

City Attorney Condotti Refuses To Discuss Settling the Ross Lawsuit

On August 22nd, Federal Judge Edward Devila declined to dismiss the lawsuit by displaced residents of the former Ross Camp and told parties to propose settlement terms. The *Santa Cruz Union of the Homeless* and *HUFF* proposed the following. Condotti declined to offer any settlement terms & would not meet. Court will resume October 3rd in San Jose.

Make a public apology to the community of Santa Cruz admitting that not all the residents of the Ross camp were offered or went to Alternative shelter, and an immediate plan to rectify this by acting on plans for a transitional homeless encampment and a safe RV and vehicle lot to be opened no later than the start of the new year.

Fund a study of homeless needs of the broader community - include three members of the California Homeless Union in the current CACH committee and in any future committee that discusses issues surrounding homelessness. **Clearly post nightly vacancy rates** on line and available through a city employee. Or better yet a website showing all current shelter availability & barriers to occupancy.

Declare a moratorium on all enforcement of ordinances that are shown to unduly impact homeless folks that have little to do with health and safety (such as obstructing the sidewalk, being in a park after dark, being in a closed area, no trespassing on public property)

Immediately restore portapotties removed at the Ross Camp, since we have a similar number of homeless people still. **Open five toilets per 100 unhoused people** including providing **access to the Louden Nelson restrooms** by sharing key code to all who request it. **Provide a permit process** for local companies and organizations to place portable toilets on public or private property.

Make tents available to those outside. **More closely monitor the seizure of tents & homeless property** as “abandoned”. **Expand police hours to reclaim property**, particularly survival gear. Regular **distribution of laundry & motel vouchers** to unhoused individuals, until affordable housing is available. **Provide clean blankets** to anyone who has had their blankets & belongings discarded by the city.

Support requested changes at 1220 as proposed to Salvation Army Captain Marcos but most importantly the freedom to walk on and off the property by the residents as well as shower facilities is needed immediately. **Provide storage space** in addition to Brent Adams program.

Direct the Police Chief to **stop Sticker Warnings on RV's** under 72 hour law until 48 hours or more have passed, adopt the proposed state law's delay on any towing/booting of vehicles. **Adopt the state legislation** on no tows for expired registration. Direct the police chief to make a public statement that **vigilantism and violence against the homeless will not be tolerated** in the city of Santa Cruz. **End the sweeps** of camps. **Eliminate all past camping ban tickets and fines** as well as those from other ordinances such as no trespassing on public property, being in a closed area, being in a park after dark.