

**WRITTEN
PUBLIC
COMMENT**

**CITY COUNCIL
MEETING**

FEBRUARY 16, 2021

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2021 3:53 PM
To: City Clerk Mail
Subject: Written comments

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Re: Short Term Vacation Rentals

Dear City Manager,

I support responsible short term vacation rentals by our local residents. This is an important source of revenue for them during these hard times. I do not support ownership of short term rentals by out-of-town owners.

Thank you,

Lee Anderson
La Quinta
[REDACTED]

CityClerkMail@LaQuintaCA.gov

specifying the following information:

(1) Full Name (2) City of Residence (3) Phone Number (4) Public Comment or Agenda Item Number (5) Subject (6) Written or Telephonic Verbal Comments

The email “subject line” must clearly state “Written Comments” or “Telephonic Verbal Comments.”

From: Meagan Beavers [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 11:59 AM
To: City Clerk Mail; John Pena; Kathleen Fitzpatrick; Steve Sanchez; Robert Radi; Linda Evans; Kevin Meredith; Jon McMillen
Subject: WRITTEN COMMENTS - Short Term Rental

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Council members,

As I write this note to you, at 10pm on a Saturday night, the house next door is full of weekend "guests" partying. That's the thing about guests - they are our guests. But this is the thing - I didn't invite them. Yet here I am, with a house next door that is a revolving door of guests. Guests I didn't invite, but guests nonetheless that I live with 24/7.

I know you have heard my stories. My sad story of working, going to school, trying to enjoy this beautiful home I worked so hard to purchase. You have heard my story and you now sit in deliberations still contemplating subjecting more residents to the same. But there is another young lady's story related to the short term rental next door, a story that still haunts me. It is early evening on a hot summer late afternoon in our lovely La Quinta. Suddenly there is a "bang-bang-bang" on my front door. Loud. Forceful. Demanding. I look out the side window and there is a lady standing on my porch, she looks concerned. I normally would not answer, but then I look behind her and see another lady, with a look that tells me - I need to open the door. I open the door cautiously, but before I can say anything, she says, "you are safe. You can come out". I replied, "safe? Why am I not safe?". The other lady approaches and repeats the other's words: "you can come out, you are safe". I said, "again - why am i not safe?". She then tells me she is a police officer, as is the other woman: "Who is in there with you?". I replied, "no one". She said, "are you sure about that? We are here to help you". I then see multiple officers stepping out from behind a tree on my front lawn, and a wall at the front of my house. My house had been completely surrounded - what was going on? Apparently a woman had called 911 that she was being sexually assaulted, but then the phone had been disconnected. The ping from the phone came from my backyard. I quickly reviewed with the police the people who lived around me. The only outlier was the rental next door. I knew something weird had been happening at the house. You see, my living room window, and kitchen window are both 2 feet from the fence line - I hear everything when the windows are open. For the past week a large group of only men were at the house, the driveway full of high-end cars. They never used the pool, there was never music or laughter. Instead they would sit for short times throughout the day at a table right at the fence line, smoking. Something didn't sit well with me for days, and I had wondered what was going on in that house. And now here we were - my house surrounded by police, talking to undercover police officers trying to get me to come with them to a safe place, because of a ping from a cell phone. The police went next door and pounded on the door - no answer. Ultimately the police had to leave - they did not have a search warrant. Less than 10 minutes after the police left, the entire house next door was vacated.

I have often wondered about that girl. I have wondered about the abuse that she endured 2 feet away from my kitchen window, in our lovely little La Quinta.

Because that's the thing about uninvited house guests. They also bring their dirty laundry.

YOU are responsible to ensure this community continues to THRIVE for its community members. YOU have an opportunity to stop promoting unsupervised transient lodgings in our neighborhoods. WE gave you the power to work for THIS community. I am begging you - please stop issuing licenses for unsupervised STR's in our neighborhoods.

Meagan Beavers
La Quinta Homeowner 2007-present
[REDACTED]

PUBLIC COMMENT/SHORT TERM RENTALS

From: Meagan Beavers [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 12:16 PM
To: City Clerk Mail; John Pena; Kathleen Fitzpatrick; Steve Sanchez; Robert Radi; Linda Evans; Kevin Meredith; Jon McMillen
Subject: WRITTEN COMMENTS #2 - Short Term Rental

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Dear Council Members

I want you to hear my story - again. The fact you continue to contemplate having unsupervised short term rentals in this community means that you do not care about homeowners - including me. And this breaks my heart - we voted each of you in, yet you do not have the best interest of homeowners of this city in forethought.

I live beside, and across the street from short term rentals. I purchased my home, my very first home, in 2007. I am an immigrant to this country, and I came alone to America. I wanted to become a part of this country, I wanted to become a part of a great community, to know my neighbors. So, I worked non-stop, scrimping and saving for 3 years so I could purchase a home on my own. And I did - within 3 years of being an immigrant to this country. I worked so hard for this beautiful home that I absolutely love.

I have spent 12 years now listening to parties every weekend beside my home, and across the street. I have considered selling, but until recently I have not been able to get what I purchased my home for. But why should I sell this home that I love? A home that I have done major renovations on, so that it suited me perfectly? Why should I sell my home so that the Orange County residents who own these homes beside me, and across the street, can continue to line their pockets? I am an Emergency Room Registered Nurse. I need my sleep to function strong in providing care to the community. Yet, I have had to get up in the middle of the night and rent hotel rooms because of noise. A cost out of my own pocket. There have been times, I have not slept at all over several days, so I had to call off sick. Ultimately, I had to quit my job, so that I could work in a position to accommodate the rental situation next door, a position that did not involve patient care and was 8 hours versus 13 hours. I took a \$25-thousand-dollar-year pay cut. For the short term rentals next door. I have never been reimbursed for the total loss of \$250,000 +hotel bills, so that my non-existent neighbors next door could run their hotel. Please think about that number - \$250,000 loss wages to help "support" the little business next door.

I have so many stories about the inconveniences in having unmanaged hotels living near me - I have found clothes in my pool, a drunk man banging on my door at 5am, I have had my house surrounded by police telling me to get out of my house. They thought I was being sexually assaulted after receiving a call for help - from the short term rental next door. The address provided was wrong. I can't even imagine what could have happened had I not answered that door - it was very apparent the police were concerned about my welfare.

YOU are responsible to ensure this community continues to THRIVE for its community members. YOU have an opportunity to stop promoting unsupervised transient lodgings in our neighborhoods. WE gave you the power to work for THIS community. I am begging you - please stop issuing licenses for unsupervised STR's in our neighborhoods.

Meagan Beavers
La Quinta Homeowner 2007-present

[REDACTED]
PUBLIC COMMENT/SHORT TERM RENTALS

From: Michael Rosenfeld [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 7:31 PM
To: City Clerk Mail
Subject: Written comments

** EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information. **

Honorable Mayor and all City Council Members I am writing to express my feelings about the STVR madness that is happening in LQ. I have been a resident for 36 years and am your constituent. I live here full time, pay taxes and vote. I feel that non-La Quinta investors are destroying our "neighborhoods". There is the important word.... "neighborhood". I encourage you to rethink your decisions on regulations related to density..... the lots in the cove are 50x100. You can hear your Neighbor use their bathroom if both windows are open! A density cap is needed! Also a permanent moratorium on new licensing of STVR's. How about protecting constituents rather than outside investor interests.

One of my neighbors has been repeatedly verbally bullied by the owner of the STVR next to her.

Sad!
Sincerely

Judy Carey

Sent from my iPhone

From: Donald Church [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:45 PM
To: City Clerk Mail
Subject: Letter to City Council
Attachments: Cove Letter 2.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Attached is a letter for the Mayor and the City Council.

Thank you,

Donald Church

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – FEBRUARY 16, 2021 - WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS BY RESIDENT DONALD CHURCH
PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA - IN OPPOSITION OF STVRS

15FEB2021

Donald Church

>

La Quinta Mayor and City Council:

Thank you for the opportunity to give my opinion of the situation that all of the residences and my neighbors are acutely aware of and desire the moratorium on the STVR's, at least in the Cove to remain in place, after the April deadline.

In light of the situations that occurred recently, in North La Quinta and PGA West, with disturbances at STVRs, there is no place for these rentals in our neighborhoods.

