

Novato homeless camp restrictions take effect Friday

By [Will Houston](#) | whouston@marinij.com |

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<https://www.marinij.com/2021/07/09/novato-homeless-camp-restrictions-take-effect/>

















Approved in June, two ordinances set limits on where homeless residents can set up camp on public lands and bans daytime camping.

Anthony Prince, lead organizer and general counsel for the California Homeless Union said the group intends to file an injunction in the U.S. District Court of Northern California to prevent the city from enforcing the rules that it argues are unconstitutional and violate federal case law protecting a person's right to sleep.

"The city of Novato will be creating a danger that does not otherwise exist," Prince said.

"Exposure to heat, exposure to the elements, exposure to COVID – all of those risks will be exacerbated if these ordinances are enforced."

The focus of the new camping ordinances is Lee Gerner Park, an encampment that grew during the pandemic. Park residents have dubbed their community "Camp Compassion."

Federal guidelines prohibit communities from dispersing such encampments to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Additionally, federal case law established in 2018 in the case *Martin v. Boise* prohibits public agencies from banning people from sleeping on public lands if there is not adequate shelter space available nearby.

However, Novato's legal staff said the appellate court ruling in the *Martin v. Boise* case allows communities to enact reasonable restrictions on camping as long as it does not ban camping entirely.

The city's ordinances limit restrictions on camping to areas near or on facilities deemed "critical infrastructure" including schools, government buildings, libraries, playgrounds, utility equipment, evacuation routes and other areas. The rules apply similar restrictions to creeks and

streams such as Novato Creek, which runs through the park and which critics say has been polluted by the Lee Gerner Park encampment. Violators could be charged with a misdemeanor. While the two ordinances took effect Friday, the city is not enforcing them. Enforcement is only allowed once the federal guidelines on encampments are lifted or if the county has vaccinated at least 90% of residents ages 16 and up and vaccines are available to the homeless.

So far, the county has vaccinated about 85% of this age group, according to Laine Hendricks, a county spokesperson.

City Manager Adam McGill said the city is monitoring the vaccination rates and federal guidelines. However, he said no enforcement is expected to take place before the City Council's consideration of [new homeless housing programs](#) on Tuesday.

The city in partnership with homeless services organization Homeward Bound of Marin is proposing to provide shelter for 15 homeless residents at the organization's New Beginnings Center in Hamilton. The residents would be provided food, case management assistance, medical services, job placement and training and eventually transitional or permanent housing through housing vouchers.

"It's unlikely any enforcement even if able to do so will occur prior to council action Tuesday night as any enforcement we do we want coupled with a strategic and thoughtful housing plan for those at Lee Gerner Park and other city encampments," McGill wrote in an email. "When one of the conditions is met the city will act when it logistically makes the most sense from a resource perspective including the resources of our many partners who will assist in outreach at Lee Gerner Park and other encampments."

At the park on Friday, camp residents marked the new restrictions taking effect by barbecuing hot dogs, hamburgers and chicken in protest. The city's rules do not allow use of non-city barbecues in public areas near protected critical infrastructure and waterways.

"It just lets the city know we're calling them out on their bluff and we know they can't enforce misdemeanors," said Jason Sarris, a resident living in Lee Gerner Park and member of the California Homeless Union.

The rules have caused duress among residents, especially the daytime camping ban, which would require residents to pack up all of their belongings and move them from the park, Sarris said. As for Sarris, he said he has no plans to leave the park.

"If it's day or night, I'm not moving in the name of *Martin v. Boise*," Sarris said.

July 16 News Round-Up

Residents of "Camp Compassion", the homeless encampment in Lee Gerner Park, along with housing activists, are seeking an injunction against the City of Novato's recent steps towards disassembling the camp and cracking down on daytime camping.

Recently, city officials approved a 4-step action plan to address homelessness, with the ultimate goal to provide interim housing for residents of the encampment. In the first step, Novato will prohibit all day camping between the hours of 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. in city jurisdiction, and overnight camping within 50 feet of "critical infrastructure" like government buildings, utility facilities, train stations and water sources.

Novato is also investing \$240,000 to hire more case managers and work with nonprofit Homeward Bound of Marin for immediate housing, food, job placement and other services. Priority is given to those at Camp Compassion, but accepting services are voluntary.

In a press release, city officials said these actions are crucial per preserve Lee Gerner Park as a place "that everyone can enjoy."

