

251 Arcturis Circle
Bishop, CA 93514
February 9, 2021

To whom it may concern,

Safe Parking Proposal at Nazarene Church

As a Vincentian with the St. Vincent de Paul Society I have learned about the sad and desperate conditions which people who live and work in Bishop must endure to continue to work here. The reality is for many reasons, not least of which is the high cost of housing, there are people and their families, who have no other choice but to sleep in their vehicles. Because there is no designated shelter in Bishop people in this situation can park their cars on any side street. This is not an ideal situation as that leaves the occupants of the cars vulnerable to harassment, potential damage to their cars and no sanitary place for toileting. The homes in front of which cars are parked overnight are not appreciative of their presence and make their concerns known.

The model for the safe parking proposal has been implemented at Santa Barbara churches for at least 10 years. I have studied the Nazarene Church proposal and found it to be very thorough. There are many safeguards and regulations that support a program which assists the homeless who live in their cars to have a safe night sleep.

With input from the Sheriff Department and the Bishop Unified School District and Board for additional safety measures, the school board approved the plan.

I strongly urge the Supervisors to reject the appeal before them so the use permit can be implemented on a trial basis as originally designed.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Dougherty

-----Original Message-----

From: Gert Dougherty [mailto:gert@usamedia.tv]

Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 7:26 AM

To: Darcy Ellis

Subject: Safe parking project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

I would like it to be known that I strongly oppose the parking project they have planned for the parcel near the BUHS school farm. I raised an animal for FFA there in 1964. My daughter's raised FFA animals there in the 1980's. My grandchildren raised FFA animals during the last six years. There was never a safety issue there. There are times when the students are at the farm other than regular school hours. Almost a daily occurrence.

How this project can be considered is beyond me. Please think about the consequences, if just one child is "bothered" by a resident of the project. It is you that will have that to live with.

Thank you for listening.

Gary Dougherty

Sent from my iPad

-----Original Message-----

From: cindy s. kitts [mailto:cindykitts422@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 10:56 AM

To: Darcy Ellis

Subject:

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Allowing IMACA to out a safe place next to the school farm is a huge mistake. The FFA has been in that location for years with no problems. Putting in this "space" will pit a serious need on the farm. People will be harassing the animals, which in some cases can cause death. The FFA is an important project for many high school kids. They are instrumental in keeping the farm going 365 days a year. There has to be a better place. Please reconsider

Cindy Kitts

-----Original Message-----

From: Krista Carucci [mailto:kristacarucci@yahoo.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 11:10 AM

To: Darcy Ellis

Subject: IMACA's "Safe Parking Project " - STRONG OPPOSITION

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in strong opposition to the location of the "Safe Parking Project" currently being proposed at the Nazarene Church on Line St. While I do not currently reside in Bishop, I have a lot of family and friends who frequent this farm daily, monthly and yearly for events, school FFA projects, fundraising, community events and the ability for kids to learn the true meaning of hard work and dedication to something other than themselves. The FFA farm that is currently next store to the proposed site of the "safe parking project" has been in our community for longer than I was born. It is absolutely insane that anyone in their right mind would be looking to put a homeless camp next to a school site, let alone one that needs to be accessed by kids and community members everyday, all hours of the day and without any protection from the types of activities that potentially accompany the homeless community.

While I believe in helping others and providing shelter for those that need it, this needs to be weighed with the safety and protection of hardworking community members who have worked tirelessly to grow and sustain an FFA program for decades that is vital to the local community. It's vital that this community be able to continue a program that trains and protects the farming culture and community for generations to come, without threat from the homeless. The proposed site for the "Safe Parking Project" should be out of town on the outskirts of the community, where direct exposure to homeless activities are not a threat to our children, community members, family members or children. Bishop should not be a safe haven for the homeless, it should be a safe haven for hardworking families and their children. That is the beauty of growing up in a community like Bishop, is that you are somewhat insulated from the harsh realities of life and what that brings. That is why people choose to live in Bishop and stay in Bishop. People from all over the country travel to Bishop to see the natural beauty this community is surrounded by. That should continue to remain the focus.