The moratorium needs to remain in place and STVR's should remain at minimum level until phased out. More emphasis needs to be given to attracting businesses to La Quinta and filling vacant buildings/spaces in Old town and along the 111 Corridor.

Sincerely,

Donald G. Church

Donald Church

From: Marcia Cutchin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 7:10 PM
To: Monika Radeva; City Clerk Mail
Subject: Fw: Written comments FEBRUARY 16th Council Meeting
Attachments: 2_Newest Letter to City Council.docx

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Dear Monika,

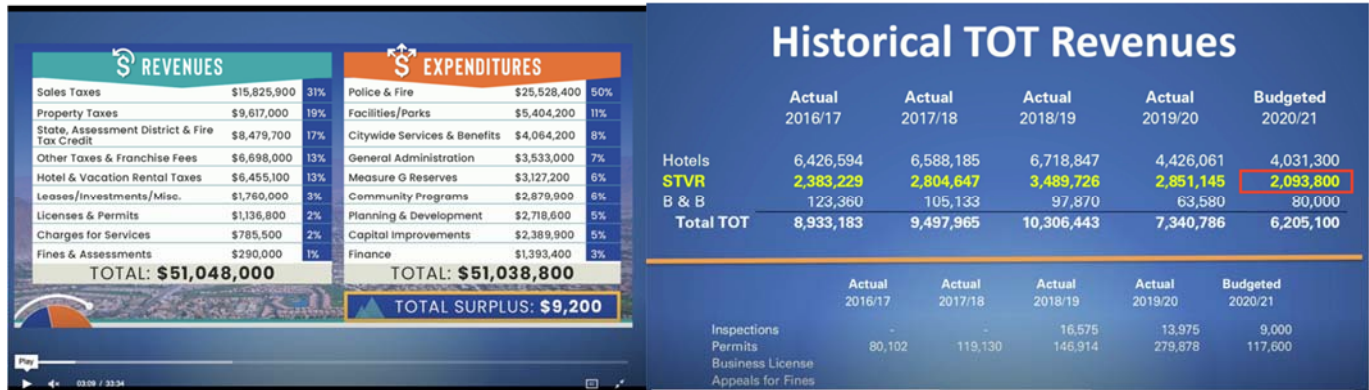
Please include my attached letter in the written public comments of the February 16th council meeting.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1) Full Name Marcia Cutchin | 4) Public Comment or Agenda Item Number - ??? |
| 2) City of Residence - La Quinta | 5) Subject - Cost of STVRs |
| 3) Phone Number - [REDACTED] | 6) Written Comments |

Thank you,

Marcia L Cutchin

Dear Mayor and City Council,



The slides are from the end of the year city financial report presented to council on 12-15-21.

Total TOT is fifth. Residential TOT is 6th as you can't lump it in with hotel TOT for the purpose of implying it is more significant income than it is. Not 2nd as quoted in council and subsequently repeated by every STVR owner in La Quinta.

The cost of city employees, code enforcement, contracts with Deckard, Host Compliance, and LodgingRevs, police and sheriff, are estimated at approximately 1.5 million. Hardly any of these costs are incurred by hotels, designated transient tourist lodgings or in-residence hosts.

When you remove the Tourist Vacation Zone units and host in residence units the TOT does not cover the cost of running them. They are presently operating at a cost to residents of not only our quality of life but our taxes and services as well.

Costing us money, terrorizing residents, exhausting city resources, consuming thousands of man hours, eating up scarce housing, and you are further promoting this. It makes no sense.

Is your plan to triple the program until you can squeeze some measure of profit out of it?

The deliberate avoidance of addressing density caps at the last meeting implies you intend to leave the door open to grow the program – against all evidence of its costly and corrosive effects on a community.

It would take 3000 units to get enough income to justify the ruination of our neighborhoods. 3000 unmanned businesses destroying the quality of life of your citizens vs. 3 cannabis stores in correctly zoned areas. And council has determined the detriment to our society is greater with the 3 cannabis stores than the 3000 unmanned business in our bedroom communities?

Outlawing cannabis stores in La Quinta isn't stopping anyone from using the product. It isn't making it less available when you can have it delivered. It is just refusing the revenue.

Three cannabis operations would bring in close to 1.5 million and not cost thousands of man hours and all of the nonsense expenses the STVR program does. That would be REAL income.

Please consider it. Please make the only logical decision and order a permanent moratorium on new STVR licensing and get some hard density limits in place. We want our neighborhoods back.

We have too many STVRs. You can't OBVIOUSLY CAN'T control them. There were **HORRIBLE PROBLEMS ALL OVER THE CITY, JUST THIS LAST WEEKEND!**

They are RUINING OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, and they are too expensive.
Marcia L Cutchin

From: Sarah GELBERD [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 2:54 PM
To: City Clerk Mail
Subject: Public Comment restriction on STVR

** EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information. **

Sarah Gelberd
Los Angeles and La Quinta

[REDACTED]
Public Comment

I support STVR in La Quinta specifically at PGA West and Legacy Vilas.. I advocate for STVR. It will benefit the homeowners property values and thus the City of La Quinta. Noise and other current violations should be enforce for the entire community not blame only STVR. Also consider reducing the costs of issuing permits .

From: Arlene Gotshalk [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:29 AM
To: Monika Radeva
Subject: Request to Speak at City Council Meeting and attached written public comments "LQ General Plan"
Attachments: 2-16-21 - letter - LQ General Plan .pdf

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Hello Monika,

I request to speak at today's City Council Community Meeting ([REDACTED]). I have attached my letter to be included in written comments to be included in public written comments.

Thank you.
Arlene

Arlene Gotshalk
[REDACTED]

Madam Mayor and Council Members,
Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today.

I am a full-time resident of the Cove neighborhood and ask you to continue the moratorium on issuing STVR permits as we work together to find acceptable mitigations to the exploding #s of STVRs in LQ.

LQ Ordinances defines the primary use of property in Residential Districts as "for single family dwelling". Why would commercial vacation rentals be allowed in any residential neighborhood?

STVRs' primary use of the property is decidedly not as a single family dwelling but for a commercial profit. How could such a substantial and significant change in zoning usage take place without a **complete revision of the General Plan and accompanying Zoning Ordinances?**

The General Plan approved in 2013 states “Land Use Element is the key to a successful General Plan. It impacts the City’s growth most directly and provides the greatest guidance in the City’s vision for its build out.” Residential is mentioned 92 times in the Land Use Component. The Plan states: “It is critical to the City’s economy, and its ability to maintain services for residents that preserve quality of life, that commercial development, particularly on Highway 111, remain successful, vibrant and income-producing.” The relationship of Residents and Commercial well being is repeated throughout

There is a land use category - MEDIUM/HIGH DENSITY **RESIDENTIAL**. This land use designation is specifically for single family dwellings. It does not mention tourist vacation rentals. Bed and breakfast facilities are included which have their own specific ordinances governing this type of use permit, including a 300 ft limit between those businesses. Nowhere is there any mention of mini motels or a reference made to the “**hotelization**” of a residential neighborhood.

There are a few Land Use categories that are relevant in a discussion of STVRs in Residential Districts. . Tourist or Resort is mentioned 19 times,. mostly in the category **TOURIST COMMERCIAL** which states “This land use designation is specifically geared to tourism-related land uses, such as resort hotels, hotels and motels, and resort commercial development”.

The **Policy (LU-6.3)** is to support and encourage the expansion of the resort industry as a key component of the City’s economic base.

Program LU-6.3.a: States “someone” will Provide standards for a broad range of tourist commercial land uses in the Zoning Ordinance.

The GENERAL PLAN further explains is **Policy LU-2.2: “Specific Plans shall be required for projects** proposing the integration of recreation, tourist commercial and residential uses; and for all projects proposing flexible development standards that differ from the Zoning Ordinance.”

I cannot find those standards or specific plans which propose flexible development standards that differ from the Zoning Ordinance.

The guidance of the City’s vision in the General Plan is not being followed. I support the vision laid out in the General Plan: Residential districts are for residents and Tourist Commercial districts are for tourist accommodations.