The city says that the ordinances will not "criminalize homelessness", force people to go into housing or eliminate the encampment, so long as it keeps its distance from Novato Creek and the library, according to their website. City staff have already put down 50-foot buffers at Lee Gerner Park to identify where the camp residents can reside at night.

Those who continue to camp near critical infrastructure or dayamp will be "subject to enforcement of the ordinances which may include arrest," the city's press release reads.

Camp Compassion residents and the Novato Chapter of the California Homeless Union feel these actions are more of a threat than ample resources. In their filed lawsuit, they argue that these policies are specifically targeted against those in Lee Gerner Park, and the homeless population in Novato as a whole.

The group also alleges that these policies will increase the risk of harm, especially the ordinance to prohibit day camping, as homeless individuals will have to frequently move around the city if they cannot find shelter.

<https://www.marinij.com/2021/07/15/novato-council-adopts-plan-to-shelter-homeless/>

Novato council adopts plan to shelter homeless

City funds 15 new shelter beds to help some at Lee Garner Park



Jason Sarris at Lee Gerner Park in Novato, Calif., on Wednesday, June 9, 2021. He lives in the park with other campers. (Sherry LaVars/Marin Independent Journal)

By [Will Houston](#) | whouston@marinij.com |

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The city of Novato has funded 15 new shelter beds for homeless residents with a priority on housing campers in the city's largest encampment at Lee Gerner Park.

The City Council voted unanimously this week to partner with Homeward Bound of Marin homeless services and shelter organization, which will provide the new shelter beds at its New Beginnings Center in Hamilton and its Kerner Boulevard location in San Rafael. The homeless residents will be provided various services including job training, food assistance, medical services, drug and mental health treatment and a potential connection to housing vouchers. The city will use \$148,000 in federal stimulus dollars from the American Rescue Plan to fund the program for the next six months. Homeward Bound will continue sheltering individuals after that time and the City Council can consider extending the contract, said City Manager Adam McGill.

"We do believe we can accommodate near everyone at the Lee Gerner Park site," McGill told the City Council on Tuesday.

Novato is seeking to distinguish itself from how other Marin communities, such as San Rafael and Sausalito, have responded to homeless encampments. Earlier this month, the city of San Rafael, with the aid of state agencies, cleared a homeless encampment under Highway 101 and [relocated it to a sanctioned camping area](#). Sausalito [cleared out a homeless encampment at Dunphy Park](#) in late June and created its own sanctioned camping area at Marinship Park.

In contrast, Novato's program would provide "real apartments and real beds and three square meals a day and under a real roof in their own community in Novato," McGill told the City Council.

The city also set aside \$12,000 in federal stimulus dollars to provide temporary storage for homeless residents' possessions.

Jason Sarris, a Lee Gerner Park resident, said camp residents have been subjected to harassment and intense public scrutiny this year. He equated it to living in a "fish bowl" as people and police have come through and taken video and photos.

"You've let these residents fester on this, you've let these people froth at the mouth to get us out of the park when you knew the whole time that we were allowed to be here," Sarris told the council.

Sarris was among several local homeless residents who attended a council meeting on Tuesday to protest the city's recently adopting camping rules, which limit where they can sleep on public lands. While he said he appreciated the city offering more shelter beds, they will not be enough to help all the residents in the park.

"It's not enough to get everyone off the streets of Novato and I think it's a little too late," Sarris told the council. "I think it's something you're trying to do to help you guys in litigation."

Craig McCurdy, whose optometry practice is located next to Lee Gerner Park, voiced strong support for the new shelter program.

"This is a shining example of thinking outside the box by our city leadership and a win-win solution for our homeless and our citizens of Novato," McCurdy told the council.

The shelter program is the city's latest strategy to address homeless encampments such as at Lee Gerner Park that grew during the coronavirus pandemic.

In June, the City Council approved [new restrictions](#) that limit daytime camping on public land.

The rules also ban camping and related activities within 50 feet of creeks and streams as well as facilities deemed "critical" by the city including government buildings, playgrounds, evacuation routes, pathways, utility equipment, playgrounds, libraries and other areas. Violators can be charged with a misdemeanor.

The rules took effect on July 9. However, the city won't enforce the laws until federal coronavirus guidelines on homeless encampments are rescinded or vaccination rates of Marin residents ages 16 and older reach 90%. About 89% of residents in this age group were fully vaccinated as of Thursday, according to the Marin County Health and Human Services Department.

