

Fritzal, Kellee

From: Richardson Gray [richardson.gray@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2013 6:07 PM
To: Fritzal, Kellee
Subject: Public Comments for September 26th Downtown Task Force Meeting
Attachments: HBN 2011 ABC On-Sale DT Survey.pdf; HB Neighbors Survey of Downtown Bars Website Summary.doc

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Hi Kellee,

Congratulations on a successful first Downtown Task Force meeting. I was impressed with the standing-room-only crowd, of at least 125 residents, and how nearly all of the 30-odd speakers agree that the current state of affairs is unacceptable for our Downtown neighborhoods.

Please provide me with a brief email reply that you will be able to distribute my email and its two attachments to the Task Force participants before the September 26th meeting. For over six years, I have owned my home in one of our Downtown neighborhoods.

In the 1970s, Downtown had only three bars, including only large one, the Golden Bear. Per ABC guidelines today, the Main Street area's census tract should have only five of these alcohol, on-site establishments.

In contrast, the City now has given alcohol, on-site permits to 41 establishments in Downtown, including as many as four that have pending ABC license applications, Avocado Café, Ritter's, Papa Joe's (lapsed), and Ruby's (possibly lapsed). Moreover, the Planning Commission is to consider a 42nd alcohol permit for the Local Bench Grill at its September 24th meeting, a permit that already has been approved by the Zoning Administrator. Among these 42 ABC establishments today, six are the approximate size of the former Golden Bear.

Per the attached survey and summary prepared by HB Neighbors in 2011, Downtown's on-site ABC establishments have a total capacity that far exceeds 6,000 bar patrons. By comparison, the Main Street area's census tract has around 4,000 residents.

With this undue concentration of ABC establishments, I think there can be no lasting peace between Downtown's bars and our surrounding neighborhoods until the City stops Main Street's late-night rowdiness from overflowing onto our nearby residential streets and sidewalks. **For this reason, I think a large, late-night, resident-only permit parking plan for the neighborhood blocks around Main Street should be the Task Force and City Council's first priority for Downtown.**

The City's expansion of bars in Downtown, by a multiple of fourteen times, has effectively converted the residential streets near Main into free, all-night, nightclub parking lots, with no security. The City might as well erect signs on the nearby residential blocks announcing the truth of the matter, FREE NIGHTCLUB PARKING HERE. Even nightclub parking lots close when the bars do, and have private security. From my experience of living on Sixth Street for over six years, the Huntington Beach Police will not respond to late-night noise complaints unless there also is a violent crime involved.

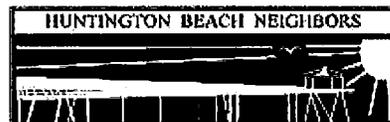
Index of establishments holding liquor licenses in Downtown Huntington Beach with Saturday night closing times, occupancies and Entertainment Permit nightclub related activities

Liquor License class	Name of Establishment	Occupancy of areas servicing alcoholic drinks	Entertainment Permits			Closing Time Saturday	
			Dance Floor	DJ	Live Band		
1	47	25 DEGREES	58	no	yes	no	2:00 AM
2	47	ALOHA GRILL	169	no	yes	yes	1:00 AM
3	47	AVILA EL RANCHITO H B	105	no	yes	yes	11:00 PM
4	47	BEACHFRONT 301	436	no	yes	yes	2:00 AM
5	41	BJS CHICAGO PIZZA	112				12:00 AM
6	41	CHRONIC TACOS	34				9:00 PM
7	47	COACHS	188	yes	yes	yes	11:00 PM
8	47	CRABBYS BOAT HOUSE	110				2:00 AM
9	47	CUCINA ALESSA HB	200				11:00 PM
10	47	DEVILLE	53				11:00 PM
11	47	DUKES SURF CITY	515	no	yes	yes	2:00 AM
12	47	FREDS MEXICAN CAFE	297	yes	yes	no	2:00 AM
13	47	GALLAGHERS PUB & GRILL	130	no	yes	yes	2:00 AM
14	75	HUNTINGTON BEACH BEER COMPANY	229	yes	yes	yes	2:00 AM
15	47	HURRICANES BAR & GRILL	252	yes	yes	yes	2:00 AM
16	47	KILLARNEY	128	yes	yes	yes	2:00 AM
17	47	LONGBOARD RESTAURANT & PUB	75	no	yes	yes	1:30 AM
18	47	LUGGATTIS ITALIAN GRILL	178	no	yes	yes	12:00 AM
19	41	LUIGIS	19				10:00 PM
20	42	MAIN STREET WINE COMPANY	20				11:00 PM
21	47	NO KA OI	96				1:30 AM
22	41	PAPA JOES PIZZA	32				10:00 PM
23	48	PERQS	94	yes	yes	yes	2:00 AM
24	41	PETES MEXICAN FOOD	15				9:00 PM
25	47	BLACK BULLS CHOPHOUSE	427	yes	yes	yes	2:00 AM
26	47	RA SUSHI	200	yes	yes	yes	1:00 AM
27	41	RUBYS SURFSIDE DINER	150				10:00 PM
28	47	SANDY'S BEARFOOT BAR	363	no	no	yes	9:30 PM
29	47	SHARKEEZ INC	188	no	Yes	yes	1:30 AM
30	47	SHOREBREAK HOTEL (ZIMZALA)	471	Yes	Yes	Yes	12:00 AM
31	47	SILVERAS STEAK HOUSE & LOUNGE	133	no	no	yes	2:00 AM
32	41	SMOKIN MOS BBQ	49				9:00 PM
33	47	SPARK WOODFIRE COOKING	189	yes	yes	yes	11:00 PM
34	41	SUSHI ON FIRE	91				11:00 PM
35	41	T K BURGERS	20				9:00 PM
36	41	THAI WAVE RESTAURANT	112				10:30 PM
37	47	TUNA TOWN	199	Yes	yes	yes	1:00 AM
38	41	WAHOOS FISH TACO	88				9:00 PM
39	41	KA	120				11:00 PM