The **non-planning** you have that you’re currently doing regarding STVR’s and their integration into residential areas is not working. And no amount of code enforcement is going to make work. It doesn’t work here, it doesn’t work in Palm Springs or any other CV city, and it hasn’t worked in countless cities across the nation and around the world.

What is your vision for LQ?

Let's move forward and fulfill the VISION of the GENERAL PLAN. Residential Districts are for single family dwellings not motels and Tourist Commercial District is for tourist accommodations.

We already know that **RESORT RESIDENTIAL is PROHIBITED in the Cove. Let's ENFORCE this prohibition** and follow the advice of the General Plan.

- Make **PERMANENT the MORATORIUM** ON ANY NEW STVR PERMITS **in residential zones**.
- Continue with Home Shares and Bed and Breakfast lodging where the owner lives in the house.
- Ban STVRs in residential zones with a 2 year phase out. Owners can do any of the following and still reap a profit on their investment.
 - Rent their property for more than 31 days – it will more than cover their monthly expenses
 - Sell their property and make a profit on their investment
 - Reside in their property
- Allow STVRs in HOAs which allow them.
- Increase Hotel rooms and STVRs in Commercial Zones.

Please follow the mandate of the General Plan and make Residential Districts for residents.

Thank you.

Arlene Gotshalk

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"For there is always light / If only we're brave enough to see it / If only we're brave enough to be it."
Amanda Gorman

Arlene Gotshalk
CareGiving Toolkit
PO Box 643, La Quinta, CA 92247
www.caregivingtoolkit.com



Arlene Gotshalk



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The **non-planning** you have that you’re currently doing regarding STVR’s and their integration into residential areas is not working. And no amount of code enforcement is going to make work. It doesn’t work here, it doesn’t work in Palm Springs or any other CV city, and it hasn’t worked in countless cities across the nation and around the world.

What is your vision for LQ?

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 - Reside in their property
- Allow STVRs in HOAs which allow them.
- Increase Hotel rooms and STVRs in Commercial Zones.

Please follow the mandate of the General Plan and make Residential Districts for residents.

Thank you.

Arlene Gotshalk

From: Bob Stoddard <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 1:11 PM
To: City Clerk Mail
Subject: Written Comments - STVRs - 2/16/2021 La Quinta City Council

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

February 16, 2021

Bob & Cindy Stoddard
La Quinta, CA
[REDACTED]
Public Comment
STVR
Written Comment

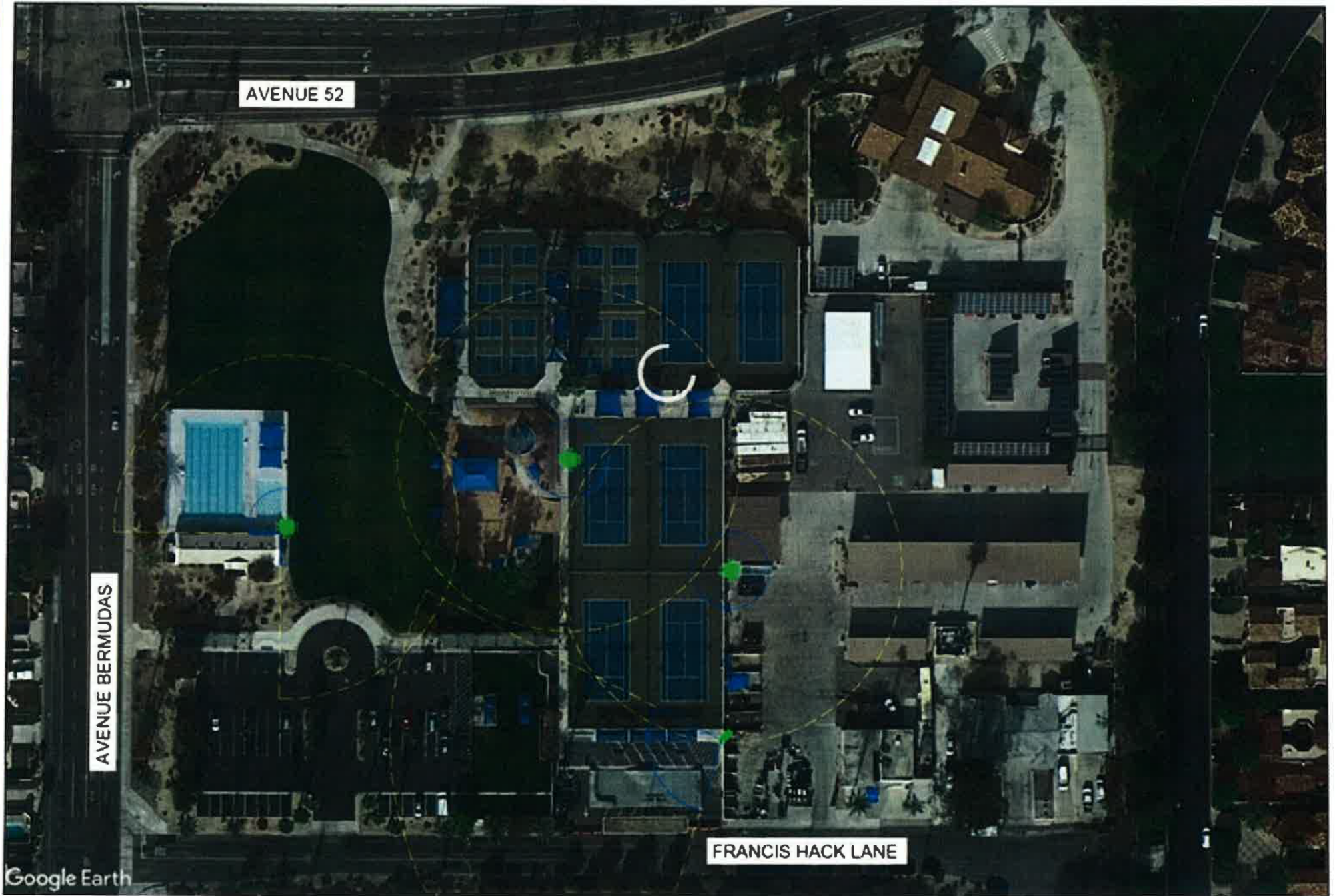
We have lived in La Quinta, since 2004, and chose this city, particularly North La Quinta for its quiet, friendly and family atmosphere, which we have enjoyed immensely except for the current state we presently find ourselves in, which is the over saturation of STVRs in our surrounding neighborhood and area.

We recognize the monumental task, which the City has undertaken to comprehensively address all aspects of the STVR program and the multiple impacts it has on a wide array of people, whom have either been directly or indirectly affected by the STVR program.

As homeowners, presently surrounded by five(5) STVRs and the high probability of two(2) additional recently purchased homes for the express purpose of converting into STVRs, we strongly encourage the City Council and Staff to proactively resolve this matter, with a strong sense of urgency and necessity, concerning the overall density and clustering of STVRs in our residential neighborhood. The express purpose and reasons for us in choosing North La Quinta, as our permanent place of residence, is of paramount importance to us today.

Respectfully,
Bob & Cindy Stoddard

Fritz Burns Park Cameras



City Council Meeting – La Quinta
Tuesday June 18, 2019



Topic: Public Safety Camera System's Pilot Program and Survey Results

Before I can support spending tax payer dollars on a project like this, I would like to see data showing that there is high crime at the locations being selected for camera installation. I would also like to see evidence that surveillance cameras do in fact reduce crime as the research I have done indicates that the results are mixed at best. My brother is a CHP officer and so I'm very familiar that enforcement is the key to reducing crime. Cameras do not enforce rules and criminals quickly learn what they can get away with.

I also think it is wrong to use Measure G funds for the camera system as there was no mention of a city wide surveillance camera program on the ballot. I would prefer to instead spend the money on increased police presence.

Lastly I'm worried about unforeseen and unintended consequences of maintaining city cameras. One example is that the cameras could be used to justify more and brighter lights at night for clarity. The Civic Center park is now lit all night wasting electricity and traffic light poles have recently been equipped with LEDs that are way too bright.

June 18, 2019

Dean, resident of La Quinta

To: Madam Mayor and La Quinta City Council

Re: City Surveillance Cameras

I object to the City installing surveillance cameras at city intersections, parks, and trails. I'm concerned about the high cost of the program, but also the privacy implications. Additionally, I believe that installing surveillance cameras in a small, safe, and wealthy retirement community is both unnecessary and obnoxious. It creates a lack of trust among the residents and will further the growing sense of a lack of community.