The new Homeward Bound shelter beds will allow the city to provide housing for eligible homeless residents and also allow the city to enforce its camping restrictions should someone refuse an available bed.

Park residents are now challenging the camping restrictions in federal court.

The California Homeless Union filed a petition in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California on Wednesday seeking an injunction to prevent the city from enforcing the rules.

The union and several Lee Gerner Park residents, who have dubbed their community "Camp Compassion," allege in the Wednesday filing that the rules violate federal case law protecting a person's right to sleep in public areas if no adequate shelter space is available. These protections stem from a 2018 ruling by the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in the *Martin v. Boise* case.

The union alleges the camping rules would expose park residents to the delta variant of the coronavirus. Residents would also be placed at greater risk of being harmed or killed by being

“forced to constantly walk the streets, made to carry or leave behind vital survival items or hide in dangerous locations where there is no relief from the elements,” the filing states.

In a statement on Thursday, McGill said the city is disappointed by the litigation.

“The city went to great lengths to develop a compassionate and thoughtful plan for this issue that would have met the concerns expressed by the occupants of Lee Gerner Park, considered COVID precautions, and complied with federal law, all of which would have been a win-win for the homeless and the restoration of Lee Gerner Park,” McGill wrote.

The City Council meeting on Tuesday was its first in-person meeting since March 2020 and at times included strongly-worded public testimony concerning the city’s response to homeless encampments. At one point, Mayor Pat Eklund asked police to escort Lee Gerner camp supporters out of City Hall if they did not stop speaking during public testimony.

Les White told the council Lee Gerner Park activists were using the coronavirus pandemic as an excuse to occupy the park for as long as they want.

“These people are just looking for a place to party and that is it,” White told the council. “They need to leave immediately.

- [Judge halts enforcement of Novato homeless camping rules](#)

Judge halts enforcement of Novato homeless camping rules

Union argues new code, relocations violates federal law



Jason Sarris, left, and Michaelangelo Montez, campers at Lee Gerner Park in Novato, pick up litter on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, after a windy night. (Sherry LaVars/Marin Independent Journal)

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A federal judge has temporarily barred Novato from enforcing its new homeless camping rules and from relocating residents living in an encampment at Lee Gerner Park. Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California approved the [temporary restraining order](#) against the city on Thursday night at the request of the California Homeless Union and a group of homeless residents living at Lee Gerner Park. The union and residents requested the order as part of a [lawsuit](#) it filed on Wednesday alleging the city's camping rules are unconstitutional and violate federal case law protecting a person's right to sleep on public lands.

Local homeless residents and advocates celebrated the judge's decision on Friday.

"We're determined to make certain that we do everything we can to ensure these measures are declared unconstitutional by the court and ensure the city does not under any guise or under any pretext continue sweeping people and breaking up encampments and essentially trying to rob people of their rights," said Anthony Prince, lead counsel for the California Homeless Union.

The decision marks a setback for the city, which had just approved a new program earlier this week to reserve [15 shelter beds for homeless residents](#) and provide wraparound support services including jobs, health care and a potential connection to permanent housing.

Novato City Manager Adam McGill said the order will require the city to delay its shelter agreement with Homeward Bound of Marin because it bars the city from relocating residents at the camp. McGill said he is confident the city will ultimately prevail in the lawsuit.

“The city is disappointed to learn that some occupants of Lee Gerner Park have taken this step that will delay the very services they demand — immediate and safe housing — that would have included substantial support services,” McGill wrote in a statement. “The city went to great lengths to develop a thoughtful plan for this issue that would have met the concerns expressed by the occupants of Lee Gerner Park, considered COVID precautions, and complied with federal law, all of which would have been a win-win for the homeless and the restoration of Lee Gerner Park.”

The city will be able to file a motion in opposition to the judge’s order before the end of day on Tuesday. A hearing on the restraining order is scheduled for July 28 at 1:30 p.m. Jason Sarris, a Lee Gerner Park resident and the president of the union’s Novato chapter, praised the judge’s order.

“I think Novato needs to get taught a lesson,” Sarris said. “I think they need to get taught a lesson on social equity, for one. It’s just the way they criminalize homelessness is unlawful and unconstitutional.”

