From: Karen Osburn KOsburn@sedonaaz.gov Subject: Fw: Final push on Safe Place to Park March 12

Date: March 13, 2024 at 2:31 PM

To: Melissa Dunn MDunn@sedonaaz.gov

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I hadn't yet seen your email to Shannon, Jeanne and Cari. Please see my thoughts below. One more email FYI to follow.

From: Karen Osburn < KOsburn@sedonaaz.gov>

From: Karen Osburn Kom: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 2:20 PM">Kom: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 2:20 PM
To: Sean Smith Sean6906@nowisit.net; Mark Jacabson Mark Jacabson <a href="Mark Jacabso <rumble1977@earthlink.net>; Brian O Connel <bri>connel <bri>driancoconnell@yahoo.com>; Judy Poe <jpoe@sedonalibrary.org>; Roxana Cardiel <naic.iaf@gmail.com> Subject: Re: Final push on Safe Place to Park March 12

San, et.al. I will not be the city manager in a few weeks but am going to offer my two cents anyway. I would not advocable that the council move forward with the project in April if we know it's being referred. In fact, I would strongly advise against it. In my option, SPTP would be up ar interest to expend anyway and project in anyone anticipates to get up and number to read any visues. Some of the temporary infrastructured interest and the size in anyone anticipates to get up and number to get any and number to get up and numb

I think if we linvest the time, energy and funds to build out the site. (VHC hires staff, we accept grant money and begin operating it, and that was ultimately undone by the voters a few months later, we would have more egg on our face, more of a heavy lift to undo it and it would just be hearing me, and for this groups' efforts to support and advocate. - Karen

From: Sean Smith <sean 6906@now isit.net>

Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 12:21 PM

To: Mark Jacabson marchesignguy@aol.com; Shannon Boone Shannon Boone <a href="mailto Brian Fultz brian Fultz <a href="mainto-shift: 2013/brian-wf

Thanks much for the though leadership! I agree with all points, and those Shannon brought up.

Shannon - if we can have it run July - November no matter what happens with the referendum, how can we help hasten the site prep? Can a volunteer work party help? Anything else? Sean

On 3/13/24 11:26 AM, Steve Segner wrote:

500 voters that live in Sedona will not be easy, the best way to stop is to get to the voters first with information, we can not let special interest groups take over the management of Sedona, the job of the city council is not to take straw votes of people showing up at meeting or com

On Mar 13, 2024, at 11:12 AM, Shannon Boone <SBoone@sedonaaz.gov> wrote:

Hi Steve and Housing Advisory Group Members.

Thank you, and to this whole group, thank you for your support - I appreciate you. I'm glad you're getting a jump on this Steve, and sharing your insight. However, only see two ways this program will happen now. 1) You keep Noonan from getting 500 signatures for the referendum by April11, or 2) you convince Council to sta the program and let it run until November (and beyond if it wins the election) so residents can see that it has no impact on them and is not a "homeless encampment" before they vote on it. Unless one of those two things happens, we are going to lose the funding and this program is likely dead. We have to start the program by July 1 to get the funding.

As for your editorial, that's your voice and it's all good. But, maybe you could point out that the temporary use of the site as a Safe Place to Park, nor the zoning change prohibits the possibility of resurrecting the amphitheater if that's the end use that comes out of the public input process

My personal opinion - The people who would use this site and other local workers need to realize that other residents are organizing against their best interests. They, and those who know the community needs them, will have to organize and call out these bullies, otherwise new workers will keep coming, and struggling to spend their youthful years in beautiful Sedona until they decide they want to live indoors, have a family, etc and then they'll move away, like they do now. This is what the short-sighted, selfish bullies want (until they get too old to take care of themselves). I can create programs and projects, but once the NIMBY's realize the can kill anything with 500 signatures because of the timing of funding and elections, my hands will be tied. I'm not a good activist or community organizer though, pretty much just a geeky mission-driven developer.

Thank You, Shannon



<image.png>

(928) 203-5-126ten Cities & Sedona and Cottonwoodaz.gov City of Sedona

02 Roadrunner Dr Sedona, AZ 86336 City business hours are Mon-Thur 7am - 6pm

Cottonwood AZ 86326 City business hours are Mon-Fri 8am - 5pm



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3) 203-5:126m. Cities of Sedona and Cottonwoods z.gov
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102 Roadrunner Dr Sedona, AZ 86336 City business hours are Mon-Thur 7am - 6pm

City of Cottonwood 827 N Main St Cottonwood AZ 86326
City business hours are Mon-Fri 8am - 5pm

From: Steve Segner <steve@elportalsedona.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 9:42 AM

My letter to editor

On March 12th, Sedona's community faced a familiar scenario at the city council meeting, but with a new twist. The topic of discussion, "A Safe Place to Park," intended to address a pressing local need, was derailed by a vocal group of newcomers and out-of-towers. This group, armed with a barrage of questions, sought not just to question but to dismantle a crucial program under the guise of concern, while pushing forward their agenda, fundamentally at odds with the city's plans for a more inclusive and community-focuse future.

The "Safe Place to Park Program," designed to offer a temporary respite for those in need, found itself unde fire by individuals with a markedly different vision for one of Sedona's city-owned properties. Their proposal? To resurrect a 20-year-old bankrupt outdoor theater, turning a potential site for workforce housing into yet another parking lot. This clash of priorities comes at a critical juncture, as the city considers a zoning change essential for replacing the dilapidated theater with housing vital for Sedona's workers.

