

Suzanne Philis

From: Dean Flatt ·
Sent: Sunday, May 3, 2020 9:03 PM
To: Suzanne Philis
Subject: Agenda Item #2: Route 238 Properties Development Update (Oral report only)

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

I request that this comment be read into the record at the May 4, 2020, meeting of the Council Economic Development Committee.

As a stakeholder, taxpayer, citizen, and voter, I object to the way that the City of Hayward is trying to develop the "Route 238 Properties," especially "Parcel 6" which is the old quarry off of Carlos Bee Blvd, near my house.

For the reasons that follow, I request from the Hayward City Council:

- (a) that there be an agenda item for a future City Council meeting to consider stakeholder feedback on the oral report from May 4;
- (b) that the May 5 discussion of Parcel 6 be fully transparent, not during a closed session. If this cannot be arranged for May 5, then the discussion should be deferred until the next public City Council meeting; and
- (c) that the City Council reconsider whether, and if so, how, to develop Parcel 6, **after** all stakeholders have been properly notified, provided meaningful opportunity to be heard, and had our feedback actually heard by the City Council.

The apparent lack of transparency with which the City is proceeding is not consistent with what we expect in a free and open democratic society. There has not been any meaningful opportunity for affected landowners to be heard or to have our interests taken into account. This includes the "meeting" at 11am on February 8 at the Hayward Library, which was hosted by the Deputy City Manager of Hayward, Jennifer Ott, and attended by several of my neighbors and me.

The February 8, 2020, "meeting" proceeded with the assumption that Parcel 6 would be developed as dense residential. At this February 8 "meeting," I objected to the decision to develop Parcel 6; but the meeting continued, notwithstanding my objections, with the assumption that Parcel 6 would be developed as dense residential. There was no meaningful discussion about other options besides development.

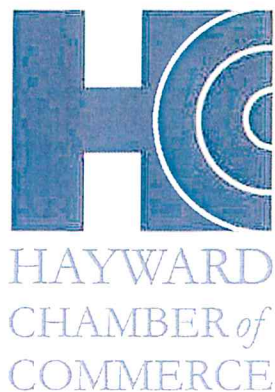
The neighborhood stakeholders were never consulted, never involved in the decision to develop Parcel 6 as dense residential. It appears to me that the decision to develop Parcel 6 may have been made behind closed doors, away from the public scrutiny which makes the democratic process work. Even if this decision was not made behind closed doors, affected landowners in the neighborhood never received any notice.

On the agenda for the May 4, 2020, meeting of the Council Economic Development Committee, this agenda item is indicated as an "oral report only." Unfortunately, because we may only submit comments **before** the meeting, citizen stakeholders do not have any meaningful way to review the contents of an oral report ahead of time or participate in the discussion at the May 4 meeting.

Finally, we see on page 19 of "CEDC May 2020 Presentation.pdf," which was found as attachment to the calendar item for this May 4 meeting, that Parcel 6 will be on the agenda of a **closed session** on May 5. A closed session is not transparent. A closed session excludes stakeholders from participation and deprives voters of information that may be material to our decisions on election day.

I expect the Hayward City Council to do better when it comes to transparency and the interests of neighborhood stakeholders. Development is not the only option for Parcel 6. If you do not provide stakeholders with a meaningful opportunity to be heard on this matter, if you do not take our interests into account now, our only recourse will be to take our feedback to the ballot box.

Dean Flatt



May 4, 2020

Members of the Hayward City Council Economic Development Committee,

Thank you for continuing to meet during this time of economic crisis for our city. Representing the business community, the Hayward Chamber of Commerce has staff at work virtually every day of the week in support of those in crisis and in preparation for the recovery.

Our daily Hayward business news update e-mails were opened nearly 11,000 times in April as we kept up a steady stream of information on reaction to the pandemic crisis in Hayward and data on loans and grants available to businesses.

All six of our regular committees met via Zoom in April, we continue to process certificates of export for Hayward companies, and we have been a liaison for businesses with agencies and organizations to help resolve issues.

With the city's Economic Development Division, we prepared a survey of local businesses which we have supplied on request to the Alameda County Workforce Development Board and the East Bay Economic Development Alliance. We have also partnered to produce the "Hayward Open for Business" poster program for those essential businesses struggling to stay afloat, and prepared a Google doc list of more than 100 restaurants with take-out and delivery service.

We have a number of other initiatives underway that you can read about in our daily Hayward business update, at our website at www.hayward.org, or at our various social media outlets.

Finally, I cannot underestimate the importance of the Hayward City Council vote to push back acceleration of the minimum wage from July to January. Many large and small businesses looked upon this mandated mid-year budget spike as potentially devastating. Moving the accelerated minimum wage increase to January will allow many businesses that are closed to reopen, allow cash-strapped businesses to not have renegotiate with lenders, and will restore jobs throughout the city.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kim Huggett', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kim Huggett
President & CEO

Suzanne Philis

From: Daniel Fernandez
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 11:42 AM
To: Suzanne Philis
Cc: 'Tamara Flores'; 'Dean Flatt'
Subject: Parcel 6 Review

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Suzanne,

The neighbors in the Palisade-Overlook area have become aware that the City Council is scheduled to hear an oral report on the development of Parcel 6 at tonight's meeting. From what I can see, the status of the project is that two developers have submitted preliminary proposals and that the coronavirus situation has thrown some uncertainty into future plans. As one of the large group of neighbors most immediately affected by the project I would like, at this point, to simply reiterate that our group has campaigned for several significant adjustments to the City's original project design. We have been assured by the City Manager and her staff that we will be kept informed of all points in the development process where we can make our desires known. Though not the only concern we have, the strongest concern is to restrict increased traffic through our neighborhood from Parcel 6. If you would, please include a mention of our previous input and our desire to remain involved in the design process if the project moves forward. Thank you very much,

Daniel Fernandez

Hayward, 94542

Suzanne Philis

From: Tiega@
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 1:19 PM
To: Suzanne Philis
Subject: Question for meeting (economic development)

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

I have two cases where the tenants agreed to leave before Covid because of nonpayment and signed court papers stipulating to the same.

However, because the date to vacate was March 27 (during covid), the family won't leave. They have not removed garbage from the front porch and police had to come out last night to stop fighting between them. My clients are the landlords but they are struggling to keep up the payments. We feel like the renters are taking advantage of the situation.

I have another client in the same boat but her renter's agreement to leave is June 4.

Can either of my clients apply for assistance through the Hayward emergency fund to stem their losses?

Tiega-Noel Varlack, Esq.

varlacklegal.com

Suzanne Philis

From: Tiega
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 1:26 PM
To: Suzanne Philis
Subject: Question about block grant for today's meeting

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

In 2018, the City of Hayward Economic Development Division was allocated \$75,000 of funds from the Community Development Block Group (CDBG) program. These dollars had to be used for Economic Development purposes and had to assist businesses that served low-income populations. Staff identified microenterprises, businesses with 5 or fewer employees, as those businesses to be targeted for the funds. The Small Business Assistance Program was created, which issued \$5,000 in grants to the small businesses. The dollars could be used for any expense associated with the small business, including inventory purchases, equipment and furniture purchases, new signage, website upgrades, and more.

Was Winton Avenue Civic Center considered a distressed area? What was done to address the viability of businesses such as mine in this corridor? What is the overall plan to develop this area?

Tiega-Noel Varlack, Esq.

varlacklegal.com

Suzanne Philis

From: Tamara Flores
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 2:26 PM
To: Suzanne Philis
Cc: Miguel Flores; Tamara Flores
Subject: Agenda Item #2: Route 238 Properties Development Update

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello Suzanne,

First of all I hope this email finds you well, and I would like to apologize for the lateness of this email.

I also request that this comment be read into the record at the May 4, 2020, meeting of the Council Economic Development Committee.

As directly affected neighbors of the Parcel 6 project, we have gathered on many occasions to discuss the reasons why we felt we were not informed with enough prior notice as most of our neighbors had no idea of this project at all until we invited City Deputy Manager over to our home to share information to us and 30+ of our neighbors. From this meeting as expected, came many concerns and frustrations. Soon after we requested a meeting with the city of Hayward, which was granted to us and scheduled on February 8th, 2020 to discuss one of our main concerns; traffic. We were given 4 options and encouraged to come up with any alternate solutions than just opening Overlook for through traffic to the new development. Most, if not all opted for "Option 4: Full Street Closure", with the modification of having an Emergency ONLY entry/exit on Overlook & Palisade. We were told at this meeting that we would be updated of any changes regarding this development at Parcel 6. Since then we have not had any updates, specifically speaking in regards to the "Option 4" modification to the plan.

It is important that this goes on record, as this has been something that ALL of the neighbors will like to be very much involved in.

Just to briefly mention these are also other concerns we have:

- Parking bleed over into our neighborhoods
- Environmental impacts (seismic, creek and wildlife)
- Noise/debris during construction
- Security in proposed development

What we ask of you all is to keep us involved and in the loop of this development's process. This is our home and any changes you plan for this project will impact us further than those "new" tenants you wish to accommodate.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Tamara & Miguel Flores

Hayward, Ca 94542