

Middleton, Samuel

From: Nadin Said <nadinsaid@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 12:41 PM
To: eComment
Subject: Agenda Item 4 - Homelessness Update

Hello,

I am a resident of Santa Ana who lives at Vantage Town Homes off Main and Macarthur. This area has become a homeless encampment, in addition to street vendors selling food on the sidewalk. When I first moved in 2020, we did not have this issue. Instead, we had drag racing on Columbine and Main, where I called the police and they responded and stopped the racing. Now, when I report street vendors, panhandlers, or the encampment that has been established on the ramp of pinnacle apartments, the City and its officers do not respond. The City says call the police. However, the police are understaffed and do not have the support they need to arrest an unhoused person for trespassing, doing drugs on the street, etc. Homelessness is also a problem the City must address and not leave to police officers to handle on their own.

As a young woman, I have confronted the unhoused individuals when they are trespassing. However, my presence alone will not end their trespass. In addition, the panhandlers disregard traffic laws. For example, I was stopped at a red light which phased to green. Out of nowhere, two unhoused individuals crossed against the signal in front of my moving truck.

Please help us make the city a safe, clean place to live. Santa Ana has a lot of potential. But it is discouraging to see police officers drive by the problem and not respond, or have to wait an hour and call the police dept several times to force a response. Please provide more police officers to patrol and hopefully end this issue. The residents of Santa Ana pay a high tax and deserve to feel safe, just as our neighboring OC cities feel.

Thank you.

Nay Said