

VIGIL, XAVIER I.

From: City of Santa Fe <noreply@santafenm-gov.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2025 3:50 PM
To: Governing Body Public Comment
Subject: New submission from your Governing Body Public Comment form

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Submitted on: Wednesday, January 29, 2025 at 3:50pm

- First Name: Leah
- Last Name: O'Shell
- Your Email Address: loshell@sfps.k12.nm.us
- Your District: District 4
- Meeting Date: 01/29/2025
- Section of Agenda you would like to comment on: Public Comment
- Your Comment: Hello, I am writing in opposition to the proposed 2 million dollars allocated towards non-congregate housing or more specifically pallet housing. I was raised in Santa Fe and have been here more than 35 years of my life. I have a fifteen year old son who has never been able to safely play in the park 1 block from my house due to needles, vagrants and feces in the dugouts. A park filled with graffiti and where you have to always watch your back. For over 15 years, frankly ever since Pete's Place moved to my neighborhood our city has never been able to keep up with the crime, disarray and maintenance of our local park. Do you think adding pallet homes is going to solve these basic infrastructure issues? Our city can't even keep up with keeping its citizens safe, keep our roads repaired, keep up with general maintenance to keep our parks clean, well manicured, safe and in repair much less manage a temporary housing. This proposal asks for monies to fund pallet housing but what about the infrastructure behind it? If we don't currently have the infrastructure in place for the aforementioned, how are these shelters going to be managed? I work at a public school and when we call for the police we often have to wait hours for them to arrive. A project like this needs all of the things our city already lacks: adequate park maintenance, adequate funding for park repairs, adequately funded police, fire, ambulance support, security and oversight. Our city is in disrepair already, can't take care of its roads, can't take care of its parks, doesn't have enough officers, and doesn't have the laws in place to deal with the crime appropriately. Now we are adding another element, where is the funding for the infrastructure? The pallet homes that have been tested at the church are in small numbers, eight of them I believe. The church has managed this site and it has taken a lot of work on their part. Putting over one hundred pallet homes in one location is a disaster shanty town waiting to happen. Where is the study that this many pallet homes will even be utilized by people wanting to be off the streets and clean from drugs seeking help? Why have the locations being discussed only been in the central part of our city? How come the east side of town or north side of town is not discussed as a location for any of these pallet homes. It is inequitable. If you condone it you own it. Our city condones too much already. This is just an open invitation to more disarray. A large portion of our homeless population are using drugs and committing crimes increasingly making our city unsafe. We already have so many transitional housing locations and

not enough people take advantage of them. My concern is that overall our city is not in the place to take on a situation of managing these pallet homes. We do not have the funding or infrastructure. We do not have the laws to tame the crime. We do not have the mental health support in place to help the people already here needing help. Without these basic structures in place I am asking that you oppose the 2 million dollars that is being asked for to fund these pallet houses. There are much bigger issues of infrastructure that need to be addressed before we fund something so absurd as hundreds of pallet homes.