

Hello James and Rose:

A number of months ago I reached out to you trying to find ways to work together with regard to the proposed Safe Rest Village (SRV) on NW Naito.

After a couple of back and forths - you asked that neighbors4safesmartshelters(n4safe), as a coalition, work with Pearl District Residents Association (PDNA) to secure their opposition to the project. Heeding your advice and counsel, for months members of the coalition, members of the PDNA and others engaged in many conversations, meetings, email exchanges and reviews of the local neighborhood situation.

After educating themselves on the issue - and recognizing the neighborhood is already saturated with sanctioned homeless facilities (Harbor of Hope Navigations Center a 120 bed no-barrier city sanctioned homeless site and other neighboring SRV's — two of which have been closed because of violence) PDNA voted unanimously to oppose the proposed NW Natio SRV. Ninety-nine people attended the "zoom" call during which the discussion was held about the proposed SRV. There was not one PDNA member or participant that supported the SRV. Not surprisingly, in the over 13 months working on this project, n4safe volunteers have not been able to identify one supporter of the proposed SRV - just down the street from your school. While PDNA outlined conditions by which they might remove their opposition, to date all of the conditions were summarily refused and many just ignored by the city.

In addition to the PDNA resolution of "strong" opposition (attached) n4safe volunteers - many of your neighbors, local homeowners, renters, small business owners and others, submitted the attached petition with over 850 (and counting...) signatures to the city, county and others opposing the proposed NW Naito SRV.

N4safe volunteers support and encourage smart, safe solutions of the homeless crisis including working concepts like Bybee Lakes run by Alan Evans and permanent housing with services for Oregon's homeless, ultimately a more efficient, safer and financially viable solution.

To place another no-barrier, unsafe and not competently managed city sanctioned homeless facility right next door to the the Harbor of Hope facility, in a mature and diverse residential community and equally important, just a stones throw from your school, makes zero sense.

Despite the strong case against, the hundred of calls, letters, emails and presentations to the Council and the County the proposed site continues to be viable in the minds of city leadership - James & Rose, without a clear and transparent reasoning or meaningful community engagement. In fact the "stakeholder" community group that was put together by the City Council has not met in over 5 months. And once a member speaks out against the proposed site, they are not invited back.

On behalf of the hundreds of coalition members, and your surrounding community members, n4safe volunteers urge that you consider again joining with n4safe in actively opposing the proposed SRV. There are safer locations, better plans and certainly better options for the millions of dollars being proposed to be spent for this type of facility. Your students, parents, staff and entire school community, as well my home and my neighbors homes, as well as the entire neighborhood will be negatively and irreparably affected by this ill-conceived and secretly planned city sanctioned camping site.

Please consider meeting with some of the n4safe volunteers from the community - and look at ways to work together to continue your engagement efforts and ours to make this a better neighborhood and equally important a safer neighborhood.

Look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best regards,

Michael Galizio

Joan Neice

Alberto Santaballa

-n4safe volunteers

Just to remind you - here is why the Old Town SRV was closed:

Link: <https://www.wweek.com/news/city/2022/05/28/old-town-homeless-village-will-close-after-nonprofit-operator-says-conditions-too-dangerous/>

Here is how the operators are managing these facilities:

Link: <https://www.wweek.com/news/city/2022/07/28/contractor-running-safe-rest-villages-over-billed-joint-office-by-525000-county-auditor-says/>