

To: The Board of Supervisors  
Mendocino County California

I have become aware of Martha Barra's petition to your Board to delay taking action to purchase the Best Western Motel at 555 Orchard Ave. in Ukiah as a "Turnkey" facility until adequate public input is allowed. I strongly agree that the purchase would be a long-term mistake for the future of Ukiah and that input from citizens would overwhelmingly support this view.

This is not so much a "Not in My Backyard" opinion, but that the location is situated in a part of our city where positive tax generating businesses should be located. To relegate this and neighboring properties to this purpose would simply be poor planning. There are other properties, recently purchased, that would serve just as well and are nearer other current services. There is considerable appropriate housing currently being constructed within the city, as well.

Further, our existing community agencies have a very poor track record of managing the facilities we already have. You should not commit the county to another "Project" without a plan and that appears to be what is happening. Start with an RFP and lay solid groundwork first.

The prospect of available, large funding should not cloud good judgment. There is no "Rush" to do this, or anything else, except to hold current management of homeless services accountable. One only needs to look around our city and especially at the condition of current facilities to see the inadequacy of existing management practices.

Please delay taking action until members our community have had the opportunity to fully share their views on a matter of such grave importance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Larry Olson  
Ukiah, CA 95482

"With integrity, you have nothing to fear, since you have nothing to hide. With integrity, you will do the right thing, so you will have no guilt." **Zig Ziglar**