Please take my concerns into consideration.

Resident at:

[REDACTED]

June 18, 2019

Issue of: City Wide Surveillance

The proposed surveillance cameras will do virtually nothing to prevent crime and is a waste of city time and resources. Crime rates across the nation have been plummeting for decades. You have to follow the trend-lines, not the headlines. In addition, a camera will do nothing to address the root cause of crime.

I also do not believe that the City leaders have the interest of my safety at heart. You cannot preach the need for cameras to keep us safe, and then constantly tout local events with alcohol, where undoubtedly people are driving home under the influence. The city manager is quoted in *The Gem*, as encouraging residents to attend the La Quinta movie theater because it serves alcohol. *The Gem* is frequently advertising alcohol related events at the Civic Center park and a quick glance through almost any Gem publication will show things like Brew in LQ or the Tequila and Tacos at Old Town. Lastly Mayor Evans adjourned the Community Workshop on January 12th to a beer in old town. You cannot have it both ways.

Please in the interest of those that place a high value on privacy, do not approve of these invasive cameras or I will more than likely be moving out of the city I was raised in.

February 15, 2021

Attached are the signatures for the petition in opposition to the City-Wide Mass Surveillance Program referred to by the City as the *Public Safety Camera System*. **It is our 1st Amendment right to petition the government for a redress of grievances.**

You'll note that a number of the signatures are from residents outside of La Quinta, however there are a number of justifications for this:

- These surveillance cameras are being placed at intersections jointly owned by the cities of: Palm Desert, Indio, and Indian Wells, as well as the unincorporated community of Bermuda Dunes.
- City staff is on record saying they are trying to secure grant funding, thus any taxpayer has a say in how their funds are appropriated.
- The proposed city-wide mass surveillance program policy states that the cameras are "...for the purpose of creating a safer environment for all those who live, work, and visit the City." Therefore anyone who shops, dines, works, worships, visits, etc. or even just passes through La Quinta should have a voice with regard to their privacy being violated.

I have little doubt that city staff will find a way to invalidate this petition, but let it be known that I had reached out to the city of La Quinta asking what was required for a formal petition, and the staff was incapable of providing assistance. (It is worth noting that there are 7 signers who utilized a Change.org petition format.) But, let the record show that this petition was not circulated to get the city to take action, but rather to prevent the city from expanding their reach.

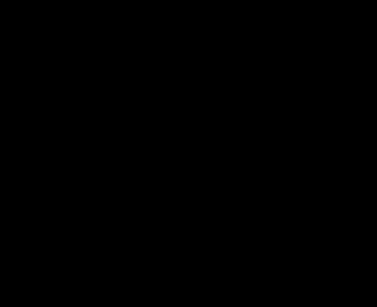

Had I not had to collect these signatures in the middle of a pandemic I could have collected exponentially more signatures. It is worth pointing out that this petition was often signed by a single member of a family who represents numerous members of their household.

This petition was signed by a wide range of residents including: at least 5 families of current and/or former law enforcement, teachers, water district employees, farmers, retirees, pastors, accountants, and doctors to name a few, and even members of Supervisor V. Manuel Perez' office.

Lastly, I'd like to point out the difficulty in raising support for privacy issues. By definition, people concerned about privacy are private in nature. At times I ran in to the issue of people being opposed to this proposal, but didn't want to go on the record. However, not a single person I conversed with was aware of the city's proposal to blanket the entire city with surveillance cameras.

Petition to La Quinta City Council – Oct. 17, 2020

Action Petitioned for: Opposition to the Citywide Mass Surveillance Program (referred to by City staff as the Public Safety Camera System).
Petition Summary and Background: We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who implore that the Council **NOT** move forward with the approval of a centralized surveillance system, namely in the interest of privacy and the excessive cost of the program.

Signature	Printed Name	Address	Date
	Celeste Alonzo		2/1/21
	Luis Alonzo		2/1/21
	Luis R Alonzo		2/1/21
	Emily Alonzo		2/1/21
	Andres Alonzo		2/1/21

Petition to La Quinta City Council – Oct. 17, 2020

Action Petitioned for:	Opposition to the Citywide Mass Surveillance Program (referred to by City staff as the Public Safety Camera System).
Petition Summary and Background:	We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who implore that the Council NOT move forward with the approval of a centralized surveillance system, namely in the interest of privacy and the excessive cost of the program.

Signature	Printed Name	Address	Date
	Tim H.		10/17
	Shane Venhaus		10/18
	Brianna S		10/18
	Dean Venhaus		10/18
	Devyn Dentice		10/18
	Margaret Hoesterey		10/18
	Edward Ernst		10/18
	Lisa Ernst		10/18
	Joe Stein		10/24/20
	Morgan L. Allen		10/24/20
	Nick Bettoni		10/25/20
	Scott Weller		10/24/20

Petition to La Quinta City Council - Oct. 17, 2020

Action Petitioned for:	Opposition to the Citywide Mass Surveillance Program (referred to by City staff as the Public Safety Camera System).
Petition Summary and Background:	We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who implore that the Council NOT move forward with the approval of a centralized surveillance system, namely in the interest of privacy and the excessive cost of the program.

Signature	Printed Name	Address	Date
	<i>By: City</i>		<i>10/17/20</i>
	Matt Martinez		10/22/20
	Michelle Martinez		10/22/20
	Brent Leachman		10/23/20
	Matthew Sorensen		10/24/20
	Cameron T Paradis		10/24/20
	Heriberto Martinez		10/27/20
	MATTHEW WADE		10/27/20
	Austin BENETEAU		10/22/20
	Heather L. Garcia		10-30-20
	Heather A Garcia		10-30-20
	Luis M. Silva		10/30/2020

Petition to La Quinta City Council – Oct. 17, 2020

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Signature	Printed Name	Address	Date
	CHRIS McCORMICK		10/22
	Jaclyn McCormick		10/22
	MARGIE F. CHIRIACO RUSA		10/30
	Juan P Puente		10/30-20
	James Hoesterey		10/31/20
	Breaha Velador		10/31/20
	Matthew Tucker		10/31/20
	Rebekah Ciccarello		10/31/20
	Carlos Velador		10/31/20
	Blanca Tucker		10/31/20
	Kelvin Tucker		10/31/20
	Melissa Hoesterey		10/31/20

Petition to La Quinta City Council – Oct. 17, 2020

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Signature	Printed Name	Address	Date
	Alisha Patridge		10/19/20
	Paul Hoestery		10/20/20
	Leslie Estep		10/21/20
	Emma Estep		10/20/20
	William Estep		10/20/20
	Mary Lou Tortolesi		10/21/20
	Hayley Little		10/24/20
	Cameron Little		10/24/20
	Mich Moldenkauer		10/29/20
	Anne Moldenkauer		10/27/20
	RICHARD SCHWEMMER		10/31/2020
	BRETT SCHWEMMER		10/31/2020

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Signature	Printed Name	Address	Date
	GREGG MILLER		10/20/2020
	JAY C RAINEY		10/20/20
	Lance Morgan Young		10-20-20
	MICHAEL FARRIS		
	HARRY MATHEWSON		10/20/20
	SUSAN L FARRIS		10/20/20
	Becky L Ruiz		10/21/20
	Valerie C Sanchez		10/21/20
	Colette Jacobsen		10/21/20
	Julia Guzman		10/21/20
	MIKE BRICKLEY		10/21/20
	Belen Navarro		

Petition to La Quinta City Council – Oct. 17, 2020

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Signature	Printed Name	Address	Date
[Redacted]	Angello Franco	[Redacted]	10/21/20
[Redacted]	Barry Nelson	[Redacted]	10-21-20
[Redacted]	Chris McFadden	[Redacted]	10.23.20
[Redacted]	Abigail Kohfeld	[Redacted]	10.23.20
[Redacted]	DAVID Goldstein II	[Redacted]	10/23/20
[Redacted]	CHRISTOPHER A. Limoli	[Redacted]	10/22/20
[Redacted]	DAVID AODINGTON	[Redacted]	10/24/20
[Redacted]	Victoria Kohfeld	[Redacted]	10/24/20
[Redacted]	John Graham	[Redacted]	10/24/2020
[Redacted]	SCOTT FRAZER	[Redacted]	10/27/20
[Redacted]	Jocelyn Ibarra	[Redacted]	11/14/20
[Redacted]	Victoria Kovacevich	[Redacted]	11/14/20

