Dear City Council,

Last Tuesday the SPD offered a peak into the perspective of the American police officer. Aside from displaying the verbal limitations of the meatheads who knuckle-drag through our streets, we were also ambushed with 2 snuff films showing officer involved shootings. This city council sanctioned propaganda was intended to impress upon us that police are under assault from the public. One officer described 2020 as an “onslaught” of attacks on police.

Policing is not even in the top 15 deadliest jobs in America. In the last 5 years fewer than 200 police died on the job annually and more have died of COVID in the last year than gunfire in the past five years. In 2019 Salinas PD acquired a 16 ton Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle through the federal 10-33 Program to go with their 30 odd M-16 assault rifles. So what are our police so scared of?

The last Salinas police “officer” killed in the line of duty was a canine who was released upon a cornered man with a knife having a mental health crisis in 2004. The man was then murdered by the Salinas PD, who paid a $37,000 wrongful death lawsuit. The next officer killed prior to that was in 1945 in a motorcycle accident. The public is not a threat to Salinas PD. Quite the opposite. Salinas sits on the ticking time bomb of a militarized police force that paints itself as under siege by its own citizens.

Signed,

Mr. Wheel
City Clerk:

Please provide, in full, the attached letter to all Council Members, and please read the full letter into the record. The letter is less than 3 minutes. I will log into the Meeting tomorrow as well.

"Giving up doesn't always mean you are WEAK.....sometimes it means that you are STRONG enough to let go!"

David J. R. Mack, AICP

Salinas, CA 93901
Council Member McShane and City Council:

My name is David Mack. I am a resident of District 3, and am your appointment General Plan Steering Committee appointee. I am writing to you to express my desire for the City to allow paintings of murals on the walls abutting the Patria building and La Fogata Building (both shown below), in the newly redesigned public walk way. Bringing attractive art into the City, and the downtown area is paramount to bringing pride and desire to the center of our city.

With the recent completion of the Downton Vibrancy Plan and installation of the Salinas Arch. Murals painted on these two walls, would be a great addition to the City and allow another piece for the residents of Salinas, and merchants of City Center to be proud of.

As I understand it the situation, the City and the Blue Zones Project both have the financial resources to allow the commission for and painting of these two walls. I also understand that a local artist, K.D. Brandt Schwartz, has reached out to you to inquire about being commissioned to paint one or both of the walls. K.D has done other projects throughout the region including designs throughout the Sand City Arts districts (examples shown below).
K.D. would be an ideal candidate to design and execute the commissioning of these walls, with a design developed and with the city. And I personally, would like to volunteer to spearhead taking on keeping this project/idea moving forward.

What are the next steps in keeping this project on the City’s radar? What commissions/councils need to weigh in on this?

Please bring this issue up at the next City Council meeting and let’s further improve City Center Salinas.

Thank You for your support on this matter:

David J. R. Mack
Salinas, CA 93901
Dear: City Clerk:  Attached are 250 words for public comment. Thank you.

Juneteenth commemorates the date—June 19, 1865, two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation and two months after the end of the Civil War—when hundreds of thousands of enslaved men and women in Texas finally learned they been freed.

The Confederacy aligned state of Texas had continued slavery as if freedom did not exist until June 19, 1865, when a Union General arrived in Galveston, Texas and issued an order officially freeing them.

In many ways, Juneteenth represents how freedom and justice in the United States has always been delayed for Black people. Juneteenth declares their intention to claim their rights as Americans, despite all opposition and obstacles.

Juneteenth is often seen as an African-American celebration, but it should be an American celebration. Why? Because the Juneteenth celebration is important to anyone who wants the American ideology of liberty and freedom to be real for everyone.

This family-focused free celebration will include programming for the entire family. It will deepen the community’s knowledge of Juneteenth and the African American experience through arts, education, and performance. It will bring together citizens from diverse cultural backgrounds to celebrate freedom and build community.

Therefore, I ask the City of Salinas to both philosophically and financially support the first Annual Salinas Juneteenth. We are looking to our local leaders to work with community members to make our Inaugural Juneteenth Celebration, a memorable one. It is Salinas’ Time to Shine. Thank you.

Kendra Cabrera, Salinas Resident and Former Salinas Public Library Librarian
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Vicki McKinsey
Date: May 11, 2021 at 11:44:37 AM PDT
To: "PublicComment@cisalinas.ca." <PublicComment@cisalinas.ca.>
Subject: Conditional Public Comment re Item 170 - Paraiso Ct Opt-In Petition_
To: Salinas City Clerk

From: Vicki McKinsey

Re: Possible Public Comment Regarding ID#21-170 Residential Permit Parking Program- Paraiso Court Opt-In Request

Attachment: Most Recent Update of Opt-In Petition With 13 Signatures in Support

Dear City Clerk:

Instructions: Please do not take agenda item ID#21-170 off the Consent Agenda because of this submission. I am in favor of the staff recommendation submitted by James Serrano and prefer that the matter be resolved on the Consent Agenda. If, however, the item is removed from the Consent Agenda by objection or otherwise, the following is submitted as Public Comment.

