

January 13, 2016

To the Commissioners of the Planning and Zoning Commission:

I personally can only imagine how challenged you each are related to approving recommendations for the RV Guest Housing situation in Pinal County! To critically analyze the view points from a myriad of citizens is not a simple task. Indeed each sees the same view through his/her own lenses and "jumps" to an expedient solution of "my way is the one and only!"

I encourage you to join me with a critical thinking approach that can find "COMMON SENSE" solutions. After all...we live in ARIZONA! We are a diverse population but we are caring and intelligent...let's think "outside the box" and engage all parties involved to understand the issues and ultimately draft some workable solutions!

Here is just one example. Some facts:

We moved to Arizona City ONLY because of the "RV friendly" atmosphere portrayed by the realtor; we were welcomed by our immediate neighbors. Being the brunt of a couple RV complaints, we scheduled a meeting directly with the code enforcement over in Florence. Our complainers were well-known by their staff; each complainer was NOT impacted by us or our visitors. The head of Code Enforcement could "read the reality" of the situation and used "Common Sense"! We ultimately agreed to notify Code Enforcement when we would have a visitor and for the length of time. Through the past six years we combined a second lot with our home and erected a fence around the double-lot property. In reality we have only three or less guest RV visitors per year...most have stayed just over night to only a few days and one has stayed a month. Our neighbors have been delighted with our visitors!

So...what is a common sense solution? An "appropriate grace period" for conscientious citizens certainly makes COMMON SENSE. The proposal of absolutely NO guest RV parking does not work for us. Note that my husband now retired from Washington State Patrol spent his career in law enforcement. I'm a retired university professor of economics and education/learning disciplines. We do NOT break the law.

Likewise I believe the designers of the new proposal for RV Guest Housing need to use some critical thinking analysis! For instance, we've heard concerns about sewer (Hey...these are RV's that can be moved! Let them dump water/sewer somewhere other than on a private property IF the current sewer set-up is in-adequate. In Arizona City, there is no difference if a guest uses the sewer drain or if they use the toilet in our house!) We've heard that an RV blocks a view. (Now a guest RV is there for a very short time and moves. By the way, a stored RV doesn't move as often as a guest RV and a detached accessory building can be much more derogative to a view.) The list goes on and on and I'm sure you are hearing many perspectives. For us personally, we are not HURTING anyone other than those with the initial assumption that they don't like RV's! (Actually one can barely even see our RV guest considering our fence and landscaping.) In reality, please read the recommendations of the RV Citizen's Committee as they take into consideration factors of safety and public services. They provide COMMON SENSE!

Thanks for keeping an open mind as you consider all perspectives of this RV Guest Housing Issue.

Joanne Parsons