TOTAL 6345

HUNTINGTON BEACH NEIGHBORS

www.HBNeighbors.com



Downtown Huntington Beach Bar Statistics

April 27, 2011 [HBN Monitor](#) [Leave a comment](#) [Go to comments](#)

HB Neighbors (HBN) assembled information from different government sources to produce a Survey of Downtown Huntington Beach Bars and Restaurants. HBN, a Downtown neighborhood organization, produced this survey as a planning tool for government decision makers.

The survey lists 39 establishments that are licensed to serve alcohol of the 62 restaurants in the Downtown area. These 39 restaurants and bars have a capacity of 6355 occupants. Most of these establishments are within two city blocks of Main and Walnut Streets. This survey highlights that the Downtown area has the highest concentration of bars in Orange County, and one of the highest in California. Twenty-three of the locations have an Entertainment Permit allowing live music, DJs, or dancing. Eighteen of the bars close after midnight spilling up to 3200 young bar patrons onto Main Street in the early morning hours. This creates policing issues, littering, parking and noise issues in the surrounding residential neighborhoods, loitering, and the highest concentration of crime within the city. The nearby Pacific City Development, now stalled in the construction stage, will bring at least eight new alcohol serving restaurants or nightclubs with an estimated additional capacity of 1800 patrons. This will create a total of over 8000 patrons being served alcohol within the small Downtown core area.

Huntington Beach has the highest number of DUI's for midsized cities in California, and the HB Police Department reported the primary source was Downtown bars.

The city states it is promoting tourism while the HB Neighbors website www.hbneighbors.com claims the city is instead promoting kids to party in the bars on weekend nights at the expense of a more balanced retail area. "The Downtown area has become one dimensional" states Angela Rainsberger a board member of HBN. "Most of the bars and restaurants now focus on the youth below 30 years old instead of a balance of restaurants catering to families and all age groups" Angela stated.

Other beach cities such as Santa Monica, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Belmont Shores, Seal Beach, and Newport Beach discourage the expansion of bars and restaurants to allow retail stores to flourish.

HBN is requesting a partnership of the city planners, Downtown business owners, local residence, and the HB Police Department to create a Comprehensive Alcohol Plan with stated goals, strategies, and implementation plan. The city's Economic Development Department should change their emphasis to promoting retail businesses catering to tourist and the local neighborhood, including non-peak time periods.

HBN acknowledges the Downtown area has a long history of bars and entertainment venues. During the years of the Golden Bear, there was only seven places with alcohol licenses. Today, there are 39 places and six of them are the approximate size of the former Golden Bear. Only in recent years has the Downtown area grown to the highest concentration of bars in Orange County.

HBN claims the city has missed the opportunity of creating a smaller version of Santa Monica's Third Street Promenade (with a balance of retail stores) and instead created an unbalanced emphasis of youth bars. Angela concludes "most late night bar patrons are not tourists".