

There are currently a large number of recreational vehicles, cars and other vehicles parked overnight in the parking lot of Hs Lordships Restaurant at 199 Seawall Drive in the Berkeley Marina. These vehicles relocated to the Hs Lordships lot on May 28, 2018 after they received Public Notice from City of Berkeley staff that they must relocate due to planned construction work. Many of these vehicles were parked for an extended period of time on a stretch of Marina Boulevard across from the DoubleTree Hotel.

The occupants of these vehicles include families including children enrolled in the Berkeley Unified School District, people who are employed but cannot afford the rising cost of housing, and other unsheltered persons. An intentional community has been formed at the Hs Lordships Parking lot of vehicle campers. Many of the campers were previously housed and were displaced and cannot afford current Berkeley rents.

Berkeley and the entire Bay Area region is facing a homelessness crisis. According to unofficial estimates there are over 1,000 homeless individuals in the City of Berkeley, the majority of whom are unsheltered. With unaffordable housing, people are looking for alternative forms of shelter. A growing number of recreational vehicles and cars are found parked overnight on Berkeley streets and in the Waterfront. Vehicular camping has fewer impacts on the surrounding community than tent encampments. With portable restrooms and garbage, the City can maintain basic sanitation at this encampment. The City Council on June 26, 2018 by adoption of the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Update allocated \$400,000 for Sanitation at Encampments and addressing Illegal Dumping. Funding from this allocation can provide sanitation services at the Hs Lordships Parking Lot for campers and members of the public.

Also at the June 26, 2018 City Council meeting, the Councilmembers discussed a proposal from Councilmembers Davila, Harrison and Mayor Arreguin "Budget Referral for creation of a "vehicle dweller park" in Berkeley". This item requested that the City Manager identify a location to create a "Vehicle Dweller Park" with sanitation services, and social services. Council did not adopt this item but expressed great interest in identifying a location for the vehicle campers at Hs Lordships and other campers to safely park their vehicles. This is not a new model. The U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs [recently opened](#) a vehicle park in Los Angeles. The Council requested that the Mayor lead an informal task force to work with staff on finding a location for vehicle dweller parking.

Yet despite this direction, on June 28, 2018 City of Berkeley staff issued a Public Notice to "Persons Lodging/Camping at the Hs Lordships Parking Lot" informing them that they were in violation of State Penal Code Section 647(e) "Lodging on Public Property", B.M.C. Section 6.20.260 "Camping Prohibited" because "City maintenance, construction, and improvement activities are scheduled to take place at this location". The notice stated that "However, absent voluntary compliance, failure to comply may result in citations and arrest. Arrested individuals may be booked into Berkeley jail or Santa Rita jail in appropriate circumstances". The notice requested that individuals move their vehicles immediately and leave the location.

Another factor in the issuance of this notice is the upcoming Fourth of July Festival at the Berkeley Marina. In past years, the contractor Lisa Bullwinkel was required to maintain paid parking lots including at the Hs Lordships lot. It is the City's intention to convert the Hs Lordships Lot to a paid parking lot on July 4, 2018. Individuals will be required to pay a fee

