

Although I am not as directly impacted as those of you living on the adjacent property, the proposal is something with which I strongly disagree. The shops on Avenida de la Playa were intended to service the surrounding neighborhoods. There used to be a nice balance between visitor, tourist, and resident. That is no longer the case. All the shops are there to attract visitors-high priced restaurants, kayak, bike, and swimwear shops for the cruise ship crowds and out of town tourists. While we in the area may occasionally go to one of the restaurants, we are not the majority of their customers.

The restaurants were given the privilege of using the public street for outdoor seating during a major international health crisis. We even agreed to allow them to close a portion of the street entirely. That crisis has passed! They did not acquire an "easement" or right to use the parking spaces on the public streets indefinitely. This usurpation of the street and spaces makes it very inconvenient for visitors and residents to get to the beach or home. This blatant attempt to gain public rights of way for personal use is akin to the old saw of a "defendant who murdered his parents and then throws himself on the mercy of the court because he is an orphan!" Chutzpah! Nerve!

The de minimus payments suggested for the taking of public property is hardly a serious proposal. What is the real worth of taking a public street? Millions? If the proposed parking on La Jolla Shores goes through then millions should be required in reparation payment to be invested in La Jolla Shores

Finally, La Jolla Shores Drive is a narrow two lane road (one lane in each direction). The area in question is a tremendous choke point for those who work in the many institutes along upper La Jolla Shores Drive and attempt to reach Torrey Pines Rd. for freeway access. Adding more parking along the Drive would add frustration to employees, make it harder for residents to get to their homes, and yes delay emergency vehicles and police. I tried to call the police on a busy Sunday after an enraged person was beating on my car hood (with me in the car). I was able to get away and saw the police car stuck in bumper to bumper traffic on La Jolla Shores Drive!

There is NO good reason to make the neighborhood more congested, more course, more commercial for the benefit of a few privately owned restaurants.

Let's bring back a bit of balance that acknowledges that residents have rights equal to visitors and businesses.

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