

Appeal of Steven Kasower vs City)
of Sacramento Planning Commis-)
sion's approval of a Special)
Permit to allow an Outpatient)
Opiate Detoxification Center)
at 1708 Q Street. P-9423)

NOTICE OF DECISION
AND
FINDINGS OF FACT

At its regular meeting of September 15, 1981, the City Council heard and considered evidence in the above-entitled matter. Based on the oral and documentary evidence at such hearing, the Council denied the appeal and approved the Special Permit to allow the Opiate Detoxification Center subject to the following conditions and findings of fact:

Conditions

1. The applicant shall submit a report to the City Council after 12 months of operation. The report shall include a review of the overall operation of the facility and indicate any problems associated with the operation of the facility at this location.
2. If the lease for the adjacent parking lot to the west expires, the facility shall cease its operation.
3. Criteria shall be developed by the Central City Advisory Committee to help locate these types of facilities in the future.

Findings

1. The project is based upon sound principles of land use in that the subject use is compatible with other permitted uses in the neighborhood.
2. The project will not be injurious to the surrounding properties in that:
 - a. the project will not significantly increase the on-street parking demand because parking will be provided by lease agreement on the adjacent property to the west;
 - b. the approved use will not significantly alter the character of the area.
3. The existing area is characterized with mixed land uses (industrial, commercial, and residential). Therefore, the project complies with a sub-goal of the 1980 Central City Plan which states:
"Provide for the location of social rehabilitation facilities in such a manner so as not to have a detrimental impact on residential neighborhoods."

ATTEST:

FILED
By the City Council
Office of the City Clerk

Cont 40
10-13-81

MAYOR
APPROVED
BY THE CITY COUNCIL

OCT 13 1981

CITY CLERK SEP 29 1981

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CITY OF SACRAMENTO

SEP 23 2 21 PM '81

September 28, 1981

City Council
City Hall
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Council:

I would like to address this presentation to the issue of allowing the Bi-Valley Methadone Program for heroin addicts to take up clinical residency in the same building which has been solely occupied by the Sacramento Alcoholism Treatment Center for almost eight (8) years.

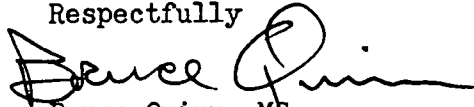
Only recently did I become aware of this plan when it was reported in the newspaper and on television two weeks ago. I was especially disturbed in light of my own participation as a client at the Alcoholism Center and awareness as a Mental Health Counselor with experience in drug abuse. No notice of such plans had been published ahead so that as a client I did not have a chance to voice my opinions in the previous hearing. I am grateful now to have this opportunity to do so.

I am personally and professionally opposed to the placing of a methadone treatment program in such close proximity to an alcohol treatment center. Total abstinence from alcohol and other addictive drugs is the prevailing philosophy at 1708 Q Street. To inject a treatment program under the same roof, which at the same time substitutes another addictive drug as the major philosophical mode, seems to me a serious conflict. Both philosophies have merit in their own setting, but placing them both in such close quarters is counter productive, and very discouraging especially for those struggling to be drug free. It is also well known that many heroin users turn to alcohol immediately after quitting heroin. It would just be an extra strain on present clients at the Alcoholism Center when methadone clients enter the building with alcohol in their system.

Another issue of serious concern is the population already being served at the Alcoholism Center. Many children and teen-agers come each week to the Center for group, individual and family therapy. These people come from all over Sacramento County. Many of them would be ill at ease knowing of the probable concentration of heroin users, many of whom have made it a practice to procure their drug in a multitude of anti-social activities and criminal acts. Parents would think twice before sending their children and teen-agers as they currently feel free to do.

Taking the foregoing into consideration, please acknowledge this request to make it possible for both programs to continue to exist, but at separate locations.

Respectfully


Bruce Quinn, MS

28 September 1981 12

City Council Members

For 13 1/2 years I was staff nurse at the Alcoholism Center. I am writing this statement because I am most concerned and disturbed about the possibility of adding a methadone program to the existing alcoholism treatment center at 1708 G St. The treatment for alcoholism at the center since 1966 has been effective and unique in restoring many alcoholic persons to productive citizenship!

This center has a very special family orientation aspect to it in that counselling is provided to family members of the alcoholic, including children. Among school children who are in the building, waiting for a parent or parent who are having a counselling session or group therapy. Children are also excused from their school class for an appointment with the counselor here at the center. I wonder if the presence of heroin addicts might have a negative effect on the children?

I fear that if the methadone program is added to the existing program for alcoholism, it (the alcoholism program) will be severely restricted or diluted and eventually give way to the treatment of heroin addicts only. Many alcoholic persons will be reluctant to seek help from a center that also treats persons addicted to an illegal drug. The stigma attached to having facilities with heroin addicts will keep many alcoholics from seeking treatment at the Sacramento Alcoholism Center at 1708 G St.

Sincerely,
Janette A. Gilbertson, R.N.
9360 Blue Oak Dr.
Orangevale, Calif. 95662

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SEP 29 12 03 PM '81

12
4161-Newcastle Rd.
Sacramento, CA 95838
October 6, 1981

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Sacramento City Council
Sacramento City Hall
Sacramento, CA 95814

OCT 13 1981

AM PM
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Dear Council Members,

My name is Sharon Jessup and I am a graduate of the school of Social Work at CSUS and am presently enrolled in the graduate program in the school of Education Counseling. I saw on television that you plan to put the methadone treatment center in the Sacramento Alcoholism Center at 1708 Q St. I oppose that plan. Having been counseled at the Alcoholism Center as a spouse of an alcoholic, I am familiar with its policies. One major policy is that no client is to come to the center under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The methadone treatment is in direct contradiction to that policy. That program has its clients going there for a drug, not to stop the dependence.

I have another concern. I know very well the types of people who hang around a drug treatment program. I have a 7-year old son who is in counseling at the center in the early afternoon. I will not continue taking him there with those kinds of people hanging around.

One last point, I have done volunteer counseling through Narcotics Anonymous and I know that often heroin addicts use alcohol when they can't get heroin. I feel that having addicts

around the Alcoholism Center who have alcohol in their systems,
would be a very negative influence on the alcoholics who are
trying to break a dependence. I feel that the methadone program
would go better in a place where it would not have such a
negative impact on the existing program.

Thank you,

Sharon L. Jessup

Sharon L. Jessup

October 7, 1981
6509 Greentown Dr
Sacramento Ca 95831

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Sacramento City Council
City Hall
Sacramento Ca 95814

Dear Council:

I am a client at the Sacramento Alcoholic Center and I am very distressed to learn that the methadone treatment program is being moved into the same building as we.

I am now living my life completely free of all mind altering drugs and feel very adverse to having to come in contact in any way with people who are existing on drugs.

I feel I will not be a client of the Sacramento Alcoholic Center if the methadone treatment program moves in.

Sincerely,

Gertude K. La Monica

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CITY OF SACRAMENTO

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

915 I STREET
CITY HALL ROOM 203

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814
TELEPHONE (916) 449-5428

LORRAINE MAGANA
CITY CLERK

October 14, 1981

Steven Kasower
1720 "Q" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Kasower:

On October 13, 1981, the Sacramento City Council adopted the enclosed Findings of Fact which denied your appeal of the City Planning Commission's approval of a Special Permit to expand a treatment facility by 50 patients to include out-patient opiate detoxification clinic in the R-O Zone, located at 1708 "Q" Street.

Sincerely,


Lorraine Magana
City Clerk

LM/mm/12
Enclosure

cc: Planning Department
Bi-Valley Medical Clinic, Inc.
Ted Caldwell