



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT TIME TO GET OFF THE POT

Reopen Closed Public Restrooms

Give a Shit Protest

Monday, July 8, 2019

3:00 PM • 323 Church Street Santa Cruz

If the privileged, powerful & well-funded Parks & Recreation [P & R] Department won't open access, we'll do it ourselves!

Gather at 3 PM Monday July 8th at 323 Church in front of the P & R's offices to present our humble offerings.

Help provide some real relief for the community. Speak out about your experiences.

Sign and Plan for Direct Action at Louden Nelson at 2 PM Monday July 15th to restore actual services.

BACKGROUND

Bathrooms at Louden Nelson have remained closed to the public for over a year now with no alternative facilities opened.

Louden Nelson supervisor Iseth Rae closed the facilities to all but "patrons in programs" in March 2018. She has never presented any statistics showing a level of real vandalism and/or "bad behavior" that would justify such closing.

In May 2019, City authorities closed more than half the portapotties and wash stations available when they removed the Ross Camp with inadequate shelter alternatives. Anti-homeless actions including the fencing off of parks, First Alarm patrols, and the reassignment of Rangers to the SCPD.

On July 1st, the Parks and Recreation Commission rejected a Councilmember's proposal to immediately reopen the Louden Nelson bathrooms and require quick Council action to counter future arbitrary closures. Buried last January by Mayor Watkins, P & R Director Tony Elliot altered the proposal. Instead of recommending immediate reopening of the Louden Nelson bathrooms, staff presented the proposal as continued closure. The Commission, though receiving no actual hard data other than anecdotes, agreed.

**BRING FRIENDS, FACTS, TOILETRIES, AND HIGH SPIRITS ON JULY 8th !
COME AND MAKE READY FOR A DIRECT ACTION REOPENING OF
THE LOUDEN NELSON BATHROOMS ON JULY 15th !**

**Demonstrations by Conscience and Action, HUFF (Homeless United for Friendship & Freedom),
Downtown Bathroom Task Force and G.A.S.P. (Give a Shit Project)**