

**From:** [Jones & Terwilliger Galleries](#)  
**To:** [CouncilMeeting Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Please discontinue "Lupine Plaza"  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 2:21:05 PM

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Dear City Council,

I purchased a home in Palm Desert because I like my job. I have a career as the Director of Jones & Terwilliger Galleries, located on the corner of Lupine and El Paseo, kitty-corner to CODA. Vehemently oppose the construction of Lupine Plaza. Voting to DISCONTINUE THE PROJECT. Please discontinue the Lupine Plaza project, which has been a 100% tone-deaf approach to the future of El Paseo. Please don't disrupt commerce on El Paseo -- we operate on a short season! We are mostly women-owned and operated small businesses with a strong clientele of repeat business. We love our free parking in front of our business for our clients. We love that our clients can walk down El Paseo without clutching their purses. El Paseo is infamously used in the morning for early-rising walkers, and also in the evening because SO MANY PEOPLE, INCLUDING YOUNG PEOPLE, TELL ME ITS SAFER TO WALK DOWN EL PASEO AT NIGHT THAN PALM SPRINGS.

The dumpster that our building 73-375 El Paseo uses is disrupted EVERY DAY by homeless...tearing apart trash bags, pulling out anything that resembles a cushion, using discarded crates as shelters. There is a young woman who works at Savory Spice who will not park in the parking lot designated for employees because she fears for her safety.

Lupine plaza is on the "sunny side" of the street. On a warm day, it's not the comfortable side of the street to walk on. It is not a location for pedestrian repose. It is an attraction for vagrant activity. We watched the Lupine Plaza "pop-up" in 2020 operate WITHOUT A HEALTH CODE. Bartenders serving drinks without running water. . "Wine and Dine, Safely"? Atrocious tag-line. Why would you invite people to "wine and dine" on an unfriendly side of the street in the hot desert? Why would you compete with hard-working and long-standing business owners on El Paseo?

Have you talked with Patrick Klein, who's restrooms at the Gardens are the only supposed "public" restrooms on El Paseo, as soon as they open at 7am, it is flooded with homeless traffic and takes a cleaning crew every hour to maintain?

People who relax on El Paseo, do so by supporting commerce, enjoying a coffee at Il Sogno or having lunch at a restaurant.

Bizarre that this project is still being discussed at the same time the city is reducing and eliminating the dining decks restaurant owners funded. Let the businesses operate El Paseo.

Sincerely,  
Crystal Curtis  
Palm Desert tax payer and El Paseo business operator.  
[REDACTED]

Jones & Terwilliger Galleries  
73-375 El Paseo, Suite A

Palm Desert, CA.

<http://www.jones-terwilliger-galleries.com/>

**From:** [Somer](#)  
**To:** [CouncilMeeting Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Lupine Plaza  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 11:56:44 AM

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As an owner of a store that will be affected by this, I want it on record that I am completely opposed to Lupine Plaza. During Covid, when the temporary setup was made, we had countless homeless people camping there. Even during store hours, the homeless lingered and people would come into our store to hide. We also received constant complaints about the lack of parking and how awful that area was. There are already plenty of places for people to sit and dine in front of the restaurant of their choice and this is a waste of our tax dollars. As was the paint that was done on the roads, the swirly bike stands and rods out in the road and then it was all put back to normal because the mistake was realized after the fact.

As you can see from the San Pablo/Hwy 111 that has been redone to supposedly make our city nicer, it has turned it into a trashy area where the homeless camp all day and night. More waste of taxpayers' dollars.

So again, for the record, I am completely opposed.

Sincerely,

Sonia Stewart  
4 Seasons Swimwear

**From:** [Michael Fiacco](#)  
**To:** [CouncilMeeting Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Lupine Plaza  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 10:31:13 AM  
**Attachments:** [signature icon.png](#)

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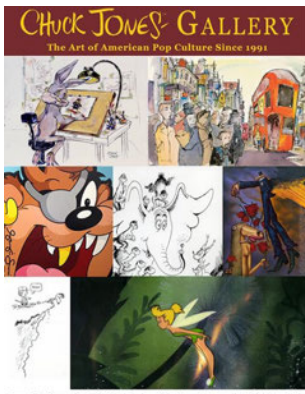
Hello,

As a Palm Desert resident and seasonal El Paseo merchant, I support the Lupine Plaza project wholeheartedly. I really wish it would become a permanent pedestrian plaza. But at least adding the proposed amenities will improve the corridor immensely. I say GO FOR IT!

Thank you.

Best,  
Michael Fiacco

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**Michael Fiacco**  
Director of Special Exhibitions  
Chuck Jones Gallery Palm Desert (thru April 2024)  
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