Public Comment (if Item 170 is removed from Consent Agenda)

My name is Vicki McKinsey. I reside at 23 Paraiso Ct. The copy of the Opt-In Petition attached to the agenda does not include the most recent amendment. On May 6, I emailed an updated Petition to Public Works, apparently after the deadline for such matters. I attach hereto a copy of that amended Petition. The amendment adds the signature of Penny Alarid (owner and resident of 75 Paraiso Ct) in support of the Petition. The total number in support of the Opt-In Petition as of this email stands at 13 of the 22 residents on Paraiso Court.

Thank you for your consideration.

Vicki McKinsey
CITY OF SALINAS

PETITION FOR RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING

A MAJORITY (51%) OF RESIDENTS MUST SIGN THE PETITION TO QUALIFY FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE CITY (THIS INCLUDES APARTMENTS). ONLY ONE SIGNATURE PER DWELLING UNIT WILL BE CONSIDERED.

We, the undersigned residents of Paraiso Court, hereby request consideration for a Residential Parking Permit Program. Business parking on our street is adversely impacting our neighborhood. Parkers from medical offices and hospital are displacing residential parking. Therefore, we request that a Permit Parking Program be established for the residents on our Street.

Please hand deliver the original signed Petition to: City of Salinas Engineering and Transportation Department, City of Salinas, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Salinas, California 93901; Phone No. 831.758.7241.
Preliminary Statement: Residents on our street have requested that a residential parking program be established for the residents on our street. Therefore, we hereby request consideration for a residential parking permit by the City of Salinas. A majority (51%) of residents must sign the petition to qualify for consideration by the City of Salinas. (This includes apartments; only one signature per dwelling unit will be considered.)
Eric Petersen
Salinas 93902

General Public Comments
Salinas City Council

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

At your last meeting, a joint meeting with the Supervisors, there was an extensive discussion of our homeless situation, and the progress being made. Here are a few comments…

First, comments were made about finances. Both Los Angeles County and Los Angeles City have passed tax measures for help for their unhoused residents, one a sales tax and the other a property tax. Both were passed by the required two third vote, with one of them over 75%. Something like those should be considered.

Los Angeles also provides “Green Zones,” safe places where those living in vehicles can stay.

Also, some Councilmembers seem determined to believe the myth that Salinas is such a garden spot for homeless that our unhoused friends and neighbors are flocking to here for the great deals. The reality is different, statistics show that the overwhelming majority of those here are from here in the first place. Governing by myth is dangerous and irresponsible.

We need to continue, even accelerate the progress made, but we have to recognize the real situation to do so.

Thank you.

Eric Petersen
To whom it May Concern,

I am requesting that ID#21-170 be pulled from consent.

I am opposed to the request to opt-in to the district 3A Residential Permit Parking Program. Paraiso Court as a whole does not have a traffic/parking issue. From Monday through Friday, during traditional business hours, Paraiso Court does see an increase of nonresidents utilizing the street to park. The nonresident parking primarily occurs on the northern part of Paraiso Court located near the northern intersection with Via Paraiso Street. This temporarily inconveniences residents 11, 12, 15, 19, 23 and 32. Resident 27 does not have space for curbside parking. Paraiso Court’s southern portion which intersects with Via Paraiso Street sees minimal use by nonresidents (Anywhere between three to six cars). Ironically, it mainly affects the corner resident property owners, whose physical address is Via Paraiso. The eastern section of Paraiso Court is unaffected by the alleged traffic/parking issue. Residence 32, who have the longest property line on the northern section of Paraiso Court are also opposed to the request to opt-in to the district 3A Residential Permit Parking Program. Ironically, eight of the twelve residents that support the parking permit program, utilize their garage or driveway to park their personal vehicle(s) and as a result, will not experience any financial impact as a result of the program. During the traffic commission hearing an argument to support the opt in, used garbage collection day as one of the issues that to support their request. Paraiso Court garbage collection days are Mondays. 99% of the resident place their garbage/recycle cans out Sunday night. As stated above, we only see a slight parking increase during business hours Monday through Fridays. There are no issues with trash collection. I have attached pictures 4A and 4B for your reference.

