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**Sent:** Monday, April 15, 2019 8:25 AM

**To:** Deborah Lopez <[dlopez@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:dlopez@cityofgoleta.org)>; Anne Wells <[awells@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:awells@cityofgoleta.org)>; bernie donner <[berniedonner@cox.net](mailto:berniedonner@cox.net)>

**Subject:** RV parking

To whom it may concern:

We are writing to you in favor of the RV parking ordinance as posted on Feb 13, 2019, and as outlined below. I believe that by asking residents to park their operational RV on a gravel/paved surface within the front setback, as long as it doesn't project into the public right-of-way, is a sound decision that allows for us to maintain our vehicle on our property, in a way that is considerate of the surrounding neighborhood.

The summary of the RV parking section in the February draft ordinances states:

17.38.070 Location of Required Parking

A. Residential Uses.

Trailers and Recreational Vehicle Parking/Storage. Trailers and recreational vehicles may be parked/stored in any setback area, subject to the following provisions:

- a. The trailer or recreational vehicle must not project into the public right-of-way at any time.
- b. The trailer or recreational vehicle must be operable and have a current year's registration for operation on public streets.
- c. The trailer or recreational vehicle must not be occupied for living purposes.
- d. The trailer or recreational vehicle must be parked on a paved or gravel surface.
- e. Access is provided via a City-approved driveway approach along the street frontage.
- f. The trailer or recreational vehicle may only be parked or stored within the front setback where there is no existing driveway or other access to another portion of the property that can accommodate the trailer or recreational vehicle.

Reading this, it seems that I may keep my RV in my side driveway area, assuming it complies with what is stated. I spoke at a planning commission meeting in February of 2016 on this topic, as well.

My husband and I bought a home in Goleta particularly because we were storing our camping trailer in Oxnard while living in Santa Barbara. Our home in Santa Barbara did not accommodate our trailer, which was a hardship for us, travelling about an hour to go get our trailer in order to even plan to leave on a trip. Back in 2004, it was costing us \$70 per month to store our trailer in Oxnard.

When we were looking for a new home in 2005, one huge criteria for us was finding a home where we could store our camping trailer. This was as a convenience for us, as well as a way to save monthly fees. Luckily we were able to find a lovely home that met all our needs.

An additional benefit to having our camping trailer at home was apparent to us during the Gap Fire, because we could prepare to evacuate and also provide for ourselves during a local emergency such as this. Having recreational vehicles in home driveways would alleviate some of the burden that the City might need to provide for its citizens in a future emergency.

My husband and I walk through our neighborhood at least twice daily as we walk our dog. I see RV's and boats parked in driveways for the homes that have them. They do not block the sidewalks or public access. In fact, most of the RV's I see are carefully stored.

If there are problems with a particular homeowner or RV, I imagine a "nuisance clause" of some sort would allow for problems to be addressed as they arise, rather than making the rules more restrictive for everyone—which will unfairly impact the many citizens of Goleta who are not creating a nuisance with their RVs.

Thank you,

Laura and Bernie Donner

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