The debate is not merely about land use but underscores a deeper conflict between the envisioned utility an the community's dire necessities. The proposed project by the opposing group, while nostalgic, stands as a "White Elephant" - impractical and misaligned with Sedona's current needs. Recalling past disputes, such as the contention over the CVS on Airport Rd or the lighting of 89a, this scenario is a reiteration of a few placing their desires over the many needs. At its core, the community's plea for affordable housing is drowned out by the clamor for an unnecessary entertainment venue.

Sedona stands at a crossroads between catering to the whimsical wants of a few and addressing the pressing needs of its residents. The Safe Place to Park Program and the proposed workforce housing represent more than just city planning decisions; they symbolize a commitment to the community's well-being. With the underutilized Sedona Performing Arts Center (SPAC) already in place, the argument for another entertainment space is not just flawed but indicative of misplaced priorities.

The city council's support for the Safe Place to Park Program is a commendable step toward addressing rea issues facing Sedona. It is imperative now, more than ever, to steer the city's resources towards building a sustainable future for its residents, prioritizing workforce housing over redundant projects. As Sedona forges ahead, the dismantling of the old theater's remnants should not be seen as an end but a new beginning, making way for homes, hopes, and a stronger community foundation.

please let me know what you think open for changes

On Mar 9, 2024, at 3:43 PM, Linda Martinez Linda Martinez Linda Martinezsmc125@gmail.com <a href

Hi Everyone,

I m sure that most of you have read the diatribe in the RRN about the city building Safe Place to Park before the final vote by Council. It was histrionic and full of lies. Below is Karen Osborn s (City Manager) response, sent to the RRN, but most likely will not be printed.

Show up at 6:00 PM to the Council meeting on March 12 to support (and speak if you can) Safe Place to Park. Council will vote on it - this is our last push. Let s make the effort and get it done!

A big THANK YOU to Al Comello for designing our ad: It is the Right Thing to Do and to Steve Segner for paying for the ad. I hope you all saw it. In addition to the RRN, it was posted on social media and Sedona.biz.

We need two actions from our group:

1. Read and Karen's response below and forward to your email list and social media. I posted it on Next Door. One woman appreciated how straightforward Karen's response was and didn't feel the city violated her trust. One of our tasks is to correct misinformation. Also forward our ad - Al, can you forward to our group? The website with all the information is now live: Safe Place To Park | City of Sedona (sedonaaz.gov)

2. Attend the Council meeting on Tuesday, March 12. Come at 6 PM and if you can, speak. It doesn t need to be long just why this is right. Let me know.

Karen s response:

"In their March 1 editorial, The Sedona Red Rock News claimed that city staff acted outside their authority when starting work on the Safe Place to Park project, because council had not yet taken a formal vote to sanction that work. That isn't true. The RRN claimed that because council didn't take a formal vote, they made no decision and were not "on the record." That isn't true. The RRN claimed that the "site could open to the public tomorrow." That isn't true. They said that the city has "already built the site." That isn't true. They claimed, "tens of thousands of dollars in materials and salaries have been already paid." That isn't true. The RRN wants you to believe that something nefarious is going on. That also is not true.

On January 9th council unanimously directed staff to move forward with the Safe Place to Park project. That direction is memorialized in the adopted minutes from that meeting. These minutes reflect what is "on the record." Council's direction to staff routinely results in staff actions to follow whatever that direction may be. For this project and in accordance with the January 9 council direction, the staff actions include but are not limited to:

- making an application to amend the zoning to provide for this land-use
- taking that application through the Planning and Zoning Commission and public hearings
 negotiating a contract with the Verde Valley Homeless Coalition to manage the program and

agonizing

- that agreement for council approval at a subsequent meeting (3/12)
- finalizing the grant award agreement with the Arizona Department of Housing and bringing that back to council for approval (3/12)
- obtaining bids/pricing and determining lead times for the temporary infrastructure that would be part of the project if final approvals are obtained
 refining program rules and eligibility requirements in response to public input

Staff have been working diligently on all of those logistics since January 9, as the city council and the community should expect them to.

The RRN would have you believe the minor grading and site preparation work that has been done is an egregious violation of public trust, done by an out-of-control staff. Some grading was completed and gravel and millings from the city's materials yard were put in place to keep the access area from getting too muddy since maintenance staff and planning and zoning commissioners were traveling in and out of the site. None of this work has changed the existing land use or violates current zoning designation. None of this work is permanent nor obligates the council to move forward with this project. It was also done as workload allowed during normal staff schedules and only existing on-hand supplies were used. No expenditures were made, let alone tens of thousands of dollars.

Getting some site prep done allows the city, if the project is formally approved on 3/12, to be able to more easily and readily place the temporary infrastructure. Staff have not installed and will not be installing the fencing, gates, portable showers, portable bathrooms, signage, solar bollard lighting, and other elements, until the final land use change and other contracts are considered on 3/12. The minor site prep is squarely within the parameters of what would be expected from staff when council directs them to move a project forward. It is also within the city manager's authority to direct. If staff hadn't pursued this preparatory work, and the project was approved but then took much longer to implement because nothing proactive had been done, then the RRN would fault the city for taking too long to get it up and running. I should say if the editor personally approves of somethingthecitydoes, then staff are being responsive, doing their jobs and taking initiative. If he disapproves, then the council isn't adequately controlling them or they're overstepping their authority.

The staff did not overstep. The council provided direction. Both were doing their best to serve the community."

Regarding the timing of when people should arrive at the Council meeting, I've been telling people that the Safe Place to Park conversation will not begin before 6pm. Additionally, I'm suggesting that if they want to live stream the meeting on Tuesday and head over when they see that SPTP will be coming up, they can do that, too. Here's the link that folks can view the meeting at:

https://www.sedonaaz.gov/your-government/departments/city-clerk/council-commissions-committees-boards/city-council/meetings-live-webcast-videoaudio

Linda Martinez