In closing, I want to reiterate my objection to Paraiso Court opting in to the district 3A Residential Permit Parking Program.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kirk Hoffman
To: Salinas City Clerk  May 11, 2021
From: Barbara Romine
Re: Possible Public Comment Regarding ID#21-170 Residential Permit Parking Program- Paraiso Court Opt-In Request

Dear City Clerk:

Instructions: Please do not take agenda item ID#21-170 off the Consent Agenda because of this submission. I am in favor of the staff recommendation submitted by James Serrano and prefer that the matter be resolved on the Consent Agenda. If, however, the item is removed from the Consent Agenda by objection or otherwise, the following is submitted as Public Comment.

Public Comment (if Item 170 is removed from Consent Agenda)
My name is Barbara Romine. I reside at 1219 Via Paraiso. My home is on one of the corners abutting Paraiso Ct. I am aware of the Petition being considered to Opt-In to the Residential Permit Parking Program which would prevent nonresident parking on Paraiso Court from 8:00 to 5:00 on workdays. Such cars park daily on Paraiso Ct. beside my home. If I could vote, I would vote to support the petition to prevent such nonresident parking.
Thank you.

Barbara Romine
To: Salinas City Clerk May 11, 2021
From: Francine Lontoc
Re: Possible Public Comment Regarding ID#21-170 Residential Permit Parking Program- Paraiso Court Opt-In Request

Dear City Clerk:

Instructions: Please do not take agenda item ID#21-170 off the Consent Agenda because of this submission. I am in favor of the staff recommendation submitted by James Serrano and prefer that the matter be resolved on the Consent Agenda. If, however, the item is removed from the Consent Agenda by objection or otherwise, the following is submitted as Public Comment.

Public Comment (if Item 170 is removed from Consent Agenda)
My name is Francine Lontoc. I reside at 1261 Via Paraiso. My home is on one of the corners abutting Paraiso Ct. I am aware of the Petition being considered to Opt-In to the Residential Permit Parking Program which would prevent nonresident parking on Paraiso Court from 8:00 to 5:00 on workdays. Such cars park daily on Paraiso Ct. beside my home. If I could vote, I would vote to support the petition to prevent such nonresident parking.

Thank you,
Francine Lontoc
To: Salinas City Clerk
May 11, 2021
From: Jaime Eltit
Re: Possible Public Comment Regarding ID#21-170 Residential Permit Parking Program- Paraiso Court Opt-In Request

Dear City Clerk:

**Instructions**: Please do not take agenda item ID#21-170 off the Consent Agenda because of this submission. I am in favor of the staff recommendation submitted by James Serrano and prefer that the matter be resolved on the Consent Agenda. If, however, the item is removed from the Consent Agenda by objection or otherwise, the following is submitted as Public Comment.

**Public Comment** (if Item 170 is removed from Consent Agenda)
My name is Jaime Eltit. I reside at 39 Paraiso Court. I originally signed the Petition to Opt-In to the Residential Permit Parking Program. I later opted out. After further consideration, I now would like to voice my present support for the Petition to Opt-In.
Thank you.

Jaime Eltit
Dear City Clerk:

I am emailing to you a letter from Yoko Bassett regarding the above subject. She is an 87 year-old widow who has no ability to send or receive email. I am her neighbor and send it to you on her behalf.

Thank you,

Anna Penoncello
To: Salinas City Clerk

From: Yoko Bassett

Re: Possible Public Comment Regarding ID#21-170 Residential Permit Parking Program-Paraiso Court Opt-In Request

May 11, 2021

Dear City Clerk:

Instructions: Please do not take agenda item ID#21-170 off the Consent Agenda because of this submission. I am in favor of the staff recommendation submitted by James Serrano and prefer that the matter be resolved on the Consent Agenda. If, however, the item is removed from the Consent Agenda by objection or otherwise, the following is submitted as Public Comment.

Public Comment (if Item 170 is removed from Consent Agenda)

My name is Yoko Bassett. I reside at 1233 Via Paraiso. My home is on one of the corners abutting Paraiso Ct. I am aware of the Petition being considered to Opt-In to the Residential Permit Parking Program which would prevent non-residential parking on Paraiso Court without a permit from 8:00 to 5:00 on workdays. Such cars park daily on Paraiso Ct. beside my home. If I could vote, I would vote to support the petition to prevent such nonresident parking. I feel very strongly about this.

Thank you.

Yoko Bassett
City council,

We would like to thank and acknowledge some of the important investments proposed for the FY 2021-22 Capital Improvement Budget that includes significant funding into longstanding, neglected community projects, especially in the Alisal. It is critical that funding continues to be prioritized and allocated to our highest-need areas. We have a long way to go to make up for the decades of disinvestment and a legacy of racist policies, within our city, like redlining and covenants barring Latinx, African Americans, and other marginalized communities from well-kept neighborhoods, employment opportunities, and accessibility to resources. The City should provide more historical data on how the CIP has been allocated over the past 20 years by the council district so that we can more clearly see where the gaps may be.

