County of San Luis Obispo

COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, RM. D430 • SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA 93408 • (805) 781-5011



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

November 3, 2011

## NOTICE TO **CAMPERS**

TO ALL PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN, OR MAY BE INTERESTED IN, CAMPING OVERNIGHT ON THE FOLLOWING COUNTY PROPERTY:

The San Luis Obispo County-owned Property Immediately North Of Monterey Street, Between Santa Rosa Street And Osos Street, San Luis Obispo, California ("The County Property")

YOU CONTINUE TO BE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN LAWFUL DEMONSTRATIONS on a daily basis on The County Property between the hours of 7:00 AM AND 10:00 PM.

HOWEVER, YOU ARE HEREBY REQUESTED TO cease and desist from all of the following, effective tonight (November 3, 2011) at 10:00 PM.:

- 1. Camping overnight at The County Property, By "camping," we mean erecting tents or sleeping overnight on The County Property. By "overnight," we mean the period of time beginning at 10:00 PM and ending on the following day at 7:00 AM.
- 2. Urinating or defecating on the grounds, or in the bushes, of The County Property at any time of the day.
- 3. Discharging water from food preparation, dish-washing, hand-washing, body-washing, or other waste or pollutants onto the surface of The County Property at any time of the day.

PLEASE BE ADVISED that the County will be resuming normal grounds maintenance activities on The County Property, including regular watering of lawns and landscaping, moving lawns, and trimming vegetation. Normal watering occurs within the period from 10PM to 7AM.

## THIS SECOND NOTICE IS BEING ISSUED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

- 1. The County recognizes that members of the public have a right to assemble in public places such as The County Property, and to exercise free speech rights.
- 2. However, the law clearly recognizes that the County has the right and duty to impose time, place, and manner restrictions to address health and safety hazards on its property and to preserve the value and appearance of its property for the benefit of all residents of the County. The following concerns have arisen since overnight camping began last week and have continued to exist despite our previous notice requesting that persons cease and desist from overnight camping and related activities:
  - a. Human feces and the strong smell of urine have been discovered on the grounds of The County Property. Since this significantly increased with the start of the overnight camping, it is presumed that the overnight campers are depositing feces and urine., which is a serious health and safety concern, as well as an interference with other resident's enjoyment of The County Property.
  - b. Water that has been used for food preparation and various washing uses has been discharged onto the ground. This amounts to an illegal discharge of waste that presents a health hazard.
  - c. Trash from overnight camping has been accumulating on the ground surface near the tents and sleeping bags that have been used for the last few days on The County Property. This presents a health and safety concern and detracts from the visual appeal of the grounds for other residents of the County.
- 3. The County continues to believe that The County Property is inherently unsuitable for overnight camping because there are no 24-hour public restrooms in reasonable proximity to The County Property. Public restrooms are available at adjacent County facilities and at City Hall from about 7AM until about 5:30 PM and from about 7AM until 10PM near the Mission San Luis Obispo and from about 7AM until 10PM at the parking garage near the corner of Pacific and Morro Streets. There are no other public restrooms within reasonable proximity of The County Property that are open between the hours of 10PM and 7AM.
- 4. Although the County has temporarily suspended some watering and grounds maintenance activities, the County has concluded that normal watering and grounds maintenance must resume to protect the value of The County Property for the benefit of all residents of the County.

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