

Public Comment to City Council Meeting – August 4th, 2015

My name is Jack Fisher. I live on Cleveland Avenue near the Rotten Robbie station and carwash.

As many of you know, for more than 3 years, Donna and I have been working with our neighbors to have the unauthorized and illegal environmental impacts in our neighborhood mitigated. That might inspire a question:

••• **Why have we persisted so long in our efforts to ensure that Robinson Oil Corporation complies with their Use Permit and City Laws?**

– **We persist because** the improvements to date have been hard-won, yet remain incomplete and insufficient.

– **We persist because** impacts and violations continue to occur on a daily basis, affecting our lives, health and the property values of our homes.

We are awakened routinely in the middle of the night by illegal and dangerous fuel deliveries. Three out of the last five nights, deliveries lasting about 90 minutes each were started between 2 and 4am. Noise studies done by the City and Robinson Oil show that both nighttime deliveries and daytime operations violate the noise ordinance.

– **We persist because** the issue of compliance with City laws is of vital importance to all of Sebastopol.

Our city's reputation, our goals, our "brand", our future . . . have all been put at risk. We will continue in our efforts until the full scope of Robinson Oil's violations and disregard for our community have been exposed and properly mitigated. They should be held accountable.

They have not delivered on the commitments and promises that are the very basis of the profits that they take from Sebastopol's citizens, at our neighborhood's expense. We don't believe this irresponsibility and negligence will stand the light of day in our community. Their willful actions,

as well as protracted inaction, show a callous disregard that is unfair and at odds with the City's goals. This will be clear to anyone who looks into the situation.

••• **So, again ... Why have we persisted?**

- Because **it's important . . . and it's the right thing to do.**
- This is our hometown, where we built our lives, our businesses, and raised our families.
- We deserve to have our Sebastopol homes and our Sebastopol lifestyles as much as anyone else in this room . . . anyone else in this town.

So, I'll ask a question for **you** to ponder:

••• **How long would you persist, in the face of violations against all that you hold dear?**

In closing, I ask for the Council's support on behalf of the **Sebastopol Alliance for Neighborhood Empowerment** and the members of the community that stand with us in our on-going efforts.

Thank you.