

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [commentsHO](#)  
**Subject:** #7274 Safe Parking Program at Trinity Lutheran Church  
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Dear Hearing Officer,

I have been involved with the Safe Parking Program since its inception and have met with all the safe parkers and even have had some of them come to our home for dinner. They are mostly people my age (over 70) and they are all good people who have had bad luck and need a chance to become housed once again. They are not a threat to anyone.

That's why I am disturbed that the police are recommending that the Safe Parking program be required to have paid or volunteer security present during the entire time of the Safe Parking program hours, i.e. from 9 pm - 7:00 am, as a condition for a minor CUP. The program currently pays for security to come twice every night, just like the Safe Haven program at All Saints Episcopal Church. (They use the same security service). The cost of having a security guard present for 10 hours would be prohibitive and end this program, and the church isn't large enough to have overnight volunteers 365 days of the year. This precedent would make Safe Parking impossible for churches throughout the city. This does not seem to be consistent with the intent of the Council when it agreed to make safe parking a permitted use for congregations.

The police don't make a case for the necessity for additional security beyond what the church currently provides. According to their report, they received seven calls in 8 months, none of which related to Safe Parking use. Only five occurred during Safe Parking hours and security guards paid for by the program were present during 3 of these 5 calls. The police don't specify why they were called or if the parkers did anything disruptive. Clearly the parkers did nothing criminal or it would have been reported. So why are the police making this onerous requirement? We have studied the ordinance, and this is not a requirement.

If the Pasadena Planning Department or police called the Santa Barbara safe parking program, they'll find out that this program doesn't have any paid security guards. Two retired gentlemen go out and visit each of the 20 sites to check on the 150 parkers to deliver messages etc. Santa Barbara has never had a problem with safe parkers.

I urge you to allow this program to continue with a security guard visiting twice each night. This will ensure that the parkers as well as the neighbors are safe. To ask for full-time security will kill the program and force the safe parkers to park in unauthorized, unsupervised places to park without toilets or security, to the detriment of the neighborhood. Safe parking creates safety for *everyone*!

Anthony Manousos  
Making Housing and Community Happen