

Lopez, Maria [COB]

From: Julian Gutierrez <juliang@kennedycommission.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2023 12:20 PM
To: COB_Response
Subject: KC Comments on Agenda Item 19
Attachments: Orange County VPSH Letter.pdf

Attention: This email originated from outside the County of Orange. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Good Afternoon,

I apologize for the tardiness of this letter, but in case it is still relevant, The Kennedy Commission would like to submit this comment regarding Agenda Item 19 regarding the Board of Supervisors plan to use Mesa Vista for 10 additional Permanent Supportive Housing Units for veterans.

Thank you,
Julian Sebastian Gutierrez

December 18, 2023

Orange County Board of Supervisors
City of Santa Ana
400 West Civic Center Drive
Santa Ana, CA 92701

RE: Comments to Agenda Item 19 regarding The Board of Supervisors' utilization of Mesa Vista for 10 additional Project-Based Housing Choice Vouchers

To The Honorable Members of Orange County's Board of Supervisors

The Kennedy Commission (the Commission) is a broad-based coalition of residents and community organizations that advocates for the production of homes affordable for families earning less than \$30,000 annually in Orange County. Formed in 2001, the Commission has been successful in partnering and working with Orange County jurisdictions to create effective housing and land-use policies that have led to the new construction of homes affordable to lower-income working families.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Board of Supervisors' plan to select Mesa Vista to utilize 10 additional project-based housing choice vouchers.

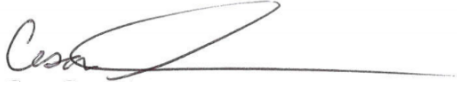
Project-Based Housing Choice Vouchers

Mesa Vista is a former Motel 6 in Costa Mesa that has been converted to provide 80 units of affordable housing, with 30 units being reserved for Permanent Supportive Housing for Veterans and 48 units for very low-income seniors. Orange County has the fourth largest veteran population in the state and experienced a 12% increase in the number of veterans experiencing homelessness. As it stands, the City of Costa Mesa has been successful at providing facilities for homeless people with the goal of transitioning them to permanent supportive housing, making the Mesa Vista site the perfect place to provide veterans the resources necessary to build from.

The Mesa Vista site is situated in an area that facilitates their residents to live comfortably. The site is less than 30 minutes walking distance from the Upper Newport bay Nature Preserve and 7 minutes walking distance from a Stater Bros. Additionally, there are three elementary schools and two highschools located less than five miles from the site.

We look forward to working with the County to encourage effective housing policies that will help create balanced housing development and create much-needed affordable housing in our local communities. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (949) 250-0909 or cesarc@kennedycommission.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cesar", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Cesar Covarrubias
Executive Director