

Subject: Increased bear activity/home invasions

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From: Jim Lowe

Sent: Friday, September 22, 2023 10:21 AM

To: Public Comment <publiccomment@cityofsierramadre.com>

Subject: Increased bear activity/home invasions

Regarding our concern over the escalating bear encounters/home break-ins by bears: it seems to us that the #1 role of any level of elected government should be the safety of its citizens. With the current conditions of increasing bear invasions and the general lack of meaningful response by the city, it appears that you are more concerned about the well-being of the bears than you the people you serve. We have lived in this city for more than 40+ years. Our children were raised here. They roamed the neighborhood and yards freely. There were no bear sightings or encounters, no wildcats, no coyotes. We never saw or heard of a "wild" animal until a few years ago. Now I must warn our grandchildren not to leave the house to play in their own yard or mine without an adult, and to scan carefully before going to the car to go to school. They cannot play freely in the neighborhood without adult supervision. As an avid walker, I leave my house with an air horn, pepper spray, and a whistle, hoping and praying that I return safely without encountering a bear or other animal. It seems that it is any time of day, any where in the city—east or west, north in higher elevations or very far to the south. We believe the proposed bear proof cans will only serve to make the habituated bears more aggressive in entering our homes. We are afraid to leave our windows open for the lovely fresh air. Indeed, we are told in the recent city newsletter to "keep your doors and windows closed". Really???? Are we to be prisoners in our homes while the bears roam freely???? THIS IS NOT RIGHT!!!! What is it going to take for the city to act in the interest of its human population? Does someone, adult or child, have to be maimed or killed??? Word "on the street" has it that the bear that was recently tranquilized and removed had wounded the resident and that the city conveniently omitted that part of the report. Surely there are options—zoos, bear sanctuaries, or kill them before they attack or kill us. Will it take tragedy and a lawsuit to act???? We hope not! PLEASE, DO YOUR DUTY!!!!!!

Jim and Joanne Lowe

Sent from my iPad

Laura Aguilar

Subject: Control the Bears!

From: cmdred [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 17, 2023 12:52 PM
To: Public Comment <publiccomment@cityofsierramadre.com>
Subject: Control the Bears!

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

I have lived here for over 40 years, and bears were NEVER a problem like they are now until just a few years ago. I remember a friend noting she saw a bear up on the Mt. Wilson trail 30 years ago and I thought she was crazy. Bears were very uncommon even along the trails then. The population must have grown beyond what can be supported in nature and now the bears are habituated to eating our garbage and breaking into homes. Bears have walked through our yard 4 times in the past month, destroying our bird feeders and pooping in our yard. I almost ran into one a few feet away while walking to my garage.

We are now afraid to be in our own yards, and worry about whether we are safe in our homes. Dealing with this new phenomenon can not simply be left to "living with nature". Someone is going to get mauled or killed, very soon. Lawsuits will ensue.

WE MUST DEMAND THAT FISH AND WILDLIFE PHYSICALLY REMOVE THE BEARS FROM THIS AREA AND RELOCATE THEM SOMEWHERE SUITABLE FOR THEM, FAR AWAY FROM SIERRA MADRE.

Ed Miller
[REDACTED]