need, 75 percent of on-street space must be occupied during perceived problem times. Furthermore, consideration must be given to mitigating measures less restrictive than permit parking. Also of note, the percent in favor of permit parking is 75 percent rather than the 55 percent for Area A.

Again, since the 300 block of Mayfair is in Area A, these current criteria for determining allowability of permit parking do not apply.

It is not right that Area A blocks can implement permit parking without demonstrating need while the rest of Orange neighborhoods must demonstrate a need. Given the restrictive nature of permit parking, the City's current permit parking criteria requiring a demonstration of need and a higher percent in favor should apply to all requests.

In that regard, my daughter and I do not believe the ongoing parking conditions on Mayfair meet the City's current standards for permit parking approval.

PLEASE VOTE NO ON THIS REQUEST

Item 7.1

Orange Plaza Paseo

Jennifer Connally

From: Shallom Berkman
Sent: Thursday, July 8, 2021 4:34 PM
To: City Council Public Comment; Susan Galvan
Subject: Public Comment Non-agenda Item regarding the Orange Plaza Paseo program

Dear Honorable Mayor and Honorable City Council,

First, let me start by expressing our gratitude to you on behalf of the entire staff of Urth Caffè Old Towne Orange for the Orange Plaza Paseo program, Temporary Use of Outdoor Dining, and Paseo parklets. This program definitely saved Urth Caffè and many of our full-time jobs that would have been lost without the program.

Still, Urth Caffè Old Towne Orange is struggling to recoup the losses incurred during the lock-down restrictions. During the lockdown last spring – our sales dropped by a whopping 85%! Once outdoor seating resumed our sales were about 50% compared to the same time in 2019. Now with the additional seating in the beautiful Paseo plaza sales are now recovering from pre-pandemic spring. It has made a great, positive impact. It has been very sad to see how many restaurants and cafes have gone out of business in 2020.

Please continue the Paseo program through at least all of 2021 and hopefully indefinitely. This is essential for Urth Caffè to recoup all of the losses made in 2020. The outdoor seating is truly enjoyed by the community – I get numerous comments from the community about how much they love the Plaza Paseo seating and everyone hopes that it will continue – it really enhances the experience in the Plaza. We also want to thank and commend Susan Galvan for her incredible support and work for the small businesses of Orange.

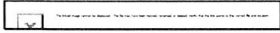
We have felt the great support and commitment of the City of Orange for your small businesses and restaurants – please continue this great support by continuing the program for as long as possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Most Sincerely,
Shallom Berkman
Co-founder, Urth Caffè

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Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Friday, July 9, 2021 11:59 AM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Colleen Lindsay submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: We need to reopen Glassell Street all the way through the circle area as the original reason for the shut down, which was to allow restaurants and other businesses to expand their business from an inside location to an outside due to the governor's pandemic rules is not longer valid. Give us back our original Glassell Street configuration please

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Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Friday, July 9, 2021 4:51 PM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Tod Brewster submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: The Paseo is the single most exciting change to happen to the City of Orange. It's provided a space for families to enjoy the Plaza without the fear of traffic. It has no doubt increased sales for both retail and dining, and it's cited in the report that 13 of 14 businesses surveyed support keeping the Paseo. Orange is now a model for how other US cities can retake their towns from cars and give them back to the people. The Paseo should remain forever.

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Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Saturday, July 10, 2021 3:49 PM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Kristin Smetona submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: Thank you to all of you for giving us the Paseo! It was a real gift to the city. People still tell me Orange is the best city in the pandemic. I know people moving here because the city is so happy. I think Orange is even a happier city than it was BEFORE the pandemic. Dancing in the streets and live music during a pandemic lockdown? Come on! And it's all because of the Paseo and our city is better because of it. I hope the city chooses to pave it off and keep it and the overhead lights permanently. I could even see letting citizens donate to paving it with special bricks in honor of a loved one lost in the pandemic. Maybe donations could also help fund future parking initiatives. Since, the plan of the city was originally laid out with horse and buggy and pedestrian as the main nodes of transportation, if the city is hoping to return the Plaza/Circle to a more "historic configuration" it should consider option #4 of blocking off the entire plaza area of Chapman as well and return the downtown city to safer/slower modes of transportation than cars, motorcycles and massive buses. I think this decision would be best put up for a vote to the people of the city if at all possible. If increased tax revenues are what would be needed, then put it to the people to decide. Thanks for all you do to serve our community!

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Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Sunday, July 11, 2021 9:48 AM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Eduardo Moreno submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

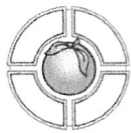
Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: Please keep the Paseo open for pedestrians and close for motorized traffic. The Paseo has brought great benefits to the city, it's residents and visitors. It provides a safe space for children and families, encourage walking, and provides open space that is laches in Old Townes. Thank you for supporting a healthy lifestyle by keeping the paseo open. Eduardo

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July 9, 2021

Mayor Mark Murphy
Mayor Pro Tem - Kimberlee Nichols
Council Member - Chip Monaco
Council Member - Arianna Barrios
Council Member - Ana Gutierrez
Council Member - Jon Dumitru
Council Member - Kathy Tavoularis
City Manager - Rick Otto,
City Attorney - Gary Sheatz
Interim Community Development Director - Susan Galvan

Re: Plaza Paseo

OTPA applauds the City Council and City Staff's quick action in creating the Plaza Paseo dining/shopping areas in an effort to counter the devastating economic effects of the Covid 19 shutdown on our local restaurants and retailers. Certainly no one felt the negative impact of the pandemic more than them, in both lost business and employment.

Preservation Issues

While OTPA supports the Paseo remaining open long enough to get the local merchants and restaurateurs "back on their feet", from a preservation perspective, anything beyond that, save for opening on a limited basis throughout the year, would be dismissive of Old Towne Orange's status as the largest National Register District within California. Glassell Street and Chapman Avenue have been the major thoroughfares through the Plaza since at least 1888, and arguably prior to that. To simply ignore that history, and the 35 years of preservation progress with which OTPA has assisted, would be unfortunate. We've already lost parts of North Center Street to the library, and parts of North Orange Street to Chapman University expansion. We certainly don't want to lose any more of the historic layout of Old Towne, conceived by none other than Alfred Chapman and Andrew Glassell themselves at the City's founding.

Traffic, Parking, & Noise Issues

The residents who live in the areas immediately surrounding the Plaza didn't sign up for the increased car, bus, delivery, Chapman vans, Uber/Lyft traffic that is now forced to navigate the adjacent residential streets due to the closure of Glassell Street. They opted to live in quiet residential neighborhoods -- not to serve as the parking lots and bypass streets for the busy Plaza. And since the pandemic started, we have yet to see a full complement of traffic (as businesses and the University were shut down). As we return to normal, businesses re-open and Chapman University returns to full

on-campus enrollment in the fall, traffic, parking, and noise are bound to only get worse, further impacting the streets surrounding the Plaza and the spoke streets. A traffic study should be implemented, and an Environmental Impact Study undertaken, if warranted, prior to even considering any permanent or seasonal changes.

Fairness and "Taking" of Public Property

Lastly, the permanent closing of Glassell Street is a literal taking of taxpayer-owned property that would be delivered to a handful of private businesses and landlords for the generation of private profits, based solely on a business' location. Some local businesses would benefit, and many would not (and certainly taxpayers wouldn't directly benefit) -- it's just not an equitable situation for businesses, motorists, and taxpayers.

Again, OTPA is supportive of the Plaza Paseo and the local merchants to the extent that they are able to get back to some level of financial parity. But once that has been achieved, OTPA respectfully requests that the City Council vote to fully re-open Glassell Street and Chapman Avenue to restore them to their historic function as major thoroughfares through the Plaza. Historic preservation has been one of (if not the primary) drivers of success of Old Towne Orange -- let's not throw it out now for convenience' sake. We've managed to collectively and successfully preserve the Plaza District in its current form for 133 years -- let's not let that fall by the wayside on our watch!

Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

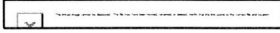
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Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 9:12 AM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Rae Reich submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: As a resident since 1974 of what is now designated Old Towne, I appreciate Orange's commitment to the preservation of the traditional appearance of our downtown structures and streets. I oppose the consistent closure of north and south Glassell street to traffic because it (a) significantly changes the character and appearance of our historic old town district, (b) increases expense to taxpayers, (c) impedes the flow of north/south traffic through our unique roundabout traffic circle, and (d) increases heavy traffic upon side streets not intended for such traffic. Rae Reich, 349 N Pine St, Orange

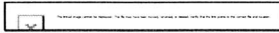
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From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 10:39 AM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Toni Dieb submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: I am 100% in favor of keeping the street closed. I have been doing business in Orange for over 30 years at the same location which is the Orange Circle Antique mall. With the street being closed it has increased our foot traffic. It has been excellent for business. The customers truly enjoy it and the comments have all been favorable and that it gives it a European flair. It could bring a much higher revenue to the city. It could make it a must do destination. It could add charm to Old Towne. I think it would be very shortsighted to not see the potential here. We have an opportunity staring us in the face to increase income for the merchants, bring in greater revenue for the city and truly put Old Towne on the map. Please vote yes to keep the street closed.

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Jennifer Connally

From: Mitch Faris
Sent: Sunday, July 11, 2021 9:23 PM
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Comment on Agenda item #7.1

Dear Mayor and Council,

I would like to voice my opinion on the Paseo.

I think that it was a very good, temporary, solution during Covid protocol but I believe that Glassell Street should be re-opened because the impact of the altered traffic pattern is too negative for the residents on Almond Avenue, Maple Avenue and the other impacted streets and the Paseo also disproportionately benefits some businesses over others.

I would like to suggest an alternative that I believe would achieve a lot of the good aspects of the Paseo while restoring the historic, original traffic pattern.

Re-open Glassell Street but eliminate the street parking and put up traffic safety barriers and use the area for seating etc. (as was done on Chapman Ave. during Paseo). (This would actually improve traffic flow as there would be no cars pulling in and out of parking spaces.) Put in 5 minute loading and unloading spaces in the "roundabout" area for passenger loading and possibly for Grub-Hub/Door dash etc.

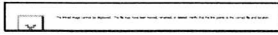
I also believe that the plaza area should be designated a "pedestrian emphasis zone" with a 15 mph, aggressively enforced speed limit. I believe that this is necessary for safety going forward, as the plaza has become so popular and the pedestrian traffic has increased exponentially.

Thank You!!

Mitch Faris

Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 4:18 PM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Mitch Faris submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: Public Comment Agenda Item #7.1 Dear Mayor and Council, I would like to voice my opinion on the Paseo. I think that it was a very good, temporary, solution during Covid protocol but I believe that Glassell Street should be re-opened because the impact of the Paseo altered traffic pattern is too negative for the residents on Almond Avenue, Maple Avenue and the other impacted streets and the Paseo also disproportionately benefits some businesses over others. I would like to suggest an alternative that I believe would achieve a lot of the good aspects of the Paseo while restoring the historic, original traffic pattern. Re-open Glassell Street but eliminate the street parking and put up traffic safety barriers and use the area for seating etc. (as was done on Chapman Ave. during Paseo). (This would actually improve traffic flow as there would be no cars pulling in and out of parking spaces.) Put in 5 minute loading and unloading spaces in the "roundabout" area for passenger loading and possibly for Grub-Hub/Door dash etc. I also believe that the plaza area should be designated a "pedestrian emphasis zone" with a 15 mph, aggressively enforced speed limit. I believe that this is necessary for safety going forward, as the plaza has become so popular and the pedestrian traffic has increased exponentially. Sincerely Mitch Faris ;

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From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 8:10 AM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

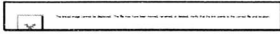
Jeff Frankel submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: July 13, 2021 Council Agenda Item 7.1 - Orange Plaza Paseo Mayor, Council Members, I am adamantly opposed the permanent closure of the streets in the Plaza National Register Historic District for many reasons. I understand that during the pandemic it was necessary, but now that everything is opening up the area should be restored back to its original state. Why should private businesses benefit financially from the use of public property? Why should taxpayers foot the cost for this use with associated maintenance, signage, and additional safety costs etc. At \$50,00 per month with associated other costs to taxpayers? How does this benefit the residents who will be paying for this? Are there legality issues that need to be addressed? As you are aware, the Plaza is designated as a separate National Register District, which is bound, by the Secretary of Interior Standards as well as the city's Preservation Standards. Closing off the streets and constructing inappropriate structures violates both. First of all, the historic grid and traffic flow of the plaza will be (has been) disrupted. In addition added structures' materials and design are in violation as well. This is a severe disruption to the historic streetscape. Any changes to the Plaza District must meet the standards set in place, which are city ordinance. A permanent closure should require a CEQA review as well as an Environmental Impact Report with an associated traffic study. The Plaza closure has caused many problems for adjacent residents. For example on my street, South Orange, we have experienced increased traffic as alternate routes are used (detours). People are parking all the way back to the 300 block to visit the plaza businesses due to the decreased parking availability. We have notice more trash, noise, traffic accidents, commercial vehicles (trucks) barreling down our residential street and so on. OCTD busses are forced to use alternate routes on residential streets. These considered changes to the Plaza District would be of no benefit to the residents of Old Towne, quite the contrary. Closing streets in the Plaza District for commercial use has a negative impact not only on the Plaza District but the surrounding Old Towne National Register District as well. I would encourage this council to do its do diligence in the consideration of this action by holding public meetings/workshops as you would with any other major project/change, as well as environmental and traffic studies. Again, please restore the Plaza District's traffic flow, parking and remove all barriers and inappropriate outdoor dining structures. Vote for Option #2. Thank you, Jeff Frankel

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 5:57 PM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Matin Sharifinejad submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

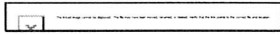
Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: Hello and thank you all for taking the time to read my comment. My name is Matin Sharifinejad and I'm the proud owner of the 7-ELEVEN franchise on Chapman and Batavia. I'm one of several merchants that have been severely impacted by the Glassell St. closure. I can trace back specifically to July of 2020 to see when my business started suffering. Literally every month since July of 2020 sales have been down 15%-20% along with another 2%-3% in gross profit loss. The combination of these two key business metrics is truly devastating to me and my family. The traffic count on Chapman Ave. has been severely hampered by the closure of Glassell St.. Many motorists are avoiding the circle at all costs. When I found out the city was closing Glassell St. I thought that it was absolutely the correct move to make. Now that I see all limitations by the state have been lifted I see no reason to continue to keep the Paseo open. Paseo restaurants have all doubled and tripled their occupancy rates which helped them stay afloat during the pandemic. Many merchants, and, more importantly, residents have been adversely affected by the closure. Traffic, noise and safety concerns have been dispersed into the small neighborhoods surrounding the Plaza. I feel like the city needs to do something that is fair and equitable for everyone living and doing business in and around the Plaza. Speaking humbly I'm sure my store generates a fairly significant amount of sales tax to the city annually. This contribution has obviously gone down significantly since July of 2020. When you combine the loss in sales tax revenue by merchants like myself and compare them to the increase in sales tax revenue by the merchants in the Paseo I'm fairly confident the council will see that the Paseo was not as fiscally fruitful as previously thought. The cost of the closure both initially and annually and the loss in sales tax revenue by merchants like myself must be taken into account. The summer months are our busiest months. Even if the Paseo closure would be seasonal it would have a severely adverse affect on the health and vitality of my business. I'm sure there are other alternatives to a permanent or seasonal closure that is fair and equitable for everyone. I sincerely hope and pray the council takes into consideration the sacrifices that residents and merchants like myself have made to ensure the future vitality of our most prized gem, The Orange Plaza. Thank you for taking the time to read my comment and god bless you all.