The city’s camping rules [approved in June](#) would ban daytime camping between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. and ban camping and related activities within 50 feet of streams, creeks and any facilities the city deems to be critical. The City Council defined these critical facilities to include government buildings, libraries, playgrounds, evacuation routes, utility equipment, schools and others.

The city said the rules comply with federal case law set by the 2018 ruling by the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals decision in the Martin v. Boise case. That [court’s decision](#) prohibits agencies from restricting people from sleeping on public lands if no adequate shelter space is available for them. Such bans would essentially make it unlawful for a person to sleep anywhere and would thus constitute cruel and unusual punishment in violation of the U.S. Constitution, the court found.

The city said the Martin v. Boise ruling still allows for reasonable limitations on camping, including environmental and public safety protections.

Novato’s camping rules took effect on July 9 but would not be enforced until either federal coronavirus guidelines on homeless encampments are rescinded or if 90% of Marin residents ages 16 and older are fully vaccinated. On Thursday, the vaccination percentage for this age group was at 89%.

These triggers were included in Novato’s rules to avoid legal challenges raised when the city of Sausalito initially attempted to enforce its own daytime camping ban earlier this year and relocate a homeless encampment from Dunphy Park to Marinship Park. The California Homeless Union sued Sausalito in federal court, and the judge temporarily halted enforcement of the ordinance in February over concerns that dispersing the camp would result in exposure to the coronavirus. The order was eventually lifted and the city [relocated the encampment](#) in late June.

In its Novato filing, the union stated the city’s rules expose homeless residents to what is known as the delta variant of the coronavirus, which is now the most dominant variant in the

U.S. Additionally, requiring residents to pack up and move their belongings every day could expose them to harm or possibly death, the union wrote in its filing.

Sarris said the 15 shelter beds the city aims to provide could also expose camp residents to the variant and do not meet the needs of all the homeless residents in the city. He and other supporters argue the city only approved the shelter beds to be used as an excuse to enforce its camping rules.

“You can’t just protect 15 people and criminalize the rest of the homeless in Novato,” Sarris said.

Additionally, Prince wrote in his filing that the city must have adequate shelter space for all homeless residents in the city, not just those in Lee Gerner Park, before it would be allowed to restrict people from sleeping on public lands.

“The standard is not how many beds may be available at any given shelter, it’s whether there are sufficient shelter beds for the entire population,” Prince said

[Bay Area](#)

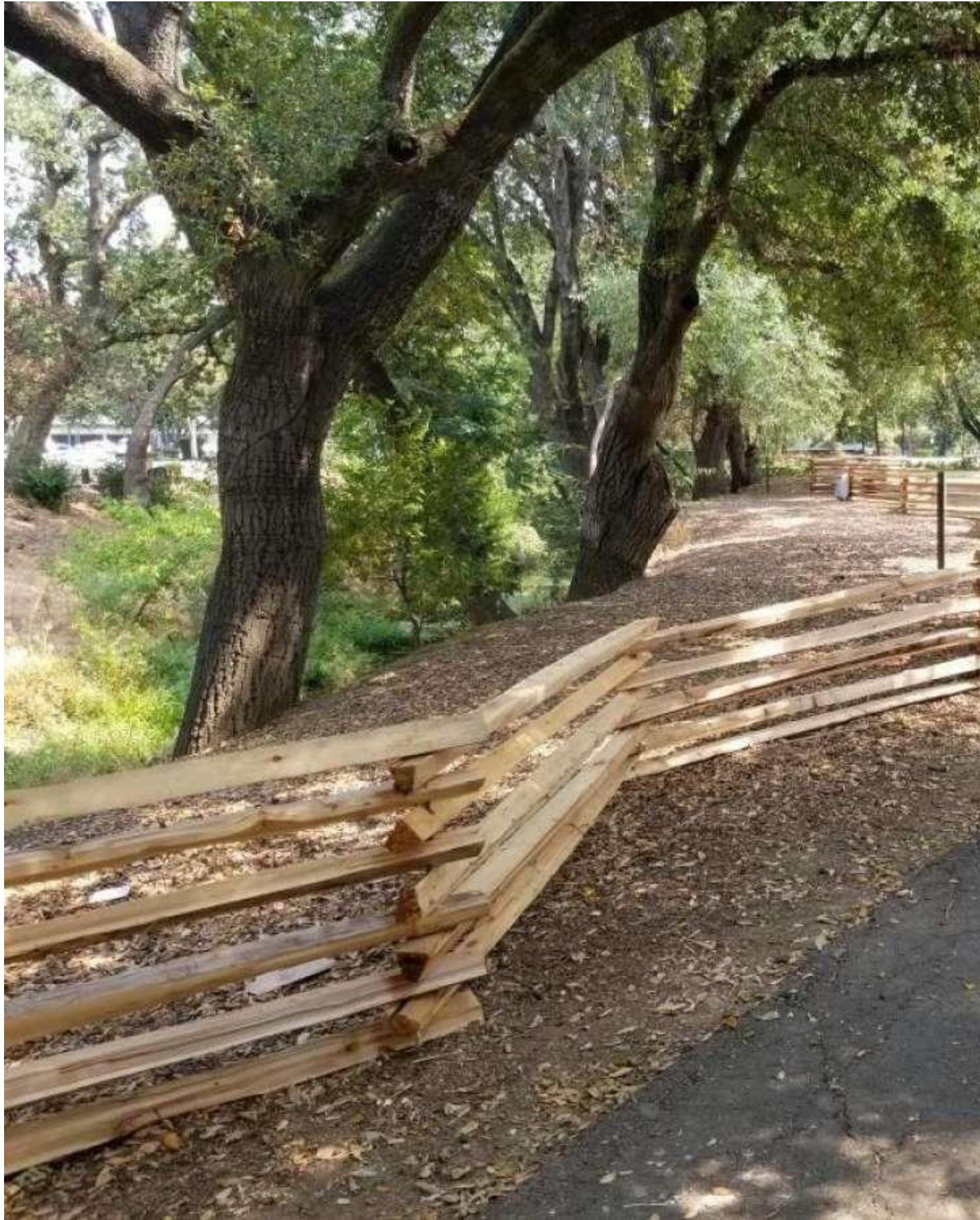
City backlash against homeless encampment is coming to a boil in Marin County

