



600 Local Residents Join Legislators, ACC-OC and OC Realtors Assoc. for Sober Living Home Town Hall

Sober living homes are a serious challenge for cities and communities across California. A city's hands are largely tied when it comes to creating or enforcing rules to protect its neighborhoods. That's why reforms are needed to empower cities and protect patients from bad-acting operators that harm communities.

The ACC-OC has been working diligently with the Legislature to ensure our cities have options. Last Thursday, the organization co-hosted a Sober Living Town Hall with **Senator Pat Bates, Assemblymen Bill Brough and Matt Harper**, and **the OC Realtors Association** to help inform the discussion around this issue. More than 600 local residents attended the forum, which was held in the City of Laguna Hills.

[Watch KNBC's Vikki Vargas' interview with ACC-OC CEO Heather Stratman for an in-depth look at Sober Living Homes in Orange County.](#)

What's the Solution?

Part of ACC-OC's legislative fix would require that local sober living homes that receive court-ordered patients (parolees, probation cases, etc.) register with the State. This is a commonsense solution that targets bad actors. Several other bills have also been introduced that provide alternative solutions. The ACC-OC also supports these efforts.

We're proud of Orange County's legislators, who are actively fighting to empower cities and protect patients. The ACC-OC is grateful for their leadership. Last night's Town Hall was a great display of collaboration, communication and partnership towards solutions.

What Our Legislators Are Saying

Senator Pat Bates

"Every person - whether they live in a sober living home or near one - deserves to live in a safe residence. I believe tonight's town hall gave everyone a better sense of what we can do as a community to appropriately regulate sober living homes and protect public safety. I am hopeful that our efforts to responsibly address this issue for neighbors and sober living home residents alike will lead to tangible progress in the months ahead."

-

Assemblyman Bill Brough

"We must continue to pursue legislative reforms to fix the sober living home laws that adversely affect our neighborhoods. I support the safety of sober living home residents, however I also believe our residential neighborhoods deserve the highest level of safety for their families and their children. Tonight's event demonstrated the growing level of frustration from our cities and constituents which is why I will continue to aggressively pursue sober living home legislation regardless of any opposition."

-

Assemblyman Matthew Harper

"It is important that we provide an equally safe residence for both those who need sober living, and those who live near the facilities. At this important town hall, residents were provided with the information they needed to better understand how these sober living homes operate. Hopefully their questions were answered as to how we are working to ensure our communities remain safe with these facilities helping people live clean lives."



Roughly 600 local residents gather for a May 12 Sober Living Home Town Hall in the City of Laguna Hills.