

FW: Public comment - Beautify SJ Agenda 7.1

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 11/14/2023 8:31 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

📎 3 attachments (761 KB)

shack.jpg; trash1.jpg; gas line.jpg;

From: Dhanya Rajan [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 5:14 AM

To: CouncilMeeting <CouncilMeeting@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Public comment - Beautify SJ Agenda 7.1

[External Email]

Honorable Mayor & Council members,

I would like to voice out the dissatisfaction I have towards the apathy and lack of accountability that BeautifySJ is showing towards the major safety concerns and violations at the Great Oaks encampment by the Blossom Hill Caltrain station. This 0.5 mile stretch is home to at least 2000 people. We have been terrorized and feel violated by the illegal activities committed by the residents of the giant encampment by the tracks. Whenever we raise a ticket or send an email about the safety issues we face, be it trespassing, indecent exposure, violent fistfights, littering, urinating in our property, thefts, intimidation, multiple fires etc, the standard response we receive is free trash pickup. This does not solve any problem. Nowadays, we don't even see a reply to our emails. Feels like a vendetta move because we are the squeaky wheels of this neighborhood.

When I look at the past few years, what I see is the decline of San Jose. BeautifySJ is enabling this bad behavior and cherry picks the abatement sites. I see that you have mentioned MOU with UP. This is not followed in San Jose, especially Great Oaks. It is a disaster waiting to happen. The tents are very close to the tracks. Worse than that, they are right by the narrow road on Endicott where there is not even a sidewalk. I have heard people complaining that it is a huge safety risk at night. I have faced this too when a homeless person darted into the road through the ripped fence in the night. People who are new to the area would not know.

Abatements are happening in other districts and being pushed into our area.

Beautify needs to bring back crime as a trigger for abatement. The homeless folks on Great Oaks have declined years of outreach efforts and need to move out of our neighborhood. I will end with pictures of a managed encampment. This is what we are dealing with after playing by the rules and paying hefty property taxes.

Regards,
Dhanya Rajan
[REDACTED]