Petition to La Quinta City Council – Oct. 17, 2020

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Signature	Printed Name	Address	Date
	Lincoln Anderson		10/17
	Melissa Anderson		10/18
	Linden Anderson		10/18/20
	Natalie Nischan		10/17/20
	LINDA HAUGEN		10/18/20
	PETER HAUGEN		10/19/20
	Robert G. Arias		10/19/20
	GEORGE NISCHAN		10/19/20
	Davis Turner		11/10/2020
	Conner Melancon		11/14/20
	Kevin Finlan		11/14/20
	Shayna Hernandez		11/14/20

Petition to La Quinta City Council – Oct. 17, 2020

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Signature	Printed Name	Address	Date
	Andrew Schwemmer		11/1/2020
	Teresa Gamble		11/1/2020
	Trevor Peterson		11/3/2020
	THOMAS M. WILLIAMS		11/05/2020
	Javier Aleman		11/7/2020
	Steven Burtser		11/7/2020
	BRYAN McLAUGHLIN		11/14/20
	JORDAN JOHNSON		11/15/20
	Wyatt McCoy		11/16/20
	Jen Baldwin		11/18/20
	Albert Saldivar		11/19/20
	Aric Tidwell		11/20/20

Petition to La Quinta City Council – Oct. 17, 2020

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Signature	Printed Name	Address	Date
	Connor MacConnell		11-13-20
	Josiah Mills		11/20/20
	Larry C. Ruiz		11/4/20
	Tom Fulton		12/5/2020
	LINDA BENTSEN		12/10/20
	IRA LISS		12/10/20
	Josiah Bower		12-10-20
	Katherine Dickerson		12-12-2020
	Brian Woodruffey		12-22-20
	THOMAS C. KUENEMAN		12/24/20
	JUAN ARMENDARIZ		12/24/20
	Ricardo Avila-Ramos		1-6-'21

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Signature	Printed Name	Address	Date
	Travis B. Boatman		10-20-2020
	Heather Boatman		10-20-2020
	Taant McCarty		10-20-2020
	Lindsay McCarty		10-20-2020
	Neal McCarty		10-20-2020
	Victor Garcia		10/28/20
	Charles Anderson		2/15/21
	Ricardo and Thalia Anzar		2/15/21

Petition to La Quinta City Council - Oct. 17, 2020

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Signature	Printed Name	Address	Date
[Redacted]	Bradley Poe	[Redacted]	01-30-21
[Redacted]	Nicholas Lopez	[Redacted]	1-8-21
[Redacted]	William R Bower	[Redacted]	02/13/21
[Redacted]	CURTIS W. LANG	[Redacted]	02/13/21 P.D. 92211
[Redacted]	Aaron Torres	[Redacted]	2/13/21
[Redacted]	Brock Curry	[Redacted]	2/14/21
[Redacted]	Kyle Curry	[Redacted]	2/14/21
[Redacted]	John Barnett	[Redacted]	2/14/21

Petition to La Quinta City Council – Oct. 17, 2020

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Signature	Printed Name	Address	Date
	Linda M Schwemmer		11/2/2020
	Michelle Alwes		11/2/2020
	April Jenkins		11/5/20
	Richard Jenkins		11/5/20
	Robert Logan		11-12-20
	Patricia Logan		11-12-20
	Larry Houser		11/12/20
	George Torres		2/15/21

change.org

Recipient: La Quinta City Council, Mayor Linda Evans, City of La Quinta

Letter: Greetings,

Help Stop La Quinta's Job Cutting Mass Surveillance Program

Signatures

Name	Location	Date
CV Smudgepots	US	2020-10-27
Erica Manley	Bloomington, CA	2020-10-27
Jose Serrano	Indio, CA	2020-10-27
Rob Manley	Indio, CA	2020-10-28
Cris Garcia	California	2020-10-29
Alana Mary	La Quinta, CA	2020-11-13
Lloyd Andersen	Laquinta, CA	2020-11-15

From: Paul Hoesterey [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 2:52 PM
To: City Clerk Mail
Subject: written comments

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

- Paul Hoesterey
- La Quinta Resident
- [REDACTED]
- Agenda Item: Business session items 1 and 2
- City wide cameras
- Comments

Members of the City Council

I am writing to express my disappointment with each of you and the city staff.
In June 2019, I spoke regarding concerns about plans for the city-wide camera system.

I'll not raise those concerns again because it is obvious it will be asserted that you've addressed them with your policy and via the series of meetings and communications; and it is clear you are going to proceed.

My disappointment is this: at that meeting in 2019, more than one of you thanked me for my comments and said you'd be in touch to discuss them further.

Yet, I've not heard a single word from anyone connected with the city.

Your agenda packet details a series of meetings, hearings, communications, etc. etc. but I had not been aware of a single one of them 'til now.

Thus, I have received your message loud and clear.

As an aside, I have spoken with nearly two dozen people about your plan.

Not one had heard of it.

Not one thought it a good idea.

As a further aside, I am seeing my city change – I realize that is inevitable.

Some good things have happened in this town.

But I've also seen a series of decisions that have harmed / lessened the enjoyment of our community.

Some are large, controversial, and obvious – SilverRock, Ironman, STVRs.

Some are smaller matters quietly eroding the quality of this little gem – a four story motel right on 111, the ugly/obtrusive “pro shop” across from the high school, expensive roundabouts in residential neighborhoods, re-striping residential streets and making them look like arterials, “traffic calming” measures that don't work, subpar maintenance of streetscapes ... it would not be difficult to go on and on pointing out these “small” matters.

This unnecessary, expensive, intrusive plan for cameras throughout the city is merely one more addition to the sad list of misguided decisions in recent times.

Unfortunately you are earning the reputation of being a council and a city that does not care what your residents think – you will proceed and do what you have convinced yourselves is good with little regard to what your citizens express.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 12:28 PM
To: City Clerk Mail
Subject: Cameras

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Question on cameras

The justification for cameras argued is better and more efficient policing. However, the police budget does not reflect any such economies. As a matter of fact, the two biggest complaints against such systems are the costs (they continued to spiral upward once installed) and privacy violations (police misuse the cameras by spending time looking at interesting rather than criminal activities). In AZ, such cameras were turned off (uninstallation was too expensive) in Prescott and Prescott Valley because of police abuse. Who is going to police the police? For consideration, the questions related to curtailing operations and maintenance costs (perhaps a 3 year fixed-cost provision plus 2 year extension option as part of the base contract) and an independent oversight procedure to ensure that those monitoring the cameras don't abuse their privilege. Just stating privacy is a concern without enforcement is not a viable approach.

Donald Reifer
[REDACTED]

From: Mario Sewell [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 2:22 PM
To: City Clerk Mail
Subject: Written Comments

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Mario Sewell
City of Residence - La Quinta
[REDACTED]

2/16/2021 Council Meeting
Business Session

Item #1: Approve Policies and Procedures for Citywide Public Safety Camera System in La Quinta

Item #2: Appropriate Funding and Award Contract to Convergent Technologies for Citywide Public Safety Camera System
Project No. 2020-03

This is to urge the Council not to approve both items for the following reasons:

1. The proposal specifies that recorded incidents will **not** be continuously monitored by staff. Instead there will be computer algorithms that will automatically notify police when an incident as defined by preset parameters occurs.

As an 18 year resident of the Cove there is a perception that, more often than warranted, Black and Brown residents are pulled over for no apparent reason. This may not be valid, but giving the responsibility for triggering an incident on PSCS with police involvement to a computer program may not be the solution.

It is recommended that the algorithms be reviewed by a community task force on an initial and ongoing basis.

2. The Sheriff Department has indicated that their law enforcement practices and policies will not be modified based on implementation of the PSCS. The original intent of the PSCS was to maintain, if not reduce, the proportion of City funds directed to RSD for law enforcement. Instead the City is being asked to spend \$1.3 million with the stated refusal of RSD to consider modifying their services. Than why it it being considered?

3. In my time in the Cove there have been break-ins and armed holdups in homes on my street. If the City cannot afford additional officers, then how does the camera system help? Wouldn't re-establishment of the Neighborhood Watch or similar program be worth reconsidering?

Sincerely,

Mario Sewell
[REDACTED]

From: Carlos Flores
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:49 AM
To: Monika Radeva
Cc: Nichole Romane; Laurie McGinley
Subject: FW: Jefferson Street Apartments Support
Attachments: Scanned from a Xerox Multifunction Printer.pdf

For PH1...

Carlos Flores | Senior Planner
Design and Development
City of La Quinta
78495 Calle Tampico | La Quinta, CA 92253
Ph. 760.777.7069
www.laquintaca.gov

PLEASE NOTE: Due to State Orders regarding COVID-19, City Hall is closed to the public. Applications may not be submitted in person; however, they can be submitted online through [E-Trakit](#) . City staff is available at (760) 777-7125 or via email at customercenter@laquintaca.gov to answer any questions.

From: Dawson Bailard [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:31 AM
To: Carlos Flores <cflores@laquintaca.gov>
Subject: Jefferson Street Apartments Support

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Please read /register my support for this project at the council meeting on the approval.
Thank you,
Dawson Bailard

Dear City Council Members,

I am a La Quinta homeowner in the community of Indian Springs, close to these potential apartments. I am writing in to you to share my support of the construction of these apartments. I have looked over the plans, and I fully support this project.

Best Wishes-
Dawson Bailard

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dawson Bailard', written in a cursive style.

Feb. 15th 2021

From: Carlos Flores
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:50 AM
To: Monika Radeva
Cc: Nichole Romane; Laurie McGinley
Subject: FW: La Quinta Apartment Project

Carlos Flores | Senior Planner
Design and Development
City of La Quinta
78495 Calle Tampico | La Quinta, CA 92253
Ph. 760.777.7069
www.laquintaca.gov

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From: Brian Dowdle [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 1:04 PM
To: Carlos Flores <cfloros@laquintaca.gov>
Subject: La Quinta Apartment Project

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Hello,
My name is Brian Dowdle. I have lived in the Esplanade Community for the last 8 years and have enjoyed it thus far. I work in the construction industry and have been following the piece of property to see what will be built there. I would be thrilled for my older kids to have affordable housing in La Quinta area. I think the city is lacking in apartment living and i am happy to see a possible option. I think the layout is nice and it is in a very desirable location. I have no issue speaking with you directly if need be. please feel free to contact me.
Thank you,

Brian Dowdle
BD
[REDACTED]

From: Rick Hand [REDACTED]
Date: February 15, 2021 at 3:30:28 PM PST
To: Linda Evans <Levans@laquintaca.gov>
Subject: Application Specific Plan 2020-0001

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Mayor Evans...

My name is Rick Hand, I am a resident at Westward Isle, the property immediately adjacent to the property in this application. I am opposed to this new plan.

This property was previously approved over 7-8 years ago, to build 15 single story houses, not only by the City, but by the majority of homeowners in our Westward Isle The HOA voted to approve an Easement of our Palm Circle Drive for the use of creating an entrance to this original project. Five years ago, CVWD refused a Sewer Permit to Mr. Snellenberger to build a sewer access line under Palm Circle Drive. A year later, Mr Snellenberger was granted approval of a similarly planned project which once again was 15 single story houses, only using direct access off of Jefferson, instead of the originally planned entrance off of our street, Palm Circle Drive. This new project is a vast difference between the two previously approved projects, going from 15 single story houses to 10 (40 units) one and two story buildings.

When I first bought my home here, I was looking out at a green golf course, and the surrounding mountains. We had no walls or buildings to impede our views. Jefferson was only two lanes wide, traffic was light, noise was limited, it was a quiet peaceful place to live. I could honestly see the Milky Way at night. I understand progress and growth. Jefferson is now six lanes wide, the stars have been replaced by streetlights, days are now filled with traffic noise, the quiet nights are now replaced by the reverberation of rock and roll music on the weekends from the pub across the street, and the old golf course club house has been replaced by a Dermatology Office. Now you want to build apartments? I felt alarmed when they talked about building houses there, but was calmed when convinced by the contractor, when he met with our HOA 10 years ago, that he would only be building single story homes.

I am relying now on the wisdom of the City Council to hold the developer to his word and to not go over single stories. I'm also asking the City Council to consider the density level of 40 units on a 3.2 acre parcel.

Thank you for serving our city, which I've paid taxes to and loved so much for over 35 years.

I've also attached a letter our HOA President, Mark Watkins sent to the La Quinta planning commission, three weeks ago.

Rick Hand
[REDACTED]

Westward Isle HOA
La Quinta, California



January 22, 2021

La Quinta Planning Commission
DESIGN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
78495 Calle Tampico
La Quinta, California 92253

by email to: Cflores@LaQuintaCA.gov

Re: Application: Specific Plan 2020-0001 Site Development
Applicant: Jim Snellenberger
Location: Southeast corner of Jefferson at Palm Circle Drive

Dear La Quinta Design Development Department and La Quinta City Planning Commission:

Westward Isle is the development adjacent to and bordering the above-described proposed development (hereinafter the “Proposed Development”). Westward Isle borders the Proposed Development on the North side by way of its private road, Palm Circle Drive, and 7 of Westward Isle’s 28 units border the Proposed Development’s East side (Westward Isle’s West border). As such, Westward Isle has a significant interest in the particulars of the Proposed Development.

Originally the project was designed for 19 single family homes. Westward Isle did not and does not oppose a development of that nature. The original plan included a mandate by the City of La Quinta that the Proposed Development bring sewer within reach of Westward Isle and provide a stub for connection.

But this is not the place for a 40 unit apartment complex¹. Westward Isle opposes such a development for the following reasons:

¹At the time of this writing, the only information available is from the undated Notice of Public Hearing and which provides no details of the proposal other than it is for a 40 unit apartment complex. As such, this should not be considered an exhaustive list of the potential reasons for opposition to the project.

The Proposed Development Will Cause Excessive Traffic Congestion

- The only entrance to the Proposed Development can be from northbound Jefferson. There is an island and no possibility of left turn from southbound Jefferson into the complex. U-turn is prohibited at the first light south (Vista Grande/Home Depot). U-turn is also prohibited at the second light south (Jefferson/Highway 111). Already there is a significant number of vehicles that make illegal and dangerous U-turns at both lights. Adding 80 or so resident's vehicles with incentive to make those illegal turns multiple times a day, plus their guests, deliveries and service providers adds hundreds of vehicles to the mix, daily.
- The only exit from the Proposed Development is to onto northbound Jefferson. The first U-turn available on to Jefferson southbound is at Westward Ho. This is also the turn to La Quinta High School, several other communities and La Quinta Park. This left turn is already congested, especially during school hours and traffic often backs up onto Jefferson. Adding potentially several hundred vehicles daily to this creates an unacceptable situation that is both dangerous and inconsistent with the existing population density of the area.
- With the bridge over Whitewater channel at the southern end of the Proposed Development and Palm Circle Drive only a few hundred feet away, the distance between the Proposed Development's entrance creates a hazzard and nuisance. There is a left turn break in the median for Palm Circle Drive with no traffic controls. Again, vehicles can only exit the Proposed Development on to Jefferson north bound. Adding several hundred vehicles a day coming and going from the Proposed Development creates a hazzard for vehicles entering and exiting Westward Isle, especially those turning left from south bound Jefferson and/or to those traveling on north bound Jefferson. The closer the Proposed Development's entrance is to the bridge, the more blind it becomes for drivers on Jefferson and people exiting the Proposed Development because of the slope of the bridge. At that section, Jefferson has a speed limit of 55 mph. (City of La Quinta Resolution #2007-108) The closer the Proposed Development's entrance is to Palm Circle Drive, the more dangerous it becomes to vehicles entering and exiting Palm Circle Drive.