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/City-backlash-against-homeless-encampment-is-16333230.php>

[Annie Vainshtein](#)

July 22, 2021 Updated: July 22, 2021 1:35 p.m.

[Comments](#)



Lee Gerner Park in Novato.

Novato Police Department/

A familiar battle is playing out in Marin County between a city and one of its homeless encampments.

Novato officials say they're fighting back after an advocacy group and residents of homeless encampment filed a lawsuit and a federal judge temporarily blocked enforcement of the city's new limits on homeless camping.

The rules would displace a tent encampment at Lee Gerner Park dubbed Camp Compassion by the some 35 people who have been living there during the pandemic.

Novato City Manager Adam McGill told The Chronicle that the city plans to file a motion opposing the judge's order, due next week. The next hearing is set for Aug. 10 in the San Francisco-based U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California.

The legal dispute ignited when the city approved new camping rules in June that members of the encampment and the California Homeless Union say criminalize the homeless without leaving them any alternatives.

The [police chief](#) and city agencies, however, say the encampment has generated health and safety complaints from business owners and community members. The encampment, located along a walking path and Novato Creek, is near a library, businesses and the Novato Farmers Market, and police say residents have fouled the creek by using it as a makeshift toilet.

Homelessness Crisis

The city's new rules ban daytime camping between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. and block any camping or related activities within 50 feet of creeks, streams or any "critical facilities," including libraries, schools and playgrounds.

"Their definition of critical infrastructure is so broad that it could theoretically encompass every single thing in the city of Novato," said attorney Anthony Prince, general counsel for the California Homeless Union, who is representing the plaintiffs. "It's just outrageous."

Though the city's rules technically took effect July 9, officials won't enforce them until either federal coronavirus guidelines on homeless encampments are amended, or the vaccination rate for Marin County residents over age 16 reaches at least 90%. As of Thursday, 85.4% of Marin County residents over 12 had been fully vaccinated.

According to the [Marin Independent Journal](#), Novato included those conditions in a bid to avoid the challenges faced by Sausalito earlier this year when it tried to enforce a daytime camping ban and move an encampment from Dunphy Park to Marinship Park. [That relocation took place in June.](#)

Any action by Novato is currently frozen under the temporary restraining order.

The lawsuit filed last Wednesday claimed the city's new plans are unconstitutional and violate 2018 federal case law — *Martin v. Boise* — that protects people's right to sleep on public lands if no other shelter is available to them. The next day, Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California approved the temporary restraining order.

