

From: [Michael Fogelman](#)
To: [Haddon, Stacey](#)
Subject: "No Overnight Parking" in the Industrial Park
Date: Monday, May 1, 2023 10:19:18 AM

To the members of the Lompoc City Council,

My wife and I own Sweetzer Cellars, which has a tasting room on N. 9th Street behind the Home Depot. We have witnessed firsthand the proliferation of overnight parking in the last few years, and along with it trash, theft, and conflict. We are writing to offer our support to ban overnight parking on 9th Street and Industrial Way in Lompoc.

Lisa and I are always at the tasting room when it is open (Fri-Sun), and we have always felt sympathy for, and a willingness to co-exist with, those less fortunate than we are. However, in the last year especially, we watch in dismay as the trash piles up on the street, men and women sleep drunk in the street or in our parking lot (a woman had to be taken away by ambulance last weekend), our trash and recycling bins are stolen or dumped in the parking lot (we chased away someone who was calmly walking away with our recycling bin three weekends ago at 5:30pm on Sunday). We've witnessed angry and at times violent interactions between the owners of the trucks, and on the occasions when we're in the tasting room working in the evening we hear the commotion that goes on in the parking lot behind us as the businesses close and individuals pick through the trash or look for what they might steal.

Again, our hearts go out to these people while at the same time growing tired of explaining to our customers what the situation is and finding ourselves advocating for Lompoc, which we truly have grown to love. But it feels like only a matter of time before another camper blows up, maybe this time during the day with people nearby, or the increasingly hostile interactions grow violent.

And, as I'm sitting in the tasting room on Saturday before we open, a woman pushing a trash-filled shopping cart and screaming loudly is making her second pass in the parking lot. Unfortunately, she screamed at a car that was slowing down to see if we were open. The car drove off quickly. The woman makes an appearance almost every weekend.

We understand that a lot of the problem does not stem from the cars, vans, and campers that park overnight. But cleaning up the streets seems to be a solid first step towards making the park a more attractive and pleasant place for business and tourists. We hope the Lompoc City Council can see to it to help the businesses struggling to make a go of it have one less thing to worry about by taking the simple measure of banning overnight parking.

Thank you for hearing us out, and for all the work you do on our behalves,

Michael Fogelman/Lisa Liberati
Sweetzer Cellars