The Proposed Development is Out of Character for the Area

- The height of the structure will almost certainly exceed 20'. The Proposed Development will have to be 2 or even 3 stories (see footnote 1, above). There are no adjacent two story structures. The only comparable structure is the Arches, across the Whitewater channel which provides a substantial division between the more commercial area and the residential area nearer the high school. A two or three story structure will substantially interfere with the character of the neighborhood.
- The small plot makes it unlikely that the Proposed Development will be able to meet parking requirements without putting it under the residential units, increasing the height of the buildings and further making them out of character with the area.

The Proposed Development Violates the La Quinta Municipal Code for Housing Density

- The area is characterized by single family homes. La Quinta Municipal Code 9.30.050 for Medium Density Residential Districts limits density to 4 - 8 units per acre. The parcel is 2.4 Acres. The Proposed Development of 40 units is well in excess of the 9-19 unit limit of the La Quinta Municipal Code.
- Additionally, no information is available as to the number of bedrooms proposed for each unit, making it impossible to determine the number of persons per unit that might be added by the Proposed Development.

For all the foregoing reasons, Westward Isle Homeowner's Association opposes the Proposed Development.

January 21, 2021

Mark L. Watkins, Ph.D.
President, Westward Isle HOA

From: Carlos Flores
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:50 AM
To: Monika Radeva
Cc: Laurie McGinley; Nichole Romane
Subject: FW: Specific Plan 2020-0001
Attachments: Letter To City Council - Snellenberger Plan.docx

Carlos Flores | Senior Planner
Design and Development
City of La Quinta
78495 Calle Tampico | La Quinta, CA 92253
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From: Rick Hand [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 3:48 PM
To: Carlos Flores <cflores@laquintaca.gov>
Subject: Specific Plan 2020-0001

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Can I please be given an opportunity to speak before the City Council in regards to this plan, tomorrow evening? I am opposed to the project plan.

Thanks,

Rick Hand
[REDACTED]

La Quinta City Mayor Evans and Council Members...

Feb. 15, 2021

In regards to:

Application: Specific Plan 2020-0001,

Site Development Permit 2020-0001

Environmental Assessment 2020-0001

Tentative Parcel Map 2020-0001 and Variance 2020-0001

Developer: Jim Snellenberger

My name is Rick Hand, I have been a resident at Westward Isle since 1987, the property immediately adjacent to the property in this application.

I am opposed to this new plan.

This property development plan was previously approved over 7-8 years ago, to build 15 single story houses, not only by the City, but by the majority of homeowners in our Westward Isle. Our HOA voted to approve an Easement of our Palm Circle Drive for the use of creating an entrance to this original project. 3-4 years ago, CVWD refused a Sewer Permit to Mr. Snellenberger, to build a sewer access line under Palm Circle Drive. A year later, Mr. Snellenberger was granted approval of a similarly planned project which once again was 15 single story houses, only using direct access off of Jefferson, instead of the originally planned entrance off of our street, Palm Circle Drive. This newest project is a vast difference between the two previously approved projects, going from 15 single story houses to 10 (40 units) one and two story buildings.

When I first bought my home here, I was looking out at a green golf course, and the surrounding mountains. We had no walls or buildings to impede our views. Jefferson was only two lanes wide, traffic was light, noise was limited, it was a quiet peaceful place to live. I could honestly see the Milky Way at night. I understand progress and growth. Jefferson is now six lanes wide, the stars have been replaced by streetlights, days are now filled with traffic noise, the quiet nights are now replaced by the reverberation of rock and roll music on the weekends from the pub across the street, and the old golf course club house has been replaced by a Dermatology Office. Now you want to build apartments? I felt alarmed when they talked about building houses there, but was calmed when convinced by the contractor, Jim Snellenberger, when he met with our HOA 10 years ago, that he would only be building single story homes.

I am relying now on the integrity of the City Council to hold the developer to his word and to not go over single stories. I'm also asking for the wisdom of the City Council to not approve the high density level of 40 units on a 3.2 acre parcel.

Thank you for serving our city, which I've paid taxes to and loved so much for over 33 years.

Rick Hand



From: Carlos Flores
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 9:35 AM
To: Monika Radeva
Cc: Nichole Romane; Laurie McGinley; Tania Flores; Cheri Flores
Subject: FW: Public Hearing 2/16: Written Comments
Attachments: J Hill Written Opposition for Specific Plan 2020 0001.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

Please find attached written comments regarding PH1 Jefferson Apartments. Regards,

Carlos Flores | Senior Planner
Design and Development
City of La Quinta
78495 Calle Tampico | La Quinta, CA 92253
Ph. 760.777.7069
www.laquintaca.gov

PLEASE NOTE: Due to State Orders regarding COVID-19, City Hall is closed to the public. Applications may not be submitted in person; however, they can be submitted online through [E-Trakit](#) . City staff is available at (760) 777-7125 or via email at customercenter@laquintaca.gov to answer any questions.

From: Jennifer Hill [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 8:09 PM
To: Carlos Flores <cfloros@laquintaca.gov>
Subject: Public Hearing 2/16: Written Comments

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Hello Mr. Flores,

Please find my attached written comments that I would like included in opposition of Specific Plan 2020-0001, Tentative Parcel Map 2020-0001 and Variance 2020-0001.

I would also request the opportunity to provide telephonic verbal comments at the meeting in which this topic will be discussed on Tuesday, February 16 at 5:00pm.

Thank you.

Jennifer Hill
[REDACTED]

February 11, 2021

Dear Madam Mayor and City Council Members,

My name is Jennifer Hill, I am a life-long resident of the Coachella Valley, a teacher at John Glenn Middle School and a new owner in the Westward Isle condominium development. I am writing in regards to the Jefferson Street Apartment complex proposal adjacent to my home on the agenda for your February 16 meeting. While I understand from attending the City Planning Meeting, the City of La Quinta is short on apartments in this area, I am concerned with the location of the planned entrance, the request for a height variance, as well as the number of units proposed for this small, irregularly shaped parcel. I am in disagreement with Mr. Snellenberger's assessment that there would be little to no negative impact on the surrounding area.

As you know, Jefferson Street is one of our main arteries in and out of La Quinta. This road is busy all day and night. The entrance for this project is just north of the bridge allowing very little distance to slow from the 50 mph posted speed limit to allow for cars to turn in and out of the complex. There is no turn lane in the proposal to allow cars to slow without impeding traffic. It is also the second right turn within 150 feet. Based on this location and square footage of the units, one can assume that families will move into these apartments. We have three schools within this boundary. Imagine families taking kids to school, or students walking across Jefferson Street during the busiest times of the day or the increased traffic during the golf tournament or spring festivals. Additionally, because there is no left turn into the complex due to the median and no U-turns at lights, cars will be forced to illegally travel through the Home Depot parking lot, flip u-turns in the neighborhood off of Vista Grande or travel 4 miles out of the way to circumnavigate the one planned entrance. 104 cars using one entrance via Jefferson Street is an accident waiting to happen!

During the Planning Commission meeting on January 26, I learned that the gross acreage is used for determining zone allowance density, not the net. In Mr. Snellenburger's plan, 5.2 acres is being used to calculate the maximum number of allowable units. I would request that after looking closely at the plan, you take the time to drive the route, visit this site, walk the property, and seriously reconsider approving this development as it is. First of all, there are 1.3 acres of unusable land because it sits within the Coachella Stormwater Channel. The 40 units will be stuffed onto 3.22 acres! While this may be 'legal' it does not make sense for this parcel given its location. If instead the net acreage was used, the maximum number of units would be 24, not 40! Is there no middle ground or common sense we can use in this case? In addition to the traffic issue, this density calculation causes a snowball effect as it relates to the site plan.

Mr. Snellenburger states that due to the size and shape of the site, he was unable to find a design that would meet all the development standards for a multifamily project without a height variance. Mr. Snellenburger wants the rules changed to meet his needs. (LQMC Section 9.50.020, Height Limits and Setbacks Near Image Corridors, which stipulates that all buildings within 150 ft of the edge of right of way of general plan-designated image corridors shall be "limited to one story, not to exceed 22 feet in height"). This may seem like a small request, but it is not. It will impact the existing buildings as well as change the landscape for the Indian Springs golf course homes. I do know in the past, La Quinta did not grant these variances to builders whether it be a remodel or new build, and I request that you do the same in this case--variances should not be easily granted and should be an exception, not the rule. There are no 2-story buildings in the city of La Quinta along the Jefferson Street corridor and it should remain that way. I'd like for you to be consistent with your rules and just say no. Mr Snellenberg needs to stick with the one story rule!