So, in short, not only do I oppose the site of the "Safe Parking Project" at the Nazarene Church, but I oppose it all together in the city limits and community of Bishop, California.

From: Joe Buffington [mailto:joe_buffington@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 11:56 AM
To: Darcy Ellis
Subject: safe parking program opposition

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello

I am writing in opposition of the Imaca Safe parking program. This program is to be located next to the care center, hospital, middle school and also the school farm. Our community is very unique and very generous. We want to help people but when it comes to a program like this being in a location that could so easily hurt young people we all need to stand up for what it right.

If this program comes in we will see many changes to the area that will effect the safety of everyone around the area. The nazerine is sourounded by the farms cow pastures and is frequented by students and public at all times.

We must protect people who cannot protect them selves. If this passes and there are problems it is on the heads of imaca, the nazerine church and also the board of supervisors.

Please make the right decision and have imaca find a new location where the community and the homeless population can both be happy.

From: BobandSandyWinzenread [mailto:sierrawiz@suddenlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 12:06 PM
To: Darcy Ellis
Subject: Homeless Parking at the Nazarene Church

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

It has come to our attention that the Inyo County Board of Supervisors is to take action at the Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, 2021, on the matter of allowing overnight, homeless parking in the Nazarene Church parking lot on West Line Street in Bishop. We wish for the Board to take into consideration the choice of this location. The Bishop High School farm totally surrounds the proposed site. We are greatly concerned for the safety of the Agriculture students that tend to the farm as part of their education curriculum. It is realized that the homeless situation is a serious society problem that must be compassionately considered, but do not feel that this location is desirable. It is not far fetched to consider that problems will manifest such as sanitation and drug use. When taken in consideration with the farm's use by our students, it would seem that a more suitable site could be found. Thank for you consideration of our thoughts. Sincerely, Sandy and Bob Winzenread

From: Carolyn Yount [mailto:carolynyount_4h@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 1:00 PM
To: Darcy Ellis
Subject: IMACA Safe Parking Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Dear Inyo County Supervisors,

I am writing this letter in regards to IMACA Safe Parking Project that is planned to be developed at the Nazarene Church on West Line Street and shares a common fence line with the school farm on 3 sides of the selected property.

I am asking that you reconsider the placement of the facility in such close proximity to the Bishop High School Farm. No one is arguing that everyone who is homeless has a mental health or substance abuse problem, however a study conducted in 2019 by the California Policy Lab at UCLA found that 78% of unsheltered homeless (homeless people not living at a homeless shelter) suffered from some form of mental health concern and 75% suffered from substance abuse concern. Please read the following links for the statistics.

[Are many homeless people in L.A. mentally ill? New findings back the public's perception](#)

[Health Conditions Among Unsheltered Adults in the U.S. – California Policy Lab](#)

<https://www.capolicylab.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Health-Conditions-Among-Unsheltered-Adults-in-the-U.S.pdf>

The close proximity to the school farm brings the safety of the children into question. How are the fences going to be monitored to keep individuals from trespassing on the school farm during the dark hours of the night? Setting hours of operation for the school farm is not feasible when the care of livestock is involved. During baby season night checks are a necessity to insure the safety of the mother and the baby. Night checks are usually made in the late hours of the night to ensure everyone is good and no one needs any assistance in birthing. If there is a sick animal, night checks are required to monitor the animals health and make sure it is progressing and does not need immediate medical attention. It is the partial responsibility of the students to perform these night checks on schedule. The farm is a resource to teach hands on learning of all aspects of farming and livestock production. This is "life on the farm". Mother Nature doesn't care what your watch says. Would you be comfortable sending your child out into a wooded pasture with a spot light to do night checks or moving a cow with a stuck calf from that dark pasture to the barn knowing of the potential risks this "Safe Parking Project" may produce? Would

you be comfortable going out at 1 in the morning to help your child in the dark knowing what potential risks have been created?

