

From: [Tina Bluefield](#)
To: [Mawby, Linda](#)
Subject: Comment on PROJ-202300023, dry campsites in N. Joshua Tree
Date: Monday, November 6, 2023 12:49:40 PM

You don't often get email from tbluefield@mail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you can confirm the sender and know the content is safe.

RE: PROJ-202300023,
62076 Mercury Drive, Joshua Tree CA 92252
APN 0631-201-25 & 0631-201-60

Dear SBC LUS friends:

I am writing to urge you not to approve this proposal.

This type of project, 15 camping sites on 7.5 acres, or 5 sites per 2.5 acres does not fit in RL zoning. 2.5 acres is the size of a normal small residential parcel in this area, zoned RL, where normally a single residence is allowed.

How is it that a commercial site is allowed in RL zoning?
This is a blessedly peaceful safe neighborhood.

Already from this site, where construction began some months ago, and tents and RV's were brought in, we have had issues with gunshots at night (the Sheriff was called out twice), and many instances of loud music for many hours during the day and late at night - the kind of music with a deep boom bass vibration that carries for a long distance and makes enjoying a lovely desert evening impossible and sleeping difficult. Sound carries easily across the desert sand where there are no buildings, trees or protective hills. One night whoever was at the site set some creosote bushes on fire which fortunately did not spread. The address sign at the site currently announces : **"No Trespassing, Armed Response"**

We do not wish to have 15 campers or camping groups of strangers in our neighborhood. This unsupervised site would invite in campers who might be drinking, taking drugs, and carrying guns. If this was a permanent resident/neighbor or renter, we could talk and resolve the issue. However I would not feel safe approaching a group of strangers playing loud music and/or riding ORV's not knowing if they were intoxicated and/or had guns. I don't see anything in the project outline about building fires, which campers often assume they can do "out here in the middle of nowhere"...another thing we do not want in our neighborhood. We are not "in the middle of nowhere." This is our home.

Why would we want to bring such possibilities of danger and noise into our safe quiet residential neighborhood?

Anyone could come in with dogs who might not be on leashes and who bark at every passing coyote or unfamiliar sound; or quads and other noisy polluting off-road vehicles who could ride around disturbing the fragile desert surface and vegetation. In my experience, the owners of these vehicles often have minis and allow them to be ridden by children as young as 4 or 5; neither visiting out-of-area adults or children would have any idea how delicate the environment is or how the noise and dust might affect the full-time residents of the area. And many don't care, they see the desert as empty land as if it were a paved parking lot.

Please consider doing something about these projects that do not fit in RL zoned residential areas being give Conditional Permits so that residents and County officials have to spend time and resources again and again dealing with them. If this is a loophole in the RL zoning, let's fix it.

I am a professional artist, I live and work at home. I did not invest my savings and build here in an RL zoned area to live near a public camping site or any other commercial enterprise.

Please do not allow this unsuitable project to go forward.
Thank you for reading my comments.

Sincerely,
Tina Bluefield, full-time resident owner and tax-payer,
62175 Saturn St., North Joshua Tree
APN 0631-221-02-0-000 and APN 0631-221-07-0-0000

From: [Wendy Wacker](#)
To: [Mawby, Linda](#)
Subject: Fwd: PROJ-2023-00023
Date: Friday, November 3, 2023 4:48:31 PM

You don't often get email from wwacker3@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you can confirm the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello again,

Thanks so much and here you go:

Wendy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wendy Wacker** <wwacker3@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Nov 3, 2023 at 4:38 PM
Subject: PROJ-2023-00023
To: <anthony.deluca@lus.sbcounty.gov>

Dear Mr. DeLuca,

My name is Wendy Wacker, and I own 160 acres adjacent (due East) to the proposed 15-Site dry campground at 62076 Mercury Drive. I also own 320 acres North and just East of said property (between Moon and Reche). Those respective parcel numbers are: 0631-201-27-0-000 and 0630-311-02-0-000.

