

**From:** [Rebecca Eisenberg](#)  
**To:** [Clerk, City](#); [Nguyen, Vinhloc](#); [Kang, Danielle](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Minor, Beth](#); [Cari Templeton](#); [Cari Templeton](#); [Council, City](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment at Tonight's Meeting / PTC Interviews  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 10, 2021 5:10:55 PM

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

Dear Clerk's Office (Vinh or Beth) and Planning Commission:

As you know, tonight is the night that the City Council is interviewing applicants for the Planning Commission. These interviews unavoidably conflict with tonight's Planning Commission Meeting. Although I requested an interview time that does not overlap with the Planning Commission Meeting, that was not possible.

Thus, I am to ask the City Clerk assigned to the PTC Meeting to please include me on the list of speakers regarding these agenda items, towards the very beginning or end of the speaker lists if at all possible. My interview is scheduