



**Via Email:** [eComment@santa-ana.org](mailto:eComment@santa-ana.org)

March 14, 2024

Mayor and Council Members of Santa Ana  
22 Civic Center Plaza  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Re: Agenda Item #24 on the March 19, 2024 Calendar  
Ordinance Establishing Distance Requirements for Targeted Residential Picketing

Dear Hon. Mayor and Council Members:

In the timeless wisdom of the Supreme Court's decision of *Carey v. Brown*, resides a fundamental truth: the sanctity of the home is sacrosanct. It is the fortress of tranquility, the bastion of peace, the haven where individuals seek solace from the tumult of the world. It is within these hallowed walls that families nurture, dream, and find respite from the rigors of daily existence. Such an essential refuge must be safeguarded from undue intrusion and disruption.

Thus, it is with great urgency and conviction that the board of the Floral Park Neighborhood Association implores this Council to consider and adopt the proposed ordinance prohibiting targeted residential picketing within our community.

Our neighborhood has regrettably become the unfortunate stage for a series of disruptive and distressing protests. These demonstrations, characterized by blaring sirens, raucous bullhorns, and incessant drumming, have not only violated the peace and quietude of our streets but have directly targeted a singular neighbor to the detriment of all nearby residents.

In the eloquent words of the Supreme Court, the well-being, tranquility, and privacy of the home are indeed of the highest order in a free and civilized society. As such, it is imperative that measures be taken to preserve these cherished values. The proposed ordinance aligns with established legal principles, recognizing that while the freedom of speech is a bedrock of our democracy, it must be exercised responsibly and with due regard for the rights and well-being of others.

In the landmark case of *Ward v. Rock Against Racism*, 491 U.S. 781, 791 (1989), the Supreme Court affirmed that governments may impose reasonable restrictions on the time, place, or manner of protected speech, provided such restrictions are justified by significant governmental interests and do not unduly infringe upon alternative channels of communication. The ordinance

under consideration meets these criteria, serving to protect the sanctity of the home while still allowing ample avenues for the expression of ideas and opinions.

In recent months, we have witnessed a troubling erosion of civility within the confines of City Hall chamber. That behavior has now spilled on to the residential streets of our city. The adoption of this ordinance represents a critical first step in restoring civility and respect for our fellow citizens, both in public discourse and private life. It sends a clear message that our community values the well-being and dignity of all its residents and will not tolerate behavior that undermines these principles.

We commend the City Council for its commitment to upholding the rights and dignity of all residents of Santa Ana. By enacting this ordinance, you will not only defend the peace and tranquility of our neighborhood but also reaffirm the values of respect, civility, and community that are the hallmarks of our society.

In conclusion, we urge you to stand on the side of decency and justice by adopting the proposed ordinance prohibiting targeted residential picketing. Let us ensure that our residential neighborhoods remain havens of peace and refuge.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jeffrey Katz  
FPNA President

cc: City Manager  
FPNA Board of Directors  
Floral Park Neighbors