Please know I am writing to both strongly but respectfully object to this proposed project. It has been my understanding that this area is zoned for Rural Living, which is why I purchased these two properties in the first place, 10 and 5 years ago respectively, and built a house on one of them. I have 5 neighbors (in 5 homes) surrounding my property who live here year round because they (like myself) are privileged (through hard work) to be able to enjoy quiet, majestic living in this beautiful desert landscape that is home to us.

To date, the people who have been coming to camp on this proposed site have been nothing but a nuisance, and a dangerous one at that. I've had the fire department out there once because they had crossed onto my property and burned several of my creosote bushes (during the drought and at peak fire season). I've had the police out twice earlier this year (13 May & 14 May) because campers were firing pistols toward my property at night and then had walked onto my 320 acres the next day, after having been told by the police that firing guns in residential areas and on private property is illegal (not to mention lacking in common sense).

When the police came the night of the 13th, the officers explained that the men had said in their "defense" that they did not understand that firing handguns into the open desert toward peoples' homes was problematic. The very next afternoon, I, my nephew, and his girl were sitting on our patio enjoying lunch when shots rang out again. My nephew went to investigate and found them firing guns, in random directions, on my property (that is raw land to the

North). Different officers came out a second time, and the campers lied to them saying they didn't know the rules (after they'd been told the rules the night before). That they even have to be told rules re firing handguns at night (or day) in residential areas is ridiculous, but this is the kind of visitor this campground is attracting. Please know I am not in favor of gun control. I am in favor of common sense, respect, decency, and civility: none of which has been evidenced by any of the campers that have camped here during the past couple of years.

Every time they're here, the campers blast their music all night long. This entire area is open desert, and sound carries. I'm all for people being able to enjoy themselves from time to time on their property, but not when it's continual and disrupts residents' sleep and runs roughshod over residents' rights to enjoy their own property peacefully. The campers continue to cross onto my property to hang solar lights in my bushes, and I don't mean a few feet in (though that's bad enough). We've found their lighting 30 feet into my land running across the western edge of my property. My house is plainly visible from their campground such that there is no excuse.

My business partner and I are in the real estate business. We purchase raw land for residential development among other types of land investments, so I well understand business as it pertains to land and ownership thereof. However, as stated, this area is RL zoning and has long been occupied by taxpayers who live here and enjoy the lifestyle that the rural desert offers. Such a development, in this particular location, is ruinous. And, unfortunately, I've already seen, firsthand, the kind of folks this type of development attracts. I also know that at least one of my neighbors is fearful to speak up out of fear of being shot and/or retaliated against. This may seem far fetched to you, and, quite frankly, I would have thought the same until May of this year. I never conceived the possibility that I (or my nephew) could be shot while walking our own land in Joshua Tree, CA. Had we been walking the land on 14 May (this past Spring), we might well have been shot and killed; such was the way they were wielding their guns. I am now afraid to walk my own land.

Please, please, please do not let this planned development see the light of day.

I beg you.

Respectfully, Sincerely,

Wendy Wacker
Founding Partner
Kilani & Wacker, LLC

wwacker3@gmail.com
760-408-6739

45800 Vista Dorado Drive
Indian Wells, CA 92210

71947 Desert Drive
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

62300 Saturn Street
Yucca Mesa, CA 92284

Michael Henson
\$5 Pizza Place
282 Old Woman Springs Road
Yucca Valley, CA 92284

11/25/2024

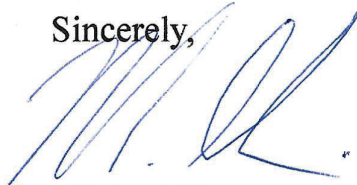
Michelle Feliciano, Luis Rodriquez, & Mark Wardlaw
San Bernardino County
Land Use Services Department
385 N. Arrowhead Ave., First Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415

ATTN: Support for PROJ-2023-00023

Dear Michelle, Luis, & Mark:

Hello, my name is Michael Henson, and I am the owner of \$5 Pizza Place in Yucca Valley, CA. I am writing to formally show my support for PROJ-2023-00023 campground development project. I have had the chance to get to know the owners, Joseph Milburn and David Lee, and am in full support of their project. They have been fantastic customers of my local business over the last few years as they have been working on their project. I believe their campground project will provide a great service for folks who visit the Joshua Tree / Yucca Valley area. Furthermore, guests staying at their campground will help our area from an economic perspective and generate revenue for my local business. As stated above, this letter is to formally show my support for PROJ-2023-00023.

