

[EXTERNAL] use permit PLN23-0168

david george <davidgeorge542000@yahoo.com>

Sun 5/28/2023 4:41 AM

To: Brian McGuire <bmcguire@alamedaca.gov>;

To Brian McGuire: The use of the Patio @1304 Lincoln Ave. is OK by me.

Thanks! David George

[1314 Lincoln Ave. Alameda, CA. 94501.](#)

[EXTERNAL] Written comment for Monday June 5, 2:00 zoning meeting

Neila vonEssen <neila.vonessen@yahoo.com>

Mon 6/5/2023 10:24 AM

To: Brian McGuire <bmcguire@alamedaca.gov>;

Categories: Public Comment

Dear Brian McGuire,

In regards to the PLN16-0107- request by Micheal Thanos for a use permit for the business 'Forbidden Island', we ask that you vote NO on this permit.

We are some of the immediate neighbors of the Forbidden Island, and live directly behind it, as do several other residences. We have read the proposal for permit that paints the impact on our neighborhood by the Forbidden Island in glowing terms, but we as the actual residents who have to live with the reality of the impact, experience something vastly different. The Forbidden Island has consistently shown the least regard for their impact on this neighborhood. On the contrary, several times requests to lower noise have been ignored. For the business and its customers, our neighborhood is a place to party, and blow off steam and then return to their own nice quiet neighborhoods, where they expect civility and quiet. Our street parking is flooded by their customers. We've had our sidewalks streaked with vomit, bottles or cups left on our curbs. and loud conversations carried on outside our windows at night. In short, the establishment plays no integral part in our neighborhood.

In addition, it is our understanding from the proposal that 9 parking spaces are supposed to be provided by the bar. The parking lot has rarely been used for parking, but for special events and customer use. During the lockdown Forbidden Island was allowed to use their parking space as a patio, as it was an indulgence granted at the good graces of the city to help a business stay afloat ...now that indulgence is petitioned to be the new normal and codified; this seems to be an abuse of the generosity of the neighbors and the city. Why is this allowed?

This lack of parking does impact or neighborhood, and judging by our experience, many of the patrons travel by car. The parking lot they wish to turn into a patio is surrounded on three sides by residential homes, and our backyards are no longer ours, they have become an extension against our will to Forbidden Island. We can no longer go in our backyards and relax, garden, entertain, without having to listen to the endless tapes of their music, which their staff, until 2 weeks ago, cranked up at 3:00 PM, not 5:00PM. Whether we want to or not we have to be subjected to being in their party. For us peace and quiet is the "special event". Forbidden Island has held movie screenings, had live music in the parking lots, and set up booths to trade merchandise in the parking lot...in none of these special events have they shown the least regard for the noise they created or how it affected the neighbors. Why should we expect Micheal Thanos to regard us now?

From Forbidden Island's past behavior there has been nothing to suggest that if given this permit, they and their customers would be responsible neighbors....The assessment of this permit does not mention any negative impact in at all. Because of the impact of noise, parking congestion, and the history of Forbidden Island's lack of concern about the neighborhood, we ask you to vote NO on giving a use permit to Micheal Thanos.Please do not allow the generosity extended during the lockdown to be the Trojan

horse to usurp the protections put in place in the past. Vote NO to ensure the quality of life for the residents of our neighborhood.

Sincerely,
Chuck and Neila Willow