Novato had just approved a program to offer 15 shelter beds and other support services for homeless residents through a contract with Homeward Bound of Marin. Officials have put that on hold, saying that the temporary restraining order blocks their ability to relocate Lee Gerner Park residents, who would get priority under the plan.

“That is a complete falsehood,” said Prince. “That’s a completely separate issue. They now have a contract, which means they have to go through with it, and now homeless people are being denied housing simply because they’re upset that the court filed a temporary restraining order.”

City Manager Adam McGill said he had no comment beyond the [city's press release last week](#), in which he said the city was disappointed that the restraining order would delay the services encampment residents are demanding.

“The City went to great lengths to develop a thoughtful plan for this issue that would have met the concerns expressed by the occupants of Lee Gerner Park, considered COVID precautions, and complied with federal law, all of which would have been a win-win for the homeless and the restoration of Lee Gerner Park,” McGill said.

Novato Homeless Union president Jason Sarris, 52, said he started camping at the park by himself in November 2019 as a refuge from harassment elsewhere in the city, but that soon more people started to move in. Once the pandemic started, it became more of a community.

He said most residents don't want to leave, and feel much safer outside than they would in a congregate shelter setting.

“Now, with the outbreak (infections from) the delta variant.... heck if I'm going into a congregate shelter with airborne disease ... only to have the chance to die,” he said.

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https://www.novato.org/home/showdocument?id=31432&fbclid=IwAR2302K79FGcLt-yOyUn2eRKXI133oikG_C59WK_OtfrLxVQgX7HziniHCg

NOVATO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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LEE GERNER PARK_A

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Dear Novato Community,

In response to several online postings, regarding the treatment of individuals living in a homeless encampment at Lee Gerner Park, we felt it would be important to provide some information about a community policing project that was initiated earlier this year.

The misleading postings have inferred that homeless individuals were “kicked out” of the park, as well as the restrooms and wash stations removed amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are not familiar with Lee Gerner Park, it is a park that runs along the creek to the rear of the Novato Library and the Star Restaurant near the crossing of Novato Boulevard and Seventh Street.

The park is a mix of county property, city property and private property. Additionally, the Novato Farmer’s Market is held weekly in the parking lot adjacent to Lee Gerner Park and it is surrounded by many businesses. A walking path and a bridge connects the north and south sides of the park.

Over the past year, Lee Gerner Park has become a source of complaints from community and business owners due to a large homeless encampment that formed over time. The encampment contained a large row of tents along the North side of the walking path. In addition to the tents, a large dog run had been installed on the lawn as well as a volleyball net and a large ping pong table. The area was littered with trash, plants and trees were damaged, and the creek under the Seventh Street bridge had become a makeshift toilet for those living in the park.

Many of our community members expressed their complaints as they use the park with their families for recreation, exercise, visiting the library and

attending the weekly Farmer's Market. After observing the problematic conditions this camp was causing to the environment, cleaning the park became a high priority. We partnered with the City of Novato's Public Works Department to bring back the inviting community space that once existed at Lee Gerner Park.

In March of this year, we collaborated with the Marin County Health and Human Services Department to develop an outreach strategy for those residing in Lee Gerner Park. The mission of the project was to help find housing, provide outreach and offer services to those experiencing homelessness. This was a very important project for our department as concerns related to this encampment were heightened due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our Novato Response Team (NRT) was tasked with meeting with those living in the park to determine what their needs were and how we could assist, either by placement in permanent or temporary housing during this pandemic. We initially determined there were approximately nine people living in seven tents within the park. The Marin County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) installed portable restrooms and hand washing stations in the front of the library, in accordance with CDC's guidelines for COVID-19. This is required when ten or more people are residing together in a homeless encampment.

In coordination with the Marin County Emergency Operations Center, Marin Health & Human Services and the CARE Team, the Novato Response Team was able to develop individualized strategies to find temporary housing or alternative locations for eight of the nine occupants. Each of these strategies were in voluntary cooperation with the occupants. None of the individuals were forced out or "evicted". In fact, many of the occupants identified their own alternative housing or locations. Together, we provided each of the occupants with significant resources and time to make their transition successful.