Sincerely,



Michael Henson
\$5 Pizza Place

January 09, 2025

Michel Cicero
1838 Mountain Shadow Road
Joshua Tree, CA 92252

San Bernardino County
Land Use Services Department
385 N. Arrowhead Ave., First Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415

RE: Support for PROJ-2023-00023 Dry Campground Project

Luis, Michelle, Mark, Paul, Bill, Thomas, and Team-

I am writing to you today to offer my wholehearted support for PROJ-2023-00023. As a real estate broker in Joshua Tree, the current president of the Copper Mountain Mesa Community Association and former Landers representative for the San Bernardino County Municipal Advisory Council, I have a deep connection to the neighborhood where this project will be located. Having a local camping option for visiting friends and family would be providing a much-desired amenity, especially since it offers an alternative to short-term rentals—which are taking away valuable housing stock from locals. This project directly addresses that concern, and from my vantage point, it's exactly the type of project that should be supported.

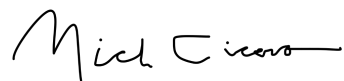
Beyond the practical benefits, this project offers something even more valuable: the opportunity for visitors to deeply connect with the natural beauty of our region. In today's fast-paced world, it's increasingly important to find moments of peace and rejuvenation in nature. Furthermore, this project provides a structured and managed environment for visitors to enjoy the natural beauty of our surroundings. This organized and regulated approach to camping will help protect our delicate desert environment while offering a safe and enjoyable experience for visitors.

Having lived, worked and served in this community for many years, I am confident that PROJ-2023-00023, the Dry Campground Project, is a well-conceived project. It will not impact the quality of life for residents, attract visitors, boost our local economy, and help preserve the natural beauty that makes our area so special.

I strongly urge you to approve this project and help us continue to build a prosperous and welcoming community for all.

I appreciate your dedication to our community and trust in your thoughtful consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michel Cicero". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michel Cicero

Ramin Mandgaryan
Dickey's BBQ Pit
58709 29 Palms HWY STE D
Yucca Valley, CA 92284

12/18/2024

San Bernardino County Land Use Services Department [Department Address]

RE: Support for PROJ-2023-00023 Dry Campground Project

Dear San Bernardino County Land Use Services Department,

I am writing to express my strong support for PROJ-2023-00023, the proposed Dry Campground Project, as a business owner in Yucca Valley. My name is Ramin Mandgaryan, and I am the owner of Dickey's BBQ Pit, located at 58709 29 Palms HWY STE D in Yucca Valley.

As a local business owner, I believe that this project will be a valuable asset to our community and will have a positive impact on our local economy. The proposed campground will provide a new and needed amenity for visitors to our beautiful region, attracting more tourism and generating revenue for local businesses like mine. Increased tourism will translate to more customers for restaurants, shops, and other services, boosting the overall economic health of Yucca Valley and the surrounding areas.

I also want to personally vouch for the project owner, Joseph Milburn. Mr. Milburn has been a loyal and valued customer of Dickey's BBQ Pit for the past few years. He is a responsible individual with a clear vision for this project, and I am confident that he will operate the campground in a way that benefits the community and respects the environment.

In addition to the economic benefits, the Dry Campground Project will provide a designated space for visitors to enjoy the natural beauty of our area responsibly. This will help preserve the natural landscape while offering a managed and organized experience for campers.