According to the Parking Data, Mr Snellenberger is providing the absolute minimum number of parking spaces

required! How is this even possible? Have you looked at the proposed square footage of the units? They certainly aren't small! We all know there is never enough parking in an apartment complex and based on location and surrounding areas, there isn't even any street parking available. I'd like you to really look at that parking lot and consider the nightmare it will be to move around given the design and one entrance/exit.

Because of the desire to pack these buildings into such a small space, the architectural plan has the trash in very close proximity to the existing condominium buildings. They actually back right up to the east wall. During the Planning Commission meeting when asked about this by one of the commissioners, the architect explained it was for the ease of the trash truck--the trash truck, not people! I'm not sure about you, but when our summer temperatures reach 120 degrees, the smell of a dumpster near the building is not desirable whether there is a 6 foot wall or not. This plan is not considerate of the neighbors, even though he would like you to believe he left the middle open for parking, pools and trash as to not impede the existing view, I'd like to assert the plan is the way it is because it's the only way he can squeeze a maximum number of buildings with a minimum number of parking spaces and still stay minimally compliant. Not a good look for the Gem of the Desert.

Although the plan attempts to assuage you into believing that this is the best he can do given the shape and size of this parcel, Mr. Snellenberger can do better. I have watched and listened to this council meet, re-meet, hold special meetings to discuss the impact your decisions have of our city. You have spent numerous meetings discussing the plans for the Jefferson St and Ave 50 corner's architecture, aesthetics, and entrances. You have sent the developers back to the drawing board numerous times. I am not in disagreement that we need affordable housing, but I'm asking you to give the same attention to this project, as you have for the corner which impacts the wealthier side of our city. Mr. Snellenberger did not attempt to blend in with surroundings; not in his color scheme, not with the modern architecture, nor with the density. There is no plan to address the impact that 104 cars will have on traffic. This is a golf course community; single family, single story, classic desert in elevation and color. The homes on both sides of Jefferson street will be impacted, not just our Westward Isle condominium community. Traffic will be greatly impacted, which will in turn cause surrounding businesses, neighborhoods and schools to be directly affected.

Mr. Snellenberger is asking a lot of this council. His plan includes architecture that is not in keeping with surrounding single family homes, pushes zoning allowance per acre, increases traffic congestion, and in order to make his plan work, is asking you to change the rules to fit his needs. The development plan needs improvement!

Please ask Mr. Snellenberger resubmit a proposal that won't stick out like a sore thumb, takes the current residents into consideration by reducing the proposed height to one-story as stipulated by LQMC Section 9.50.020, reducing the number of units to take into account the usable land that will allow for considerate trash location, and address the ingress-egress as it relates to the impact of Jefferson Street traffic.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Hill

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Vicki Vince [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 3:23 PM
To: Monika Radeva
Subject: Fwd: STVRs & Proposed Apartment Complex on Jefferson Street
Attachments: CityCouncil.docx

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Ms. Radeva,
Would you kindly forward my e-mail to the Planning Commission? I attempted to e-mail the members individually, but with no success.
Thanking you in advance.
Vicki

Please take the time to read my attached letter. It is lengthy, I apologize. Maybe you can print it and read it with your coffee tomorrow!

Thank you,
Vicki M. Vince-Olsen

February 2, 2021

Dear Mayor Evans, City Council Members, and Planning Commission,

Thank you, thank you, and THANK YOU for the amazing presentation last week about the STVRs. You, the City Mayor and Staff, were so steadfast in providing the public with a plethora of much-needed information and got the meeting concluded – as late as it was! I personally very much appreciated it, as I came away from that meeting with a better attitude. I found the discussion among the Mayor and City Council to be super informative. I wanted to write to each and every one of you to thank you for that, you are troopers!

Additionally, I want to follow up on the STVR issue from my perspective, as well as the proposed apartment complex on Jefferson.

I am still very much AGAINST STVRs in our city and would like to see them phased out within the next few years. I think the residents have spoken and really need your backing. The changes and suggestions by the study are great if we take a bandage approach to the STVRs – which may lead to continued problems and possible litigation.

Currently there is a permitted 5+ bedroom “estate” (79-915 Horseshoe Road) STVR on my cul-de-sac, and another “estate” (79-925 Horseshoe Road) right next to it, waiting to get a permit. Both backyards face Fiesta Drive, overlooking the 11th fairway...party row.

The currently permitted STVR on my street now has “Visitor Parking” signs in his driveway, along with huge **shower curtains** covering the front door. It’s so unsightly and looks ridiculous.

You’ve heard the complaints; you’ve seen the videos and pictures. I need not say more. Just understand, we are not in the Cove, we are not PGA, we are just a small section of La Quinta with over 7.7% of our homes running as STVRs. Please help us!

I have been listening very closely to the City Council meetings, as well as the most recent Planning Commission meeting. I live in a home overlooking the 10th fairway of Indian Springs County Club, what used to be the old Westward Ho Golf Course. My backyard overlooks the golf course and JEFFERSON, right at the spot where the 40-unit apartment complex is seeking approval.

I grew up in the Westward Ho neighborhood (back when it was Indio!), went to Indio High School, moved to Orange County for school and stayed there until two years ago, when I moved back to our beautiful desert. I bought the home right next door to my mom, who still lives in my childhood home. 😊

Obviously, the STVR situation on Fiesta and Horseshoe Road affects our neighborhood, as does the possible approval of the apartment complex on Jefferson.

Regarding the apartment complex, it is my understanding that the City of La Quinta owns the property there at Jefferson and Palm Circle. This parcel is always very well-maintained and looks lovely, a nice piece of classic desert landscape as you pass through the area.

Jefferson is a main artery throughout our desert, people from various desert cities and various events (such as Coachella, Stagecoach, concerts, tennis, golf, etc.) use Jefferson to access Interstate 10.

Because Jefferson is a main thoroughfare, Jefferson was widened several years ago, at the expense of homeowners on the opposite side of Jefferson. One of those homes belonged to my late grandparents, Bena and Jack Vince. Their home was destroyed, along with several others, and Jefferson was ultimately widened to meet the needs of our city. Jefferson is now a very, very busy and loud street at all hours of the day and night. If you do not believe me, I welcome you all to visit my backyard for a morning cup of java or an evening cocktail!

Fast forward to Mr. Snellenberg's proposed project – First and foremost, this project most definitely DOES conflict with the esthetics, peace and enjoyment and traffic layout of the residential homes/condos currently in the area. This project is also a slap in the face to the homeowners who gave up the rights to their property to widen Jefferson. Truly! How can the city, with a conscience, allow a complex to go up in an area where homes were destroyed to widen the road? This makes absolutely no sense!

From what I heard in the January 26 Planning Commission meeting, Mr. Snellenberg's project needs a height variance and certain exceptions and/or exemptions to get this project approved. Why would his project (which I say looks like a jail) be privy to special favors from the City when in all reality there are so many other pieces of property in La Quinta that would be way better suited for this project that would NOT NEED exceptions/exemptions? This piece of property should remain beautiful and apartment free.

Imagine being a condo owner on the backside of the apartment complex...this apartment building would be so close to them and disrupt their peace and quiet and most definitely their views. Oh, and the trash...the smell of the trash bins that would be in close proximity – yuck! In 118-degree weather those bins will STINK and be a constant problem for the condo owners. Another reason so just say, “no.”

As Mr. Snellenberg, himself, said it would be very costly to get the water and electricity routed to the project...image the traffic nightmares during construction and thereafter. Home Depot would end up with an exorbitant amount of traffic making U-turns in their parking lot. Another reason to say, “no.”

The long and short of it: This project is not in keeping with the single-family homes in the surrounding neighborhoods, as the complex looks like a jail as opposed to classic desert-scape, it does not align with the current zoning allowance per acre, takes away another piece of beautiful landscape on a main thoroughfare, and INCREASES traffic congestion on an already terribly busy street. I am vehemently opposed to this and would hope the City of La Quinta DOES NOT allow this project to move forward.

I sincerely appreciate you taking the time to read my letter and I am looking forward to a more peaceful La Quinta soon!

Vicki M. Vince-Olsen