I understand that there is some plan in place for security and litter removal but there was at the Safe Parking Site on Main Street as well and it did not stop people from leaving garbage or emptying the contents of their vehicles into the parking lot or leaving bags of litter behind the barriers that were placed around the perimeter instead of using the garbage receptacles that were provided at the front of the development. Loose litter has the potential to cause a lethal health hazard to the sheep and cattle that graze those fence lines. If they were to ingest a single plastic bag they can die from a condition called softwear poisoning in cattle and intestinal obstruction in sheep. Due to the design of the cows stomach the foreign material is not permitted to pass through the stomach compartments. This creates a prolonged and painful death where the ingested soft, inedible object interferes with the animals digestion causing it to slowly starve to death. The only treatment is euthanasia or a cost prohibitive surgery. In sheep, the foreign object can become intertwined in the intestine causing the intestine to die and subsequently the sheep to parish as well.

Is there a plan in place for individuals with dogs? Domestic dogs are known for killing multiples at a time. Who is going to pick up the financial responsibility for project livestock destroyed and maimed incurred by dogs that were not properly secured at the facility?

I want to ask how it would make you feel knowing you voted to allow this project to proceed at this location and something happened to one of the students or livestock due to your decision. If this was pitched to be put at the City Park would you entertain that location as well or would you be concerned with the safety of the unsupervised children that frequent there?

As a parent of a future Future Farmer of America that will be using the amenities of the school farm in a few years, I am asking that you reconsider the location of this project. Perhaps there is an empty city or county lot that is more suited for a development like this? Why couldn't this have been planned into the new county facility that is being built on Highway 6? This valley has already suffered one tragedy involving a minor. Do we need to put others at risk?

Sincerely,

Carolyn Yount

From: Krista Carucci [mailto:kristacarucci@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 1:34 PM
To: Darcy Ellis
Subject: Re: IMACA's "Safe Parking Project " - STRONG OPPOSITION

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Please note, that I do understand that not all homeless individuals are a "threat" and are merely individuals that have fallen on hard times. I do understand this and am very sensitive to this, so please note that I do think its an amazing effort to try and get people back on their feet, but in a way that is controlled and not a direct threat to the children and community that are serving to help them. Unfortunately, there are too many variables within the homeless community that make it difficult to ensure they will remain within the confines of the church property and not pose any undo threat, whether intentional or non-intentional to children and families using the adjacent property. Thanks so much for your understanding.

On Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 01:10:13 PM CST, Krista Carucci <kristacarucci@yahoo.com> wrote:

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in strong opposition to the location of the "Safe Parking Project" currently being proposed at the Nazarene Church on Line St. While I do not currently reside in Bishop, I have a lot of family and friends who frequent this farm daily, monthly and yearly for events, school FFA projects, fundraising, community events and the ability for kids to learn the true meaning of hard work and dedication to something other than themselves. The FFA farm that is currently next store to the proposed site of the "safe parking project" has been in our community for longer than I was born. It is absolutely insane that anyone in their right mind would be looking to put a homeless camp next to a school site, let alone one that needs to be accessed by kids and community members everyday, all hours of the day and without any protection from the types of activities that potentially accompany the homeless community.

While I believe in helping others and providing shelter for those that need it, this needs to be weighed with the safety and protection of hardworking community members who have worked tirelessly to grow and sustain an FFA program for decades that is vital to the local community. It's vital that this community be able to continue a program that trains and protects the farming culture and community for generations to come, without threat from the homeless. The proposed site for the "Safe Parking Project" should be out of town on the outskirts of the community, where direct exposure to homeless activities are not a threat to our children, community members, family members or children. Bishop should not be a safe haven for the homeless, it should be a safe haven for hardworking families and their children. That is the beauty of growing up in a community like Bishop, is that you are somewhat insulated from the harsh realities of life and what that brings. That is why people choose to live in Bishop and stay in Bishop. People from all over the country travel to Bishop to see the natural beauty this community is surrounded by. That should continue to remain the focus.

So, in short, not only do I oppose the site of the "Safe Parking Project" at the Nazarene Church, but I oppose it all together in the city limits and community of Bishop, California.

From: Dawn Kirby [mailto:risingstarranch@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 4:49 PM
To: Darcy Ellis
Subject: parking project

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I oppose the parking project that is going in at the Nazarene Church because of the close proximity to the school farm. My grand children are in FFA and spend time at the school farm. It is a known fact that many of the homeless use drugs and alcohol. This community has already had one missing teen, we do not need another. By letting them stay in the parking lot does not mean they are going to stay in their cars. The school farm borders the Nazarene Church on all sides. Last year we had to put out a fire that was started by a homeless man. It could have burned down most of West Bishop. This is a bad idea.

Dawn Kirby
Bishop,CA

From: sean frank [mailto:seanlapg@me.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 10:31 PM
To: Darcy Ellis
Subject: Appeal 2020-01

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hi,

I was asked to send the below Facebook comment of mine to your email address. I'm Not exactly sure who you are.

The below is my Facebook post regarding dealing with homeless shelters when I was a police officer down in Glendale. I'm also quite familiar with the homeless issues in the greater Los Angeles area and Santa Monica. The below is not very professionally written as I typed it quickly and it was for Facebook consumption but everything I talk about is accurate and I would fully expect my experiences to be repeated if Bishop continues to provide homeless resources in town. See the below.

You guys need to fight this. I used to be a cop in Glendale and similar operations were established in the patrol area that I worked for 10 years. When these camps/shelters opened up it attracted mostly drugs abusers, the mentally ill, and alcoholics. The calls for police services SKYROCKETED at the location and around it. I would find used needles and human feces at the location and all around the surrounding area. No amount of social services helped abate this disgusting behavior. The people who fell on hard times would quickly take advantage of social services offered, find jobs, and get back on their feet. The people remaining in these locations were the ones who didn't want true help but would be happy to take a free handout. The quality of life for businesses and residents in this area dropped. Property values dropped. The residents in the area were incredibly upset about how these operations harmed their quality of life. From my experience as a police officer in Glendale, CA I STRONGLY encourage you to not create this type of operation or facility ANYWHERE near the center of bishop, businesses or people's homes. I fully understand the desire to help you fellow man and I often go out of my way to help homeless people. I find they will take a handout but not a hand up. They want to stay homeless, stay drunk, and not improve their lives. The "normal people" who become homeless quickly become not-homeless. I dont have a dog in this fight down their in Bishop but I strongly strongly (with tears in my eyes) encourage you to put an operation like this OUTSIDE of your town so as to not destroy the quality of life for your hard working local families and business that may be impacted. I remember vividly that homeless from the local shelter were defecating in the bushes of a school a few blocks away. I districtly remember the worst smell I ever encountered in my life (outside of decayed dead bodies) walking through those bushes when tasked with making sure the homeless were not relieving themselves at the elementary school. I remember people overdosing on heroin on the sidewalk to the front of the "safe place" and watching them die. No I didn't do CPR on these because TB and HIV were a big problem among the homeless back then. Dont allow this location in your town.

Put it outside of town someplace where it won't destroy your taxpayers and voter's QOL (quality of life). You have been warned. Lastly - I think a friend down in Bishop recently sent me a video of a adult man openly masturbating in broad daylight in the current safe space parking lot down in Bishop. Do you want your kids, elderly parents, or family having to drive past an adult male openly masturbating himself why watching traffic go by? Do you want your kids seeing that? Do you want your local cops having to deal with that? You all see the issues LA is having with homeless madness. Do you want to encourage them coming to Bishop? Are you mad? You have been warned Bishop. Stand up and fight to protect your neighborhood and QOL.

Sean Frank
Mammoth Lakes

From: Marjorie Routt [mailto:marjorieroutt@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 6:37 AM

To: Darcy Ellis

Subject: Safe Parking Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Good Morning,

I would like to take a moment of your time to ask you to reconsider the location for IMACA's "Safe Parking Project" proposal.

The location of this proposed area is surrounded by lands that are utilized by our local schools, specifically the school farm and Bishop FFA. In addition the proposed location is within close proximity of our local schools themselves.

As a mother of three young girls who enjoy the time they spend at the farm and who dream of raising animals there, it is concerning that the safety of our children and their animals is not the first concern of our county. There is no guarantee that individuals at the " Safe Parking Project " would not wander onto the school farm or cause harm to the 88 acres that serve our students. The school farm is a treasure within our community and allows our youth an opportunity that many other community's can not offer.