These efforts provide us the opportunity to also reimagine and reflect on the negative impacts that police overinvestment and militarization have had on our community and how our public funding can be allocated towards more community investment.

In solidarity,

Reinvest831
To: Salinas City Clerk  May 11, 2021
From: Diana Snell (PHONE NUMBER)
Re: Possible Public Comment Regarding ID#21-170 Residential Permit Parking Program- Paraiso Court Opt-In Request

Dear City Clerk:

Instructions: Please do not take agenda item ID#21-170 off the Consent Agenda because of this submission. I am in favor of the staff recommendation submitted by James Serrano and prefer that the matter be resolved on the Consent Agenda. If, however, the item is removed from the Consent Agenda by objection or otherwise, the following is submitted as Public Comment.

Public Comment (if Item 170 is removed from Consent Agenda)
My name is Diana Lavorato Snell. I reside at 1275 Via Paraiso. My home is on one of the corners abutting Paraiso Ct. I am aware of the Petition being considered to Opt-In to the Residential Permit Parking Program which would prevent non-residential parking on Paraiso Court without a permit from 8:00 to 5:00 on workdays. Such cars park daily on Paraiso Ct. beside my home. If I could vote, I would vote to support the petition to prevent such nonresident parking. I have young daughters who are doing distance learning from home and like to play outside during their breaks. There are many cars parked on the side of our house and I don't feel comfortable letting them play outside since one of my girls is 4. Even though I am outside with them, it still worries me.

Diana Lavorato Snell
PUBLIC COMMENT

For the April 27th Joint Salinas City Council County Supervisor Meeting

Honorable Mayor, Council, County Supervisors:

The purpose of my comments today is to request that the Salinas Armory be placed on the Agenda of the Salinas City Council in the immediate future. With discussions under way now with potential buyers of this property, the public request a voice in decisions of the Armory’s future.

This architecturally historic Salinas building was the site of the Japanese Internment assignment center during World War II. The tank battalion that fought in the Philippine Islands and suffered losses at the Battle of Bataan are associated with the Armory and with Salinas military families. Many local entertainment events of note occurred in the Armory. Salinas has the Historic Surveys that identified the historic nature of this building. People are passionate about insuring that this site be preserved for its involvement in, and contribution to local and California history. These people want to be heard.

The Police Activities League, PAL is the current program in the building. Their program serves the youth of Salinas at a time when such free services to the youth are otherwise not available. PAL has worked collaboratively with local preservationists to plan a future that honors the Armory’s history. PAL has no other place to go that is appropriate to the youth services that they provide. Supporters of PAL want to be heard.

I request that the City Council place this issue on their upcoming Council agenda in order that the public has the ability to weigh in on decisions about the Salinas Armory.

Thank you.

Denise Estrada, Salinas Director of Environmental and Maintenance Services, Retired
PUBLIC COMMENT

For the April 27th Joint Salinas City Council and County Supervisor Meeting

Honorable Mayor, Council, and County Supervisors:

The purpose of my comment today is to request that the disposition of the historic Salinas Armory be placed on the Agenda of the Salinas City Council in the immediate future. With discussions already under way with potential buyers of this property, the public requests a right to be heard in decisions of the Armory’s future.

The current occupant in the building is the Salinas Police Activities League, PAL. Their programs serve the youth of Salinas at a time when such free activities for youth are otherwise not available. PAL has worked collaboratively with local preservationists and affected communities to plan a future that honors the Armory’s rich history. The City has no other place for PAL to go that is appropriate to the youth services that they provide. Supporters of PAL need to be heard.

This architecturally historic Salinas building was the site of the Japanese Internment assignment center where our population of American Citizens of Japanese ancestry were processed before being sent to one of ten American concentration camps during World War II. The tank battalion that fought the first tank battle in the Pacific in the Philippine Islands, and suffered losses at the Battle of Bataan are associated with the Armory and with Salinas military families. Many local entertainment events of note occurred in the Armory. Salinas has the Historic Surveys that identify the significant historic nature of this building. People are passionate about ensuring that this site be preserved for its involvement in, and contribution to local and California history. Historic preservationists need to be heard.

I request that the City Council place this issue on their upcoming Council agenda in order that the public can give testimony on decisions about the Salinas Armory.

Thank you.

Larry Oda, Past National President, Japanese American Citizens League, Salinas
Superintendent of Maintenance Services, Retired