

Dear Commission Members:

I hope you will take this email in the spirit in which it was written which is constructive feedback for your group.

A few years ago when the Public Engagement Commission was formed by the City of Goleta I was encouraged. I believed that this commission could go a long way towards encouraging citizens to get involved and active in their government, community, and city. Unfortunately I must conclude that it has been a failure.

If you asked the average citizen of Goleta if they had even heard of the Public Engagement Commission the answer would be no. I cannot point to any accomplishments of your commission. I have watched the meetings many times. Usually they consist of receiving reports from city officials and approving previous meeting minutes. I cannot recall any initiatives started by this commission with the goal of encouraging citizen involvement. The public desire to be involved is evident. All you need to do is log on the NextDoor app. Plenty of lively conversations amongst Goletans.

I ask that the members take a long look at this commissions actions and activities and decide if they are satisfied with the results. I think it is time for the Public Engagement Commission to become more...well..engaged.

Thank you.

Michael Brown

Goleta