

**Santa Cruz City Council Meeting
March 26, 2019 - 7 PM**

Special Meeting

Oral Communications:

During the 7 pm oral communications of the March 26th City Council meeting, the council chamber was filled to capacity where over 50 concerned residents asked the council to revisit their previous motion of March 19.

Mayor Watkins, Vice Mayor Cummings and Councilmembers Meyers and Mathews voted to rescind the previous week's vote of the city parking lot 24 for the overnight sleeping site. Councilmember Brown supported site reconsideration.

Previous Motion of March 26

Motion to establish a small scale safe sleeping and storage site for up to 50 people and use Lot 24, with a community problem solving process (Motion DG; 2nd CK), with a 30-day temporary, renewable by the City Council in 30-day increments (CM Friendly Amendment-Accepted) Implementation of Standard Operating Procedures Guide to be brought back to the Council. Direct City Manager to implement a small scale safe sleeping and storage program.

Motion Approved:

Yes: Councilmembers Brown, Krohn, Glover and Mathews

N: Mayor Watkins, Vice Mayor Cummings,
Councilmember Meyers

Mayor Watkins asked each speaker to keep their comments to one minute to allow time for all who interesting in speaking

Motion to Reconsider Previous Motion:

Councilmember Mathews made a motion to reconsider the previous motion to open Lot 24 as a 'safe sleeping site.' Her reversal position was noted with these comments: "I realize that we cannot place, function a camp of this nature that's been proposed, in lot 24, next to the park, in this neighborhood and affecting all the many users. I believe we have to revisit the issue and find a better alternative that includes community engagement."

Action on Motion:

To continue with the Closure of the Ross Camp by April 15 and place this item on the next council meeting agenda April 9th and pull the temporary 'safe sleeping site' at City Parking Lot 24.

Chamber's position: Chamber supports homeless shelters at the River Street site and and requests the city council to locate a second site that is more compatible to serve the homeless population with wrap around services as necessary and in coordination with the County. The Chamber does not support temporary small 'encampments' spread across the City at city owned lots near tourist and businesses that bring tax revenues to the city. The Chamber does not believe moving the homeless population around the city, near schools, and into neighborhoods serves the citizens of our community, nor does it address our homelessness issues.

Vote on the Motion to rescind previous Motion to allow 'a safe sleeping' site at Lot 24

Yes to rescind: Mayor Watkins, Vice Mayor Cummings, Council members Meyers and Mathews

No to not Rescind: Council member Brown

Absent: Councilmembers Glover and Krohn