

June 5, 2018

Roger Aceves, Member
Michael Bennett, Member
Stuart Kasdin, Mayor Pro Tempore
Paula Perotte, Mayor
Kyle Richards, Member

Dear City Council Members,

I write to you this morning as a resident of the City of Goleta who has been following the discussion of compensation for city council members by the Public Engagement Commission (PEC) and by the Council. This note reflects my views only, and not the PEC, of which I am a member.

I am fully in favor of increasing the salary of the city council members given the estimated 25-35 hours per week that members contribute to the good of the city. I also wholeheartedly believe that an increase in compensation will encourage a wider group of people willing to put in the time and energy to run for office and serve the local community. How much to increase the salary and when to increase the salary are important questions. Made more complicated now is the possible inclusion of a question about a salary increase on the upcoming community survey at the same time as a vote on the salary might be included on the ballot in November.

It is my personal view that if the residents of the City of Goleta are going to be asked about their views on whether to increase the salary of council members, and by how much, then it is premature to have the question put on the ballot. It makes sense to get a detailed sense of what increase your constituents are willing to support before asking them to vote. While I realize this delays an increase for council members for several years, a delay of the ballot measure ensures a greater degree of democratic participation in the short-run and the possibility of greater success on a ballot measure in the long-run.

Additionally, the City of Goleta and the zip code 93117 are not one and the same. For purposes of the survey and/or the ballot, the opinions of the City residents reflect who the council represents and whose opinions are crucially important. I urge that only the City of Goleta residents be included in any effort to understand the views of your constituents.

I urge that you consider whether the question about salary should be on the survey and if the answer is yes, I urge that the ballot measure not go forward at this time. If the question will not appear on the survey, I urge further consideration of the extent of the percentage increase in salary.

Best,

Beth Schneider

Deborah Lopez

From: Michelle Greene
Sent: Monday, June 04, 2018 5:49 PM
To: Deborah Lopez
Subject: FW: Council Compensation, Item G.2

Not sure if you saw this one.

Michelle Greene

City Manager

City of Goleta | 130 Cremona Drive, Suite B | Goleta, CA 93117

805-961-7501

mgreene@cityofgoleta.org



From: Roger Aceves
Sent: Monday, June 04, 2018 5:11 PM
To: Michelle Greene <mgreene@cityofgoleta.org>; Carmen Nichols <cnichols@cityofgoleta.org>
Subject: Fwd: Council Compensation, Item G.2

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Barbara Massey <masseybarb@aol.com>
Date: June 4, 2018 at 8:56:01 AM PDT
To: <skasdin@cityofgoleta.org>, <krichards@cityofgoleta.org>, <raceves@cityofgoleta.org>, <mbennett@cityofgoleta.org>, <pperotte@cityofgoleta.org>
Cc: <masseybarb@aol.com>
Subject: Council Compensation, Item G.2

Good morning,

I will not be able to attend Tuesday's meeting but wanted to make a few comments about Council Compensation, Item G.2. As a member of PEC I hoped that when our recommendation got to Council that you would consider the political ramifications such as availability to get it passed and self dealing. Also do the citizens want to pay for a full time employee for a job that isn't claimed to need a full time person? Please don't send a draft ordinance forward that doesn't have a chance to get the necessary votes to pass.

Thank you, Barbara