

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2019**

**DOCUMENTS RECEIVED  
AFTER PUBLISHED AGENDA  
CLOSED SESSION**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**E-MAIL FROM MARY ANN HIGGS**

---

**From:** Mary Ann Higgs  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 3:52 PM  
**To:** List-Mayor-Council; Kelly McAdoo; Jennifer Ott; John Stefanski; Patrick O'Keeffe  
**Subject:** January 29 City Council Mtg - Closed Session: Public Comments

(NOTE: I've addressed this email to those listed for whom I had emails. Please share with the remaining members of the discussion- City Attorney Lawson; Asst City Manager Hurtado; Public Works Director Ameri; Asst City Attorney Brick & Optional, Heather Gould, Goldfarb Lipman)

Hello All,

I see on the agenda for the Closed Session of the City Council for January 29, 2019 that item 3 is "Conference with Property Negotiators" and the properties to be addressed are the State Owned Parcels along Route 238 Bypass. As the only additional information available to the public is the names of the attendees for this conversation, I'm operating blind regarding commenting on this topic. Just the same, I'm giving it a shot. Here goes.

I understand that the City Council and City Staff must consider multiple points of view when making decisions for the City of Hayward and in regards to how vacant parcels of land are developed. I understand how the introduction of new information and new societal needs can cause you to review previously made decisions and cause you to consider new solutions.

As you review those previously made decisions and consider new solutions, I ask you to keep in mind that many of us long term residents have been involved in this discussion for more than 20 years. Throughout that time, Council and Staff have made promises about how parcels would be developed and how the public would be involved at each step of the way. With each Council and Staff change, I (and others) have made a point to provide history and advocate for the way we wish to see the properties developed. On occasion, adjustments to the plans have been made, but in most cases, future plans have remained unchanged.

While most of you have been involved in the development of Corridor 238 parcels for a shorter period of time, I know that all of you are looking to do what is best for the City of Hayward. So, as you work on this issue with an eye to the future, please do not forget the responsibility you owe to those of us who have been involved for a couple of decades or more. We are the people who have helped to make Hayward what it is today. The residents of Hayward are the people who make Hayward a desirable place to live and the longer term residents are the ones who have set the tone for the broader Hayward community. We are the ones who have lived the "No Room for Racism" slogan for decades. We are the ones who welcomed the Gay Prom before it was fashionable. We are the ones who participate in the City Wide Clean Up and pick up trash in our community just because it bothers us. I often tell people that while Hayward has more than 140,000 people, we are a piss-ant little town. We have a sense of community. We watch out for our neighbors. We support our schools and the children in them. We have children's story time at the local bookstore and the public library. We know our shopkeepers and they know us. I don't want to lose that.

Please, as you complete each step related to developing the Corridor 238 parcels, make sure your decisions honor those of us who have helped to bring Hayward to where it is today. Please make decisions that will keep the best of Hayward. Please make decisions based on what is right and best for Hayward, even if it's not what is easiest.

Thanks for listening (reading). I know we'll be talking again soon.

Mary Ann Higgs