CITY MANAGER'S STATEMENT

<https://www.novato.org/Home/Components/News/News/6322/637>

Federal Temporary Restraining Order Delays Immediate Housing and Support Services to Novato's Unhoused / Orden de alejamiento provisional federal retrasa servicios inmediatos de vivienda y apoyo a las

Post Date:07/16/2021 11:02 AM

[Español abajo](#)

[Subsequent to the City's news release on July 15, 2021](#) announcing Council action taken on July 13, 2021 to enter into an agreement with Novato-based nonprofit Homeward Bound of Marin for immediate housing and support services for Novato's homeless, [a federal lawsuit was filed against the City](#) by the California Homeless Union and several occupants of the encampment at Lee Gerner Park. The lawsuit seeks to prohibit enforcement of [new City ordinances 1669 and 1670](#). Though the City was prepared to enforce these ordinances and simultaneously deliver much needed services, this lawsuit and [the temporary restraining order](#) will delay those actions until the Court fully considers this matter. The City is studying the legal filing and intends to respond in support of the ordinances and the immediate housing plan approved Tuesday night.

Utilizing one-time federal American Rescue Plan stimulus monies, these new comprehensive support services would provide housing, food, case management, medical coordination, job placement and training, and support toward permanent supportive housing referrals for up to 15 homeless individuals in Novato, with priority given to those currently residing at Lee Gerner Park and other city encampments.

"The city is disappointed to learn that some occupants of Lee Gerner Park have taken this step that will delay the very services they demand - immediate and safe housing - that would have included substantial support services," said City Manager Adam McGill. "The City went to great lengths to develop a thoughtful plan for this issue that would have met the concerns expressed by the occupants of Lee Gerner Park, considered COVID precautions, and complied with federal law, all of which would have been a win-win for the homeless and the restoration of Lee Gerner Park. We are confident the City will prevail and ultimately be able to help those that truly need and desire these vital services."

Additional information on homeless outreach in Novato, assistance for those currently experiencing homelessness and a listing of community partners and resources is available at novato.org/homelessness.

Orden de alejamiento provisional federal retrasa servicios inmediatos de vivienda y apoyo a las personas sin techo en Novato

Servicios y ejecución suspendidos mientras la Ciudad revisa demanda

[Posterior al comunicado de prensa de la Ciudad el 15 de julio de 2021](#), anunciando acción tomada por el Concejo el 13 de julio, 2021 para hacer un contrato con Homeward Bound de

Marin, una organización sin fines de lucro basada en Novato, para servicios inmediatos de vivienda y apoyo para las personas sin techo, la California Homeless Union y varios ocupantes del campamento en el Parque Lee Gerner [registraron una demanda federal en contra de la Ciudad](#). La demanda busca prohibir la ejecución de [nuevas ordenanzas de la Ciudad 1669 y 1670](#). A pesar de que la Ciudad estaba preparada a hacer cumplir estas ordenanzas mientras simultáneamente entregando servicios muy necesitados, esta demanda y [el orden de alejamiento provisional retrasarán esas acciones hasta que la Corte considere este asunto completamente](#). La Ciudad está estudiando los documentos legales y tiene la intención de responder en apoyo a las ordenanzas y el plan de vivienda inmediata aprobada el martes por la noche.

Utilizando fondos federales únicos de estímulo del Plan de Rescate Estadounidense, estos servicios nuevos y comprensivos proveerían vivienda, comida, gestión de servicios, coordinación médica, colocación de empleo y capacitación y apoyo hacia un establecimiento de vivienda permanente para hasta 15 individuos sin techo en Novato, con prioridad a las personas actualmente viviendo en el Parque Lee Gerner y otros campamentos en la ciudad.

“La Ciudad está decepcionada de aprender que algunos ocupantes del Parque Lee Gerner han tomado esta acción que suspenderán los mismos servicios que están exigiendo – vivienda inmediata y segura – que habría incluido servicios sustanciales de apoyo,” dijo el Gestor Municipal Adam McGill. “La Ciudad se esforzó mucho para desarrollar un plan analizado para este tema que habría cumplido con las preocupaciones expresadas por los ocupantes del Parque Lee Gerner, considerado las precauciones de COVID y cumplido con leyes federales. Todo esto habría sido una situación de ‘todos ganan’ para las personas sin techo y la restauración del Parque Lee Gerner. Tenemos confianza de que la Ciudad va a prevalecer y por último podrá ayudar a aquellas personas que realmente necesitan y desean estos servicios esenciales.”

Más información sobre alcance a la comunidad sin vivienda en Novato, ayuda para aquellos actualmente viviendo sin techo y un listado de organizaciones comunitarias y recursos están disponibles en novato.org/homelessness.