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Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 7:06 AM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Paul Jensen submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: As arguably the largest retail operator in Old Town Orange with over 30,000sf between our 2 locations, we have seen record sales numbers over the last year during the street closures. March 2021 was the best month ever for both of our stores in our over 20 years of existence. Last month, 1 of our locations exceeded those sales numbers by an additional 15%. If these record sales numbers continue, I believe each of our locations will generate \$40-\$50k in additional annual sales tax revenue over the prior year. Not sure how much of these sales can be directly attributed to the street closure/Paseo project but I do believe it has had a positive impact. I personally feel that due to the massive influx of stimulus funds for both individuals and businesses, the real economic effects of Covid-19 hasn't really been felt yet. That said, I would like to see the street closures continue through the end of the year and at which point it can be reevaluated to see if it should be continued. Paul Jensen Antique Station & Depot 155 & 178 So Glassell

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From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 7:51 AM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Adam Duberstein submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: Low taxes, sound money, regulatory restraint: are among the commonsense economic policies of fiscal conservatives. The staff report reads, "The Orange Plaza Paseo has been extremely successful." This is not a true statement and this anchor point and premise for keeping the Paseo open is intellectually dishonest and a burden on taxpayers and the historic community. To prove the point let's do some basic math. The staff report says an increase in sales tax revenues of 3.6% has occurred while the Paseo has been erected. This means to break even on the Paseo maintenance cost of \$600k per year, the sales tax collected would have to be an additional \$16,666,666. (3.6% of \$16.6 mil is \$600K). That's \$16.6 million MORE dollars in tax revenue. The very first bullet in the Be a Fiscally Healthy Community Orange Strategic plan and Mission Statement is "Expend fiscal resources responsibly." The Paseo does not operate in the spirit of our Fiscal Mission statement and certainly is not fiscally responsible. Staff time, energy, and city resources can be used in more productive ways. Additionally, through government action, the Paseo is creating an unfair advantage to businesses on the portions of Glassell that are closed versus those not closed or not on Glassell. Low taxes, sound money, regulatory restraint: are among the commonsense economic policies of fiscal conservatives. The Paseo needs to end permanently.

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Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 10:50 AM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Aurora Taylor-Montes submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: The traffic in the Orange Circle has been worse since the closure of Glassell. I believe the closure barriers also confuse drivers in the evening and cause them to go through the chains into the public area around the fountain. The barriers look grotesque. It is disappointing that I now avoid the area due to Glassell's closure. Open up our plaza!

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From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 11:08 AM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Sandy Frankel submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: City Council July 13 Agenda Item Orange Plaza Paseo Mayor and City Council members, City Staff, I am in opposition to continuance of the Orange Plaza Paseo street closure for the following reasons: Negative impact in a historic district Spoke Street negative impact, parking ,traffic and safety, increase danger and increase of accidents and DUI issues Fiscal impact to Orange community with no benefit for community members Increase cost to taxpayers of at least \$50,000 per month No consistent design on outdoor dining spaces-looks like a carnival or street fair Some have plants, lighting, and up to an increase of 50 tables Decrease public parking due to street closures and now new signs stating "pick up only" is this legal? Use of Paseo for retail and a pink trailer on the street for retail? Retail is open now-there is no need for a vintage trailer on the street Negative impact to local citizens with people parking at our homes now Has studies been conducted for: Traffic Safety Crime increase DUI's emergency access issues Impact of historic district Legality of street closure in a historic district Historic preservation impact Any preservation expert produced a report? Preservation of historic Plaza and streetscape Estimate of increased revenue for business owners? I saw about 50 additional tables for URTH Cafe-at 3-5 people that can dine at each table, average 1 hour per table, average at least \$10 per customer, this could add up to at least \$15000 per day additional revenue at no cost to the restaurant -because the city (and the taxpayers) are giving them free restaurant space. Do we get a discount to eat at places since we are supporting them financially? This costs the city at least \$600,000 per year -how much more do the businesses pay in taxes for this additional income? Are there any business located in the plaza that has LOST revenue because of the streets being closed? It looks like a cheap street fair carnival in the plaza now. There is no need for the continuation of the Orange Plaza Paseo now that the COVID 19 threat has been mitigated and dining is allowed. Please do not approve the Orange Plaza Paseo to continue. It is not fair to the community members living on the spoke streets around the plaza.

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Jennifer Connally

From: Rachel Cali
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 1:30 PM
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment Item #7.1

To whom it may concern:

As a resident of Old Towne Orange, I am writing in support of the Paseo. I strongly wish to see the Paseo remain year round, and welcome the proposed approach to continue to improve the quality and safety of the outdoor setup in this area. As a resident, the expanded ability to patronize local businesses has greatly enhanced my enjoyment of our neighborhood, and led to me spending more time and money at these businesses than I otherwise would have. (Or even could have; even with the expanded seating, it is often difficult to get a table at our popular restaurants!) Closing the area to cars has also been a big part of the pleasant atmosphere of the Paseo. Additionally, I am thrilled with how the Paseo has allowed so many of our local merchants to stay in business and even increase revenues during the pandemic.

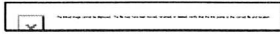
I do want to urge that accessibility be a key consideration in *how* the Paseo and downtown develop further, no matter the decision of the council. Throughout the country, temporary pandemic structures set up for outdoor dining and retail have often not fit the requirements of the ADA or allowed for easy access for people using wheelchairs, pushing strollers, or so forth. This needs to be addressed in the long-term plans for downtown. Particular consideration should also be given for ensuring that routes from the detoured bus stops are accessible.

I believe in historic preservation, and the historic architecture in Orange is one of the things that drew me to this community. I believe that by continuing to embrace the Paseo layout, we can continue to preserve the historic character of downtown while also making it a vibrant place for people and businesses for years to come.

Thank you very much,
Rachel Cali

Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 12:47 PM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Jerry LaRue submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: Since the Orange Plaza Paseo was created, I have found the experience to be highly enjoyable, especially the outdoor seating and the ease of walking around to explore different shops and restaurants. Making the Orange Plaza Paseo permanent will increase business opportunities, provide a space for live events, make the area more family friendly, provide opportunities to add green space, replace the temporary structures with aesthetic and functional ones, and increase the number of vendors in the area (e.g. cart vendors, food trucks). It now seems like such an obvious choice, that I wish it had happened sooner.

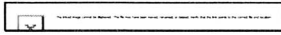
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Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 2:27 PM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Amanda Cabrera submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: I have lived in Orange for 20 years, I am appalled by knowing me and my neighbors will have to pay even more taxes to keep the Paseo open. I and other residents, want the streets to be open again, having them closed has caused too much confusion and traffic in the plaza. The plaza is not a strip mall, restaurants can easily take down their own chairs and tents with no tax money being necessary. Many residents oppose keeping the, what was thought to be temporary, paseo open. Residents will not like having to pay high taxes to keep the paseo clean from visitors who do not respect our city. Residents already have noticed high spikes in vehicle traffic and especially public transportation being redirected into the surrounding quiet neighborhoods from of the paseo staying open. Please take mine and other opposing thoughts into consideration and think really carefully about the long term effects if the paseo stays open. Orange should not build the city's future on trends, please open the streets and return Orange Plaza back to its original intended state, thank you.

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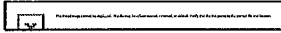
Jennifer Connally

From: Robert Carney
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 12:35 AM
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Public comment item #7.1

This is ridiculous to even consider. I lived my whole life both driving and walking through the circle and it is safe. Anyone who feels it is not is a hazard in public anyways. It is called natural selection.

Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 5:47 PM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Domingo Cabrera submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: Hello, I oppose the Paseo because why should tax payers pay for private industry. Closing off the street to help businesses works for a short time but to take money from tax payers doesn't make sense to me. Why should I have to pay to create a food court for the tourists and Chapman college students. This Paseo doesn't benefit all residents in the city as that it is is not easy to access due to crowds and not everyone is an alcoholic that bar hops up and down the street. To me this sounds like a scam. Why do tax payers have to give the little money we have to fund this project? The buses and other through traffic have to cut through the historic neighborhoods and that is destroying the concrete streets that were never built to withstand the weight and business of a main thoroughfare like Glassell. My neighbors and I all strongly oppose of this to even be considered. Chapman college needs to also stop with buying up any homes and land they can get their hands on. It's not the city of Orange & Chapman food court and its certainly not the City Of Chapman. Thank you

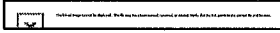
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Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 4:25 PM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Long Duong submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: I support the option in the Staff Report that proposes a feasibility study of expanding the pedestrian sidewalks along Glassell by removing the parallel parking spaces. Widening the sidewalks supports a more pedestrian friendly experience allowing expanded outdoor dining, shopping, and entertainment. Expanding the sidewalks meets the intent of the Paseo while still allowing vehicular traffic to continue on Glassell.

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July 13, 2021

SUBJECT: Item 7.1, Orange Plaza Paseo

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council:

While the Paseo helped a small number of Orange businesses through the COVID-19 pandemic in a meaningful way, extending it would be detrimental for many reasons:

- Traffic impacts on the surrounding neighborhood that could not be mitigated
- Noise impacts on the surrounding neighborhood that could not be mitigated
- Parking impacts on the surrounding neighborhood that could not be mitigated
- Simple cost-benefit analysis, given the costs grossly outweigh the income to the city
- Simple fairness, given that one small set of businesses is given a competitive advantage over businesses elsewhere in the city
- Impacts to the Plaza Historic District and the Old Towne Historic District that could not be mitigated

The city made the effort to ask downtown property owners and merchants their opinions but failed to do the same for anyone other constituents in Orange. Not surprisingly, those who have gained financially and stand to gain further were found to be in favor of an extension. Why were no other impacted constituents also queried?

Such an extension would provide a distinct business advantage to Plaza property owners and merchants over those elsewhere in Orange. Good government should avoid creating barriers to a level playing field for our businesses, not tip the scales in favor of some to the disadvantage of others.

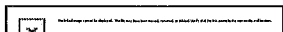
The Plaza Historic District is eight acres on the National Register of Historic Places. Its statement of historic significance highlights that the Plaza, its features, and structures within the Historic District have functioned as a cohesive whole since first laid out in 1886. It particularly notes the community planning and landscape features, focused around a town square with radiating streets, as rare in the western United States and unique within Southern California. The degree to which it remained intact was significant 38 years ago when it was listed on the National Register and that degree of historic integrity should be preserved into the future.

For the reasons listed above, I urge you to not pursue this.

M.A. Skorpanich

Jennifer Connally

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 4:33 PM
To: Pamela Coleman; Jennifer Connally
Subject: New eComment for City Council



New eComment for City Council

Jacque Gates submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council

Item: 7.1. Orange Plaza Paseo.

eComment: Would love to see the Plaza Paseo be a permanent fixture. Maybe see Glassell have some planter areas and park benches so it's an attractive place to stroll, visit shops and dine.

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Item 10.2
Landscape
Maintenance
Assessment Districts
86-2 (Santiago Hills)
and 15-1 (Santiago
Hills Overlay)

Jennifer Connally

From: Jess Barber
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 8:01 AM
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item 10.2

Good evening Mayor Murphy and City Council,

Homeowners in my Santiago Hills condominium complex again did not receive written notification about tonight's public hearing or the upcoming increase of one of our assessment fees, whereas neighbors in single family homes received postcards 2 weeks ago. Note: homeowners in my condo complex have previously received correspondence from the city this year, but I believe it might have been a letter instead of a postcard.

The 386 homeowners in my complex represent \$153,570 in revenue for these two annual assessments, which equals 17% of the total district's revenue based on the staff report (LMD 86-2 - \$533,651 and LMD 15-1 - \$346,478). I ask city staff to review the format by which they notify homeowners to ensure equity of information distribution. Better yet, I propose city staff reinstate a regular community forum for our landscaping district so that all concerned homeowners are given a chance to hear updates from city staff and also provide feedback. **Given every homeowner pays either \$398 or \$618 annually toward these assessment fees, why do we have to fight so hard to get our voices heard?**

I am still disappointed that the City of Orange continues to spray our landscaping district with cancer-causing and endocrine-disrupting pesticides when many neighboring cities have banned them completely. RoundUp and Speedzone do not belong anywhere that our children and pets frequent! We love our pesticide-free Santiago Hills Park and will continue to fight for a healthier, non-toxic neighborhood that benefits all of us. Our children deserve better.

Regards,
Jess Barber

Jennifer Connally

From: Kimberly Walker
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 10:03 AM
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item 10.2



Kimberly Walker

to CCpubliccomment, bcc: Jess

Dear City Council

I am writing in regards to the Santiago Hills landscape management district assessment. While I agree with the assessment I do not agree with the continued use of toxic synthetic herbicides and pesticides, especially in such close proximity to our homes and where children and pets play. Other cities, towns and countries have banned and phased out the use of these chemicals, yet Orange shows no desire to protect the health of its citizens by eliminating the use of these chemicals citywide. I continue to applaud the city council for keeping Santiago Hills Park non-toxic. Over this past year and a half my family has enjoyed playing safely in the park without having to worry about inadvertent exposure to Roundup or Speedzone (both of which are endocrine disruptors and classified as Probable Carcinogen and Possible Carcinogen respectively). I still feel there was not enough community involvement nor transparency when bids were obtained. I still am perplexed by the fact that our Park, which has large green spaces, can be maintained in a non-toxic way and the city cannot find a way to do the same for our neighborhood in the budget they are given. Community members have not been able to be involved in this process, we had not had a meeting, even a virtual one, in over 2 years. Yet we continue to pay our assessment without input, it is essentially taxation without representation. If this was a true HOA, we the citizens of Santiago Hills would be running it, with real votes and transparency. Several neighboring HOA's have found alternatives to using these carcinogens as well. Nationwide the state and now the city of New York has banned the use of all chemical pesticides and herbicides in public areas.

<https://www.nyl.com/nyc/all-boroughs/news/2021/04/22/city-council-bans-use-of-chemical-pesticides-in-public-areas>

This is one of hundreds of towns, cities, districts, and countries that have moved away from synthetic chemicals for landscape management. To name just a few:

Germany
Malawi
Thailand
Vietnam
Sri Lanka
Oman
Kuwait
United Arab Emirates
Bahrain
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Bermuda
Austria

Belgium
Czech Republic
Denmark
France
Italy
The Netherlands
Austin,
Miami,
Anchorage,
Tucson,
LA county,
OC Parks,
Portland,
Seattle. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-10-10/why-u-s-cities-are-banning-glyphosate-pesticides>
Tustin
Benicia and Benicia Unified School District
Burbank and Burbank Unified School District
Contra Costa County
Encinitas
Davis
Greenfield
Irvine
Lodi
Long Beach
Marin County
Mount Diablo Unified School District
Napa
Novato
Oakland
Orange county
Oxnard School District
San Francisco (As of November 2020, the city has begun relying on Roundup much less because of cancer concerns.)
San Lorenzo Valley Water District
Santa Rosa
Sonoma
Thousand Oaks
University of California
Watsonville
Woodland Joint Unified School District

I will continue to push the city to be added to this ever growing list. The City of Orange should take an Organic First or a full ban of synthetics for landscape and pest management even if only for an abundance of caution to protect its citizens. There are thousands of pending lawsuits regarding the health effects of RoundUp alone with millions of dollars already awarded to plaintiffs. It is not worth it to risk the fiscal impact of a lawsuit and most of all the health of your citizens to continue to use these toxic chemicals.

Kind Regards,
Kimberly DeLehman

Item 10.3

Public Hearing:
Shannon Family
Mortuary

Jennifer Connally

From: Phil Glasgow
Sent: Sunday, July 11, 2021 3:35 PM
To: City Council Public Comment
Cc: abarrios@cityoforange.or; Doug Ely; CATHY GLASGOW
Subject: Shannon Mortuary - Chapman Ave / Waverly St

We just wanted to register our support of the Shannon Mortuary private viewing business operation at Chapman Ave/Waverly St. .

Up until now we have sat relatively quietly on the sideline observing this whole fiasco unfold and quite frankly we can't believe the hoops that Shannon Mortuary have been dragged through to even get to this point in their attempt to operate a small private viewing aspect of business, for grieving families.

The apparent lack of compassion being shown towards those grieving families from some of our neighbors, to me, is simply astounding. I'm sure many are the same neighbors who have over the years attended similar events in other neighborhoods - Shannon Mortuary right there on Maple St springs to mind - and at that time, gathered and parked in that neighborhood, and are now attempting to prevent a similar but much smaller business, occurring in their own "precious" neighborhood. With all due respects, it just seems like a classic case of NIMBYism to me - I don't think i need to define NIMBY to anyone but for the sake of clarity i will anyway, as i believe it is so pertinent in this instance - "a person who objects to the siting of something perceived as unpleasant in the area they live, especially while raising no such objections to similar developments elsewhere".

I'm amazed that individuals feel the need to devote so much time, effort and attention as to who, when and for how long someone is parking on "my street" and God forbid those same people then have the audacity to form a procession along Waverly Street. Oh, the inconvenience of it all!. Objectors need to get on with life and maybe demonstrate a little patience, respect, tolerance and compassion towards those grieving the loss of a loved one - it's not a whole lot to ask.

When everyone's lives are so busy and the majority working full time to try and make ends meet, it seems unreasonable to expect viewing to be limited to between 8am and 5pm and then only on weekdays. It also seems unreasonable, when Shannon Mortuary are trying to operate a profitable business model, that viewings be limited to just two per week. We personally have no objection to evening and weekend viewings and more than just two viewings per week and also no objection to those viewings having more than the suggested twelve people. So let me get this right, under the current proposal, a scenario could play out where a mourning grandma makes the effort to make it all the way down from (let's say) LA to pay her last respects only to be told at the door "sorry grandma, we already have twelve people in here so you'll have to go back home and no grandma, no one can rotate out and let you come in instead, the precious residents of Waverly Street won't allow that common sense approach!" I believe that our Orange County legend John Wayne said it best, "it's getting to be ri-goddam-diculous".

The idea of SFM staff having to put out No Parking signage is ludicrous and the thought of expecting them to then somehow try and police/enforce it, is to say the least, incredulous and mind boggling and I'm not even sure the staff would have the legal authority to do that anyway. We certainly don't have any objection to on-street parking and in fact I must apparently remind everyone it is called public street for a reason and as such by definition, anyone is entitled to park there anytime their little heart desires. There are already more than

adequate regulations within the City to deal with any and all parking issues without the need now for additional micromanaging instigated by an apparently over zealous group of NIMBYs..

Additionally, the idea of directing traffic out onto Chapman Ave is unsound at best and potentially very dangerous. We all know the risks associated in making a left turn out of Waverly Street onto Chapman Ave and we have personally witnessed numerous accidents occurring there over the years. A much safer alternative is to depart via Waverly/Cambridge or Waverly/Palm, both of which exit strategies are safely controlled by stop signs and traffic lights.

At the risk of sounding cynical, but now that we're retired we have a bit more time on our hands to ponder all the problems around the world - wars, civil unrest, homelessness, people starving, dying of disease, basic everyday struggles etc etc and yet somehow some individuals are consumed by the small inconvenience that they may be faced with as grieving family members and friends will occasionally gather nearby to pay their last respects to a loved one. We also often wonder how much better off we would all be if only even a part of all that time and effort could be channeled towards more positive endeavours like reaching out to and/or volunteering, to assist those truly in need....

Ah, these first world problems, such a burden - come on Waverly Street, we can do better...

Phil and Cathy Glasgow

Jennifer Connally

From: Doug Ely
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 12:31 AM
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment Item #10.3

To Our City Council Members,

I have taken time to communicate with neighbors since a Temporary Use Permit (TUP) was recently proposed and have found that there is a 50-50 split amongst people who own their properties on the 100 block of N Waverly Street. Several who opposed Shannon Mortuary's original proposals have stated that they are ok with the new Temporary Use Permit as written, others have expressed concern it is allowing a use that should not be permitted in the first place. This is obviously not an issue that appears to have a consensus in the neighborhood contrary to what Mr. Link states in his letter. In fact, the TUP was issued via email by Arianna Barrios on 7/6 but there has not been a neighborhood meeting to discuss this new proposal and receive feedback, so it is inappropriate for this to be termed a "consensus from our neighbors". Instead, it is an option that has been proposed without a consensus that is before you to decide if it is appropriate.

This has been a very difficult decision for me, and as an architect on sensitive neighborhood infill projects I try to find common ground myself. On the surface, I feel the TUP is heading in the right direction and the restrictions proposed are what I would seek in a collaborative approach with the neighborhood if I were in the applicant's shoes, with the exception that I would want them to also agree to permanently shield the view of their hearses from the street except for when they are in use. With that said, does that make it right to consider a TUP if many of our residents do not want the use there and feel their property is being compromised? The one issue the TUP does not cover is that Shannon likely should not be there in the first place for any group meetings beyond administrative as that is what the current property is zoned for. Why consider a TUP when a CUP is questionable and likely should not be allowed? If the TUP works fine over a year, do the residents of the neighborhood lose the clout to reject the CUP?

The denial of the CUP was obviously a difficult decision for the Planning Commission, and I was impacted by the statement of one of the Commission members that our Old Towne neighborhoods are under constant assault by Chapman parents buying homes and turning them into multi-tenant living accommodations for college students, along with the state mandated accessory dwelling units (ADUs) adding density, and parking issues to our streets. These are things the city unfortunately can do very little about. What the city can do is take a stand to protect our neighborhoods when a business moves in and proposes a change to zoning ordinances that would otherwise negatively affect them. The city can and should exercise this control as there are other properties along Chapman Ave. that are perfectly zoned for Shannon Mortuary's use, one being two business addresses to the east that is still available and would allow group meetings and services, have parking, and is zoned for the use without the need of a CUP. Why does a newcomer to the street take precedence over the people that have established roots and property rights in Old Towne? Why have a Planning Commission whose specific role is land planning when one can simply go around them? Who is looking out for our neighborhoods?

The Planning Commission stated that they acted on behalf of the neighborhood, and we should support them and our neighborhoods. My allegiance is in protection of my neighbors who purchased property on this street knowing what the conditions were when they purchased and not changing the rules on them. As long as there is a sizable percentage of people in opposition to the TUP and the CUP, I must support their property rights, and not that of a newcomer to the street.

This position has nothing to do with a lack of empathy for SFM as I care deeply that they can support families in need, and they can do this and still be in the neighborhood with other available properties. Last night I received an email from a neighbor that attempted to steer the dialogue into shaming others for a lack of empathy criticizing them for not

wanting to support SFM on our street. I believe everyone wants the best for Shannon Mortuary and am disappointed for the dialogue to be diverted in this fashion as our street has been able to discuss opposing points of view without ridiculing others for not having the same point of view.

In closing, I don't think I can support a permanent CUP unless I knew all of my neighbors were ok with it and I didn't think it would decrease the safety and charm of our street. I am concerned that this will lead to a slight erosion of our street. Drip...drip...drip. Chapman Funeral Home on Chapman and Harwood could possibly be able to use this as a precedent to encroach into the South Harwood neighborhood. Drip...drip...drip. I keep coming back to defending our neighborhoods even though I want to find a solution that supports both...not sure there is one.

Thank you for considering my point of view, and the concerns of all residents on our street.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Connally

From: Laura Ely
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 7:21 PM
To: City Council Public Comment
Cc: abarrios@cityoforange.or; Doug Ely
Subject: RE: City Council Appeal No. 0555-21 - Shannon Family Mortuary // FW: Public Comment #4.1 - Shannon Mortuary Conditional Use Permit, Continuance of CUP Hearing #3121-20
Attachments: FW: Shannon Mortuary CUP No. 3121-20

Hello City Council Members of the City of Orange,

I am submitting my third comment on the subject of the Shannon Family Mortuary CUP/TUP and I wish to register again my disapproval of both the CUP and the newly proposed TUP that is being sponsored by councilwoman Arianna Barrios. My previous comments regarding this matter are included with this email (see attachment above and email below) with the hope that they will be read prior to the hearing so that the circumstances and concerns regarding this matter are better understood.

It is frustrating that this matter, already heard twice and denied once by the Planning Commission, is now again being brought up for consideration by another city entity. My understanding of the reason for this additional review is that a single city council member determined prior to research or discussion with the Planning Commission or neighbors affected, that the outcome for Shannon Family Mortuary CUP request was not equitable or in line with other CUP approvals. I would suggest that If she had come to the members of the Planning Commission and to the neighbors as well before requesting this appeal, that we most likely would not be revisiting this issue for a third time.

I have concerns with the proposed Temporary Use Permit for these reasons as well as the ones mentioned in my earlier correspondence:

1. There is no specific city personnel indicated as responsible for regular, routine compliance checks with the parking at and around Shannon Mortuary, with the business hours, with the number of services held per week, with the number of family members in attendance at the mortuary – with the city council woman's own admission, the city does not have the resources for this or other monitoring – this puts homeowners in the awkward position of having to monitor and report, something that is not conducive to the harmony of our neighborhood.
2. What is it that we think is going to change in a year? The issues the neighbors have concerns for will still remain. These include parking, street traffic, the continued erosion of our quiet street and neighborhood, the diminished value of our homes, the loss to voice our concerns about the next occupant of the building as an approved CUP is forever attached to the property, as well as city compliance monitoring, to name a few.
3. The lessee has already, prior to receiving actual approval of a CUP or TUP, established a chapel inside the building to accommodate the extra services that the CUP would allow. Neighbors were informed of this in a letter from the Mortuary earlier in the year. Since there appears to be a disregard for the city's process, what are the assurances to prevent this type of conduct from continuing over the next year?
4. A postponement of the decision to deny the CUP that many* on our block want, is not the answer. By accepting the original decision of the Planning Commission, the City Council's determination would, we hope, foster a need on the part of the lessee to seriously seek out a more appropriate venue for the event amenities and parking he wishes to offer his clients.

*(It should be noted that several of the neighbors who have been in agreement with the mortuary are not the actual homeowner or are homeowners renting out their property and not living on the premises year round)

Whether it is a CUP or TUP application, bottom line is that the office space that Shannon Family Mortuary chose to lease is not an event center but an administrative office building with limited parking and limited occupancy. Shannon Mortuary confirmed in their second letter to the neighbors that "downsize (ing) was readily apparent" and that they would need to adapt. The lessee knew the restrictions before leasing the building and yet went ahead anyway and now both he and Ms. Barrios are asking that North Waverly St. residents make accommodations for a building that will always be too small in size and in parking to meet the needs of the business, especially one that wants to expand on what services it can offer to its clients. Asking residents to agree to something that isn't right whether temporary or permanent is neither appropriate or principled and we should not have been put in this situation where neighbors are having to pick sides, nor should this continue to require such a considerable amount of time on the part of both the neighbors and city management.

I appreciate your consideration on this matter and thank you for your time.

With kind regard,

Laura Ely

Orange, CA 92866

Sent: Sunday, April 4, 2021 5:49 PM

To: PCPubliccomment@cityoforange.org

Cc: Doug Ely

Subject: Public Comment #4.1 - Shannon Mortuary Conditional Use Permit, Continuance of CUP Hearing #3121-20

Hello City of Orange Planning Commission Members,

In light of the fact that once again a review of the Shannon Mortuary Conditional Use Permit application is being considered I wish to go on record for the April 5th Hearing meeting and say that I am not in favor of providing Shannon Mortuary the CUP permit for reasons stated in my first comment letter as well as the reasons indicated below.

Our home at 139 N. Waverly St. has been our forever home. We are proud to be on the very last block to be included within the historic section of Old Towne Orange on the northside of Chapman Avenue. We have poured our hearts and money into expanding our home as our family grew, we have experienced our share of Design Review meetings, and we continue to value and appreciate where we live. We feel it is our responsibility to step forward when we see a disregard for the continuity and integrity of our street and neighborhood. We have lived on North Waverly Street for 35 years. Our home is celebrating its 100th birthday this year!

When we bought our home we conceded the fact that we would always have the AT&T building as our neighbor, that the work trucks would always be coming and going down North Waverly Street. We didn't have a say in the matter when in recent years AT&T decided to add several large, noisy generators to their parking lot, or when they added parking lights to their parking lot that hit directly into our bedroom window, and we have had no say in the maintenance and appearance of the grounds around this building that sits at the entrance of our otherwise lovely North Waverly St. The four or five homes that were torn down so that the AT&T building could be put up in their place was decided upon before we moved to Orange. We continue to be grateful that one of our early neighbors on the block had the foresight to insist that the large, now historic Pepper Tree, remain on AT&T property to partially cover the rather unsightly building. It is important that we have foresight. That we take care of what we have.

Our street matters to us and in the matter concerning Shannon Mortuary, unlike with the AT&T property, Waverly Street neighbors have at least a voice in what happens at the entrance of our street. No matter how many ways Mr. and Mrs. Link reframe their funeral service gathering numbers, the hours, the days, the frequency of these services, or the variety

of promises to not inconvenience the neighbors, they have shown little evidence in the time that they have had their business on our street that they will actually follow through on these commitments with their neighbors or with the city. The fact that their recent letter addressed to Neighbors of Shannon Family Mortuary states that they have **already** "set up a small chapel space in our building....." before they have received any type of conditional use permission from the city and this Board to do so, does little to convince me or my husband of their stated commitment to our neighborhood, our street. Further proof comes from the funeral services that have been held so far with the cars parked in front of homes or parading down our street as they follow the Shannon Mortuary Hearse to a burial site. There actually seems to be a disregard for the neighbors as well as the Planning Commission, especially during the time period in which they have requested this special permit.

One additional point. Most of our older homes in Old Towne as well as on N. Waverly St. all have rear of the house, detached garages. In most cases the driveways are very narrow and the garages too small to house today's larger cars. Street parking is a necessity, a commodity in short supply in Old Towne, and while street parking is public parking, I think it is safe to say that none of us likes it when the spot in front of our home is taken by a visitor which then precludes us from direct access to our home when we come home with bags of groceries, small children, or just want parking for our own guests.

The bottom line is we already deal with one business at the entrance of our historic block that detracts from our homes, our view, our otherwise quiet street and to now add another business that was initially presented as a professional office space only and is actually the site of funeral services and gatherings as well as parking space for two hearses, is more than should be permitted in an otherwise residential neighborhood, let alone a historic one. The Planning Commission as well as the Design Review Board require those of us living in Old Towne to maintain the integrity of our historical homes, – we would expect the same from these entities when residents want the integrity of their streets maintained and protected from businesses encroaching on a residential neighborhood.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns and for your consideration. I have attached my initial comment letter of February 1st to this email for review.

With kind regard,

Laura Ely

Orange, CA 92866

Jennifer Connally

From: wja845 Bryan
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 10:14 AM
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: July 13, 2021 Orange City Council Meeting - Public Comment Item #10.3 re Shannon Mortuary Appeal
Attachments: Video.MOV

Dear Members of the Orange City Council,

I am forwarding for your review a copy of the opposition letter I sent to you at the time of the previously-scheduled hearing on May 11, 2021, of the appeal of the Shannon Mortuary proposed CUP - now termed a TUP. My feelings concerning this matter remain unchanged; notwithstanding the meetings we have had with Councilwoman Barrios since she initiated the appeal from the decision of the Planning Commission. You already have attached to the agenda copies of the e-mails I sent to the Planning Commission voicing my opposition.

Because this makes the 5th time I have addressed this issue to the City, I will not reiterate in this email everything I have previously said. As I mentioned above, my position remains the same. I do want to add a couple of additional thoughts/comments, however.

First, I have reviewed the letter that was sent to you by my neighbor, Laura Ely, and I concur wholly in the arguments, issues and concerns she expressed in her opposition.

Second, as I have stated repeatedly in the past and want to emphasize again, I do not hold a grudge against Shannon Mortuary or the Links, and fully appreciate and value the service they provide to the community. Nor do I question the genuineness of their statements that they wish to be good neighbors and to become a part of our North Waverly Street community. As previously and repeatedly stated by me, however, my issue is that they have decided to conduct their business at an inappropriate location, given their business model and future plans.

This is not a case of NIMBY in the classic sense, for a number of reason. In the first place, there are multiple nearby locations available for the Links to conduct the type of business they aspire to, in a place where they will not be required to act as police, or to encroach on the residential nature and quality of the location they have chosen. All along Chapman Avenue are more suitable locations that have enclosed, attached parking, and ingress and egress right onto Chapman Ave., not onto neighboring streets. Moreover, this situation can and should be distinguished from other existing business/residential encroachment situations where residents are and have been co-existing with business for decades - such as was the case with the original Shannon's Mortuary location on Maple, or even the Chapel where Shannon now does its services. Neighbors in those areas have for decades had their eyes open to the fact that their residential street is co-habited by business. In fact, as stated by Laura Ely in her letter, we on North Waverly Street are well aware of the long-existing impact that the ATT Building has on the residential quality of our neighborhood and street. We were also well aware of the impact that having a chiropractor's office (or any other such limited medical facility or administrative office) on the corner of North Waverly would have, because that is how the current Shannon Mortuary location was utilized for decades. We should not be expected to welcome a further and more intrusive business presence into our residential neighborhood, when others options for Shannon exist elsewhere nearby. And especially when Shannon first came to the neighborhood under the apparently false or misrepresented premise of solely running an administrative office from the North Waverly location.

The growth and development and sprawl that has been occurring in Old Towne (where we are apparently even now welcoming a chain Chipotle to our midst), is troubling enough in some regards to those who have resided here for decades. While such business development definitely has its positive consequences, we can and should not permit it to get out of hand. The precedent that will be set by permitting Shannon Mortuary and the Links to "become part of the North Waverly Street neighborhood," will likely have a spreading and deleterious effect not only on North Waverly Street, but many additional residential streets in Old Towne to follow, to which businesses may become attracted. It is imperative on this City Council to make what may seem like the difficult and hostile-to-business decision, to not grant Shannon Mortuary the CUP or TUP, in order that there remains in the future a very special place called Old Towne Orange, where people flock not only to shop, but to live in one of the few charming, quaint, historic neighborhoods left.

Respectfully submitted,
Aleta Bryant

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Aleta Bryant
Date: May 9, 2021 at 11:46:54 PM EDT

Cc: CCpubliccomment@cityoforange.org
Subject: May 11, 2021 Orange City Council Meeting - Public Comment Item #10.1 re Shannon Mortuary Appeal

Dear Members of the Orange City Council,

I am writing to you to document my continuing concerns regarding the appeal of Shannon Mortuary of the Planning Commission's April 5, 2021 denial of Shannon Mortuary's revised proposal by to conduct services and/or family viewings on their property located at 1005 E. Chapman Ave. I am a nearby resident to the mortuary, and have submitted multiple statements in opposition to Shannon Mortuary's previous proposals on the three occasions they were calendared as items on the Agenda of the Planning Commission. My previously-stated concerns made in those prior e-mail submissions remain in regard to the current appeal to the City Council o reconsider the denial of Shannon Mortuary's requested conditional use permit (CUP).

Initially, I would like to state that I have had the occasion to have a couple of in-person conversations with Charles Link, the owner of the business, prior to the April 5, 2021 Planning Commission hearing, when he came to my home and knocked on my door. We discussed his revised plans for the in-person viewings at the mortuary, and his plans for assuring minimal disruptions to the adjoining residential neighborhood on North Waverly Street. My discussions with Charles were very cordial, and I believe that he and his wife, Julie, are committed to the goals and success of their business, to serving their community and clientele, and have good intentions regarding wanting to be good neighbors. However, many of my concerns remain unaddressed; and I believe probably can never be adequately addressed, notwithstanding the Links' good intentions. Shannon Mortuary is simply a business model that does not fit well in this part of the Old Towne Orange neighborhood, given that the Links have expanded what the

neighborhood anticipated being merely administrative offices for Shannon Mortuary, into a location for family and friends of a deceased to gather.

Notwithstanding that Shannon Mortuary's revised CUP proposal appears to reduce and promise to limit the number of visitors and attendees at the viewing events planned at the funeral home, the larger issues of concern remain, namely: the likely potential for unplanned and unanticipated disruptions to the adjoining residential neighborhood regardless of the mortuary's intentions; the failure of guests of the business to follow the rules and guidelines; the inability to enforce the breached guidelines in any meaningful way given that, once the breach occurs, the damage to the surrounding neighborhood is already done notwithstanding efforts to remedy it once it is discovered; and, perhaps most significant, the permanent change to the use and nature of any business that may replace Shannon Mortuary in the future as a result of the granting of the CUP, given that the CUP attaches to the property for good once it is granted.

I would like you to know that I have had the opportunity to read the statements of my neighbors, the Arkins and the Elys, that were also submitted in opposition to Shannon Mortuary's CUP application for this appeal and for the prior Planning Commission hearings. Rather than re-state in my letter all that they have included in their letters, I represent to you that I wholeheartedly agree with and share their concerns, and ask that you consider them to be likewise set forth herein on my behalf, in opposition. I would also like to add a couple of things. First, with regard to the events of Saturday morning, February 27, 2021, described by Doug Ely, wherein a large group of funeral goers in cars utilized North Waverly Street as a gathering and staging ground for their procession to the cemetery, I am attaching a video that was taken of the incident. I was drawn outside of my house by the loud music being played and the revving of vintage muscle car engines that was happening. When I discussed this incident with Charles, he stated that it may sometimes happen that people will gather at Shannon Mortuary to stage the funeral procession to the cemetery; but he noted that the event on February 27 did not last very long. I do beg to differ with Charles in regard to the disruption caused by such gathering of vehicles from both the noise and the manner of the staging; and feel that the length of the event was significant enough if you are a resident of North Waverly Street. Please refer to the attached video, which captures only a very small portion of the incident.

Secondly, Charles also came by my house just a week prior to the April 5 Planning Commission hearing to see if I had noticed the six police cars that had just responded to Shannon Mortuary to deal with an intra-family physical fight that had broken out in the street. Not only were some of his clients physically fighting in the street; but he mentioned that at least one family member had gone up the driveway of the adjoining house, taken one of the lawn chairs off the property and carried it down to the sidewalk, where he sat in it smoking, surrounded by other smoking families members. Charles also described the unruly and threatening nature of the clients which they had exhibited to his staff and which had caused him to call the police; and also mentioned that even the 6 police officers who responded to the scene seemed threatened by the situation. Charles described the chaos and trash that those clients had scattered around his property, and, while standing on my front porch, showed me a "loaded" baby's diaper he was holding that he saw on my front lawn parkway, and which he suspected had been left there by those unruly clients.

Although I appreciated the fact that Charles came over to tell me about the incident and to pick up the diaper, this incident created additional concerns for me about the ability of Shannon Mortuary to control its clientele BEFORE a disruption to the adjoining neighborhood occurs. I know that Charles and his staff were apparently equally rattled by this violent and threatening incident, and he was not happy about it. But, once again, it demonstrates the potential disconnect between what the Links may envision for the way their business is run and their desire to limit disruptions to North Waverly Street, and their ability actually to control and achieve this. I am reminded of the earlier out-of-control Memorial Day weekend event at Shannon's (about which I personally complained to Mayor Mark

Murphy), when a large crowd of mourners descended upon North Waverly Street with coolers of beer, the remnants of which they left scattered all along the block. Although Charles insists this will not happen because he is reducing the number of people who can gather, I reiterate the reality of the limitations of his actual ability to prevent even unintended (by Shannon) disruptions and breaches in behavior by his clientele from happening BEFORE the disruptions and breaches of conduct have already occurred and impacted the residents of North Waverly Street.

Finally, I would like to note that the bulk of the letters that were previously submitted to the Planning Commission in support of Shannon Mortuary's proposed CUP were not only form letters that were provided to the residents and businesses for signature by Mr. Link, but, **more importantly**, were submitted on the Links' behalf by businesses located **on Chapman Avenue**, and **not on North Waverly Street**. As such, those businesses have far less standing to comment on the very real and pervasive impact of the proposed expanded operations of Shannon Mortuary on the residents who live and maintain their homes on North Waverly Street, 7 days a week/ 24 hours a day.

In closing, I want to again acknowledge that the Links seem very nice, and have expressed the best of intentions. This opposition to their appeal of the denial by the Planning Commission of their proposed CUP, however, is not about whether they are engaged in a worthy and important enterprise. It is, rather, about the fact that they have chosen to engage in it in an unsuitable location.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to address my concerns to the City Council.

Aleta Bryant

Sent from my iPad

Jennifer Connally

From: Ken Arkin
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 4:18 PM
To: City Council Public Comment; abarrios@cityoforange.or
Cc: Doug Ely; Laura Ely
Subject: Re: City Council Appeal No. 0555-21 - Shannon Family Mortuary// FW:Public Comment #4.1 - Conditional Use Permit, Continuance of CUP 3121-20

City Council, City of Orange

I am writing to comment on the Temporary Use Permit that is under consideration for Shannon Family Mortuary at the July 13, 2021 meeting of the Orange City Council.

Below is a copy of the email I sent to the planning commission on April 4, 2021 for the the hearing to decide on a Conditional Use Permit for Shannon Family Mortuary, which I believe was CUP hearing #3121-20. I was informed that my original email may not have been submitted for the City Council's consideration for the meeting of July 13, 2021, I would like it considered and placed in the meeting records.

I would like to also counter the comment of Mr. Link of Shannon Family Mortuary made in his July 7, 2021 letter/email to Kelly Ribuffo (for submission to the City Council's meeting on July 13, 2021). Toward the end of that letter Mr. Link stated "With the City Council's approval of this compromise that was reached with consensus from our neighbors, we believe we have a pathway forward ..." I was at this meeting held at Shannon's Family Mortuary and I heard no vote or discussion of reaching a consensus on a TUP. This is a misrepresentation of the outcome of that meeting. I know of 6 neighbors who have expressed doubt as to whether a TUP should be granted. This misrepresentation has been one of my concerns from the beginning of Mr. Link's communication about the details of his business operation. From the very first letter he sent around to neighbors stating that his office was only an administrative office to this comment in this submission he has exaggerated or altered his stance to gain his objective. This makes it hard to trust that he will follow through with promises made.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ken Arkin

Orange, Ca 92866

EMAIL SENT APRIL 4,2021 TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING

Ken Arkin

To: pcpubliccomment@cityoforange.org

Sun, Apr 4 at 11:16 AM

April 4, 2021

Planning Commission

City of Orange, Ca

Below are some concerns we have regarding the Conditional Use Permit under consideration on April 5, 2021 by the City of Orange Planning Commission for Shannon Family Mortuary on the corner of North Waverly St and 1005 E Chapman Ave, Orange, Ca 92866. We live in the 100 block of North Waverly St. We oppose the granting of the Conditional Use Permit. We also agree with the opposition and concerns of our neighbor Douglas Ely who has submitted his concerns to the commission.

In the recent letter from Shannon Mortuary that was placed in our mailbox around the week of 3-22-21 and in the letter Mr. Link handed us when he talked to us in person on March 27, he states that they will be having viewings at their office "...at a maximum of 1-2 times per week between 8 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday, with a duration of 1-2 hours." I asked him if that means that they would be finished by 5 pm or whether the viewings could go 2 hours after 5pm meaning they might not be finished until 7 pm. He stated in these letters and in person to us that their last appointment would be 5 pm for up to 2 hours leaving open the possibility of viewings lasting until 7 pm. His description in these letters and his initial description to us in person is misleading because it makes it sound like they would be finished by 5 pm, not their actual intention of having viewings possibly last until 7 pm. This deception makes us distrustful of his promise about future activities at the office on 1005 E Chapman Ave. How can we be assured that there won't be other activities at this office that will further impact our neighborhood here on the 100 block of North Waverly Street.

Mr. Link also assured us that parking on our street would not be impacted because of their 5 parking spaces and the parking spaces at the AT&T building across the street from his business (which we understand is only an agreement for one year). We are concerned that he will not be able to hold to this promise. The parking on Waverly Street is public parking. Anyone is legally allowed to park here. While Mr. Link and his staff are busy with their customers for the viewing how will he be able to police where his customers park. In addition the street parking on our street are small. Unless someone parks very close to the driveways there is only room for one car to park between those driveways which could take away from the parking home owners use regularly.

Our last point is that we live in a historic district. There are very strict regulations in place to keep our neighborhood true to it's original development. Allowing viewings to be done at Shannon's Mortuary certainly changes the original flavor and developmental beginnings of North Waverly Street. When we wanted to add shutters to the windows on the front of our house several years ago we were not allowed to do so because they didn't fit the restrictions. We don't understand how a business can be allowed to conduct operations that could alter the nature of our street while we are not allowed to put shutters on our windows to improve the curb appeal of our house. We are also concerned about the possible impact on property values by having a mortuary on the street.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns in this matter.

Ken & Ida Arkin

Orange, Ca 92866