I understand the need for such a project but ask you to consider another location that doesn't put our community's youth at risk. Not only is this proposed area surrounded by lands utilized by our students, it is incredibly close to our school campuses.

Respectfully,
Marjorie Routt

-----Original Message-----

From: Terry [mailto:terrycimino1111@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 7:43 AM

To: Darcy Ellis

Subject: Homeless location objection

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To Inyo County Supervisors, and all concerned,

I'm writing to let you know of my objection to having the homeless encampment/parking being at the church parking lot located next to the school farm. I don't believe it to be safe for the kids or animals. I also do not want it kept at the old Kmart/Taco Bell parking lot. My reasons for that are all for safety. My sister lives in the senior mobile park owned by the city. Her home is right behind the alley between that building and the new building owned by Mr. Marchio.

I have spoken and met with Larry Emerson working with HHS about this. There are people that continue to go down that alley, day and night. One of them in particular goes down there to fight, yell, and argue with himself, he's loud and is very unnerving to my sister especially at night. There has been several men go there to her fence to urinate. She's had to chase them off. She and her granddaughter (who she watches a few days a week) do NOT need to see that. They don't seem to care who sees their body parts as some put it away and some don't. They go to have sex in that alley as well as do their drugs. After the recent snow my sister has stated she found footsteps from over the fence to her shed. So I don't know how often they've been in her yard at night but we now know they ARE going in her yard looking to see what they can get. Why else would they be in her yard? They have no other business being there.

When I spoke to Mr. Emerson about this, he did send an email stating he'd spoken to Jeff Thompson and Meaghan McCammon about this however nothing has been done. Mr. Marchio, told me he'd offered to put up a fence to close off that alley at his expense and no one would get back to him. I truly worry about my sisters safety and with all she has been subjected to I don't think it needs to be near kids and animals at the school farm as well.

My solution would be to let them park in the new parking lot located on Highway 6 that will house the county employees. If they're only supposed to park at night, county employees would be gone for the day.

Thank you for giving my letter consideration.

Terry Cimino

From: Jaime [mailto:partsgirlj25@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:54 AM
To: Darcy Ellis
Subject: Objection to the Imaca Safe Parking Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to object to the IMACA Safe Parking Project. I am a very concerned parent of a FFA Student. My son is a junior at BUHS and raises numerous livestock species for our annual Livestock Show. Usually he is by himself when he is at the farm, as he gets there at the break of dawn, and is there late into the evening working with his animals after dark. I have seen the people that park at the old Kmart parking lot, out in the desert, and along HWY 6. For this to be allowed to happen so close to a school facility like the Farm is very concerning to me. I have seen comments like "the homeless are harmless" or that "they have mental issues" or they are just addicted to drugs? Do you think any normal person wants their kids to be around people with that type of mentality, especially in the early morning and late evenings? There are plenty of empty buildings around town, along with empty parking lots. We have other options in this town for this project, and not so close to a school facility. The farm promotes student learning and is where students go and feel safe. If this was approved this would be one more place the kids would not be able to go freely and feel safe. Please do the responsible thing and deny this request.

Thank you,
Jaime Holland
Bishop High School Parent.

From: David Cooke [mailto:David@cookefurniture.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:20 AM
To: Darcy Ellis
Subject: Appeal No. 2020-01

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To whom it may concern

Subject: Opposition to homeless safe parking lot.

Having grown up in Bishop it is disheartening to see the growing number of homeless people "camping" out where we like to walk our dogs or go fishing. Equally disheartening is to see the amount of trash left behind by the homeless and tourists who visit our beautiful area.

I have seen first hand what happens to an area when a homeless refuge is established. My vendor's business in Whittier at 7623 Baldwin place had a homeless refuge established and now the area is so bad they have break ins and vandalism on a constant basis, with no help from law enforcement they are now looking to move the business out of whittier.

Also the proposed location is very close to schools and children walking to the FFA farm. A homeless camp is not safe to have near our children.

The Inyo Register reported the following.

"The Eastern Sierra Continuum of Care, a coalition of human service providers, proposed to operate a Safe Parking Lot with up to 15 vehicles on the Bishop Church of the Nazarene property. Persons experiencing homelessness and living out of vehicles would be permitted to park overnight in spaces along the church's west property line, only between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. daily, and must leave the premises in the morning."

It is very alarming that the people pushing this think that homeless people will be so timely they will obey a 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. schedule, it is difficult for normal people to move their car by 7 a.m.

I think a better place would be out next to Browns recycling and a work program can be established to have them sort recyclables and be rewarded for picking up trash. To lift them out of poverty you must give them opportunity and a purpose not a free parking lot.

Sincerely

David Cooke
80 Running Iron Rd
Bishop CA 93514
760-872-2345

From: Marilyn Carter [mailto:mcarter93514@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 5:56 PM
To: Darcy Ellis
Subject: Concerning FFA Farm and "Safe Parking Project" Objection

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Inyo Board of Supervisors:

As a past teacher, parent, and grandparent of five grandchildren, who have and are still participating in 4-H and the FFA program, I am invested in this program and concerned for our children. Especially at this time in our society with kids being out of in class learning and having little social interaction with peers, we as a town and community owe protection to the future of our children. Many of the kids of Bishop and Bishop High School see the FFA farm as a part of their lives. We are unique in California to have an on campus farm! Most communities just have an FFA Chapter and all animals are raised at home with the assistance from instructor. Many of our students would not have the opportunity to raise animals or participate in the program if not for the farm. This program is an essential part of Bishop High School where the students have day to day hands on involvement. The students love to hang out at the farm and work with Mr. Buffington, learning about animals, plants, and our precious environment. Classes in these areas are a part of the curriculum.

I certainly believe we need a place for the homeless people, but not around young people "twenty four seven." Our High School Students are still young and cannot deal with these issues. Yes they need to be taught, but not at the expense of their safety! So many homeless are mentally challenged and also use drugs, being a big issue for our town. Do we want them using drugs or even selling marijuana or worse drugs to our kids. I worked in a situation where many students, not all but several were users and I certainly do not want that for my grandchildren or your children. Our children have enough to deal with without being challenged by people over the fence, who are not invested in our community or our children. Why should they be, since they are needy also!

I am an advocate for the FFA program and could go on forever about the opportunities provided for students, who choose this program for a future. My granddaughter is a junior at Davis, majoring in Foods and Nutrition, and Environmental Studies. There are many opportunities for various jobs in the field of Agriculture. I personally have learned about the endless careers by being an advocate for my grandchildren. It is up to our community to keep our children safe. What is wrong with the old KMART parking lot, where people are aware of the needs of the homeless and they are not hiding in the bushes!

Marilyn M. Carter
former BUHS teacher

From: Maria Kemp [mailto:mkemp826@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:22 PM
To: Darcy Ellis
Cc: Maria Kemp
Subject: Safe Parking

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Please accept this letter of objection to the proposed safe parking location at the Nazarene Church. We commend the Nazarene Church for their willingness to serve our local homeless community. However, as parents of school-aged children, we believe the risks of the location outweigh the benefits. The Nazarene Church is surrounded by high school FFA property on 3 sides and has the middle school across the street on the fourth side. We have numerous other parking lots in town, none of which are surrounded by local schools. One possibility may be the soon-to-be vacant county building adjacent to the IMAH thrift store. That space has a parking lot that will be empty as soon as the county employees make their move to the new building. We don't claim to have solved a complicated and multi faceted problem, but we do believe there are enough risks involved in the homeless community being housed in close proximity to schools, that it is imperative that a different location be used. Thank you.

Matt and Maria Kemp
Bishop

-----Original Message-----

From: LM W [mailto:7sunbums@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:18 PM
To: Darcy Ellis
Subject: Letter of objection

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To who it may concern:

I object to the location of IMACA's "Safe Parking Project" at the Nazarene Church. My concern is public safety, and the close proximity to the school farm. My daughter has always felt safe at the school farm and I have never had any safety concerns of her being there. I would be deeply concerned for my daughters safety if there was homeless housing directly adjacent to the school farm. The pandemic has been very difficult for my daughter, she has been very fortunate to have the farm during this time. Please do not make this safe place somewhere that I am not comfortable for her to be alone. The school farm offers so much for the children in Bishop, especially in the time of this pandemic. Please consider other locations for the "Safe Parking Project".

Lisa Wray
674 Snow Circle
Bishop, CA 93514
323 434 0999

-----Original Message-----

From: Erin Gladding [mailto:eringladding@hotmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 6:29 AM

To: Darcy Ellis

Subject: Safe Parking Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Good morning.

I'm writing you today in order voice my concerns for the Safe Parking Project proposed at the Nazarene Church.

It seems unsafe to have this project in such close proximity to our schools. Not only does the property join the High School FFA farm but also have concerns about the location being so close to Home Street school.

The route in which the occupants could take in coming and going via walking seem unfavorable to the schools.

I've also driven by the current temporary Safe Parking location on Main Street in the mornings and on a number occasions have seen people sleeping outside of the designated parking lot. Individuals and tents have spilled over onto the sidewalk on Main Street.

This is such a shame to see and would be even more devastating to our community in the location proposed at the Nazarene Church. Thank you for taking the time to hear my concerns and I hope you will consider a safer location for this project.

Erin Gladding

February 11,2021

To whom it may concern,

It is commendable albeit overdue that Inyo County has finally acknowledged there is an extensive homeless population. Historically we have been very welcoming to those who choose to live a nomadic life, and very generous to those who require health, housing and benefits.

The current plan to encourage further drain on county resources by providing yet another homeless encampment is ill conceived , unnecessary and an invitation to those who would take advantage of our well known generosity. Numerous empty, unused properties already exist that do not impact children and their ability to safely attend classes.

Congregations the world over are called by the Creator to minister to their fellow man. In this case common sense should also prevail. Allowing anonymous persons to hang out where they have access to school children is irresponsible. Desire to do good works should not negatively impact others.

Please consider an alternative available space, or upgrade a space already impacted by the homeless. Those of us who are adversely affected by continuous trespassing on our streets, lawns and pastures would be very grateful, and our young students will be able to continue safe learning directed toward becoming productive members of society.

Karen L. Tibbett 193 Johnston Dr. Bishop, CA 93514

From: phillip powell [mailto:mr.powellonly@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 2:28 PM
To: Darcy Ellis
Subject: Support for safe parking shelter program

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello My name is Phillip and I just wanted to show some support for the safe parking shelter program that IMACA has provided to those in need.

IMACAs safe parking shelter is a much needed program in our community. Through this and many of the other IMACA programs, the spread of Covid-19 amongst those experiencing homelessness has been successfully maintained. This program does not simply provide a place for people to be just because they are experiencing homelessness. Safe parking shelter is a safe, structured and stable environment that those experiencing homelessness can go to gain stability in their lives. Some of the clients who participate in the safe parking program work, suffer from serious medical issues and even attend school. As these individuals and families work to lift themselves up out of a difficult situation, many are making a nightly choice between paying for shelter or purchasing food or gas.

Also creating further barriers to stability are the isolation and lack of social/community support that so often accompany homelessness. Not everyone who participates in the program is on drugs, suffering from mental illness or a criminal. Some of the participants are just people who are in need of a helping hand. I see community opinion's that suggest the program is not safe for the high school children to be so close or around but many nights I have passed the safe parking lot or while waiting in line for Taco Bell have witnessed some of the local high school children bully, harass and disturb those who participate in the program. Something else that concerns me is people willing to allow their children unsupervised all throughout Bishop, being surrounded by registered sex offenders but have a problem with homeless being placed in one designated area, that will be monitored by security cameras, 24 hours a day. Bishop is full of registered sex offenders and I don't see any one in the community rallying up to fight against that!

The community needs to know that the safe parking program will provide a welcoming environment with meaningful resources and tools, and dignified support to help individuals and families stabilize and transition back into permanent housing. With services focused on basic needs assistance, employment, job readiness, financial education, and housing, IMACAs goal is to create a pathway out of homelessness while being a support to people where they are in their lives now. We can't keep closing our eyes to homelessness and shaming those for being less fortunate or for not living up to society's expectations. While some people feel the safe parking shelter is an eye sore to the community, to those in need the program helps to save lives and improve overall wellbeing.

Best Wishes,

Phillip P.