I believe that PROJ-2023-00023 is a well-planned project that will be a great for the local economy, promote tourism, and offer a needed amenity for visitors. I urge you to approve this project and help us continue to build a thriving community in Yucca Valley.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Ramin Mandgaryan Owner, Dickey's BBQ Pit Yucca Valley, CA

December 05, 2024

Murad Eissa
4235 Center Avenue
Joshua Tree, CA 92252

San Bernardino County
Land Use Services Department
385 N. Arrowhead Ave., First Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415

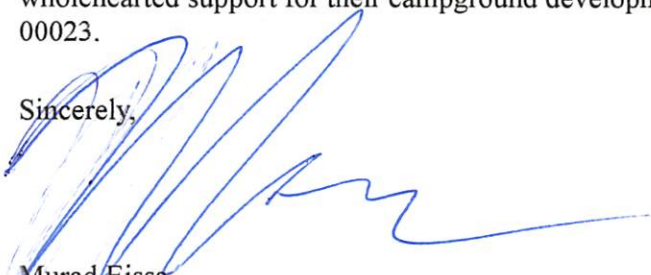
ATTN: Local Joshua Tree Resident support for PROJ-2023-00023.

San Bernardino County Land Use Services Department:

Hi, my name is Murad Eissa, and I am a local Joshua Tree resident that owns property in close proximity to PROJ-2023-00023. I wanted to write a formal letter in support of PROJ-2023-00023. I met the owners of the project David and Joseph literally right when they bought their land and started this project. We met in downtown Joshua Tree, and I could tell right away they were good guys. They told me about their project and since my land is located just down the road from their land, I came out to see their place the following day. I immediately thought their campground project was a great idea and have been out to their place many times over the last few years. I often have friends ask me where a great place is to camp that is close to my property, and I currently do not have a good place to send them. Our area needs a campground like PROJ-2023-00023. David and Joseph have a wonderful vision, and I believe their campground will be unique offering in the area. I love the fact that they are planning to have a quiet, simple, beautiful offering that is near Joshua Tree National Park, Joshua Tree town, and all the other towns and attractions in the area. I would also like to add that both my kids love going over to their land and keep pestering me asking when they will be open for guests as they want to camp there with their friends. Once they are open and ready for guests my son wants to have his birthday there camping with his friends. In addition to formally supporting PROJ-2023-00023 I would also like to make character reference for Joseph Milburn and David Lee. I now have known them for around three years and in that time, I have come to really respect them. They are hard working and honest men that I would like to vouch for. I believe they are great members of our local community and will do everything they can to make sure this project is a good addition to the local community.

With all that being said, I want to formally be on the record voicing my wholehearted support for their campground development project PROJ-2023-00023.

Sincerely,



Murad Eissa
4235 Center Avenue
Joshua Tree, CA 92252

12/4/2024

John Hicks
APN# 0631-201-61
Joshua Tree, CA 92252

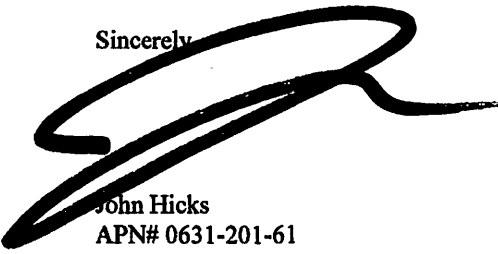
Luis Rodriquez - Mark Wardlaw - Michelle Feliciano
San Bernardino County
Land Use Services Department
385 N. Arrowhead Ave., First Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415

ATTN: Voicing my support for PROJ-2023-00023 & Joseph Milburn / David Lee

Dear Luis Rodriquez, Mark Wardlaw, Michelle Feliciano-

Good afternoon folks, my name is John Hicks, and I am the owner of APN# 0631-201-61 adjacent to PROJ-2023-00023. This letter is to formally show my support for this campground project. I feel as though it will bring good value to the area and offer a much-needed service to people visiting Joshua Tree and the surrounding area. The owners of the project, Joseph and David, have a deep appreciation for the local area, and I really like their idea of a minimalist campground that is in harmony with the original landscape and environment. I also like the fact that they will have formal rules and regulations that will keep things in nice order when guests are visiting. In summation, this letter is to formally show my support of PROJ-2023-00023.

Sincerely,



John Hicks
APN# 0631-201-61