

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PSAB](#)
Subject: Public comment on Agenda item 5.1
Date: Thursday, January 26, 2023 8:54:38 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Ensure you trust this email before clicking on any links or attachments.

I live on Ortega Avenue, which after the oversized vehicle settlement, is one of the longest sections of streets where oversized vehicles can park. I'm one of the community members whose desires Kimberly Thomas mentioned needing to be balanced with those living in their vehicles. Well, I'm here to say that my neighborhood benefits when everyone—EVERYONE—is taken care of and has the resources they need to live a dignified life. I think the following would be good things to pursue:

1. Porta potties, or even better, a permanent restroom, at Klein Park, which is on Ortega Avenue.
2. Reinterpretation of the 72 hour enforcement that ideally suspends this rule for oversized vehicles on wide streets, but at the very least, allows them to return to their original parking spot. This is especially important given the scarcity of parking spots available to oversized vehicles as a result of the Narrow Street Ordinance. The 72 hour rule is really about abandoned vehicles, and people living in their vehicles are clearly not abandoning those vehicles.
3. Some people living in RVs struggle to move their vehicles because of necessary repairs but they can't afford it. Sometimes these repairs cost over \$10,000, which is prohibitive for most. When services such as showers, laundry, restrooms, etc. are not in walking distance, these people are effectively unable to access these services. This speaks to the necessity of bringing services to the people that need them, rather than requiring them to move in order to access them.
4. Reallocate funding away from chalking and enforcement of 72 hours, and use that funding instead to prioritize more services

With regard to the high number of complaints against oversized vehicles violating various rules, I'd like to add useful context there. When someone is in need of services, they call the various services the city provides for unstably housed community members. And the city keeps track of how many requests for aid there are. And when someone is upset about oversized vehicles, they call the police hotline. As Derek Langton mentioned, there are people who are, as he says, "eagle-eyed" and seeking to enforce rules that punish and denigrate our most vulnerable neighbors. Those complaints are easily quantifiable because there is an outlet for those complaints. BUT. When someone like ME, who would like to complain about the lack of sufficient resources provided to neighbors living in their vehicles, I don't have a hotline I can call at my convenience. Instead, I have to attend meetings like these to share my perspective, which requires a schedule that permits this and a limit of 2 minutes for my public comment. So I implore you—do not conflate a large number of complaints against homeless folks with that being the prevailing public opinion. There are plenty of people like me, who care about ALL of our neighbors, who can't make these meetings or get cut off at 2 minutes.

Best,

[REDACTED]

--

[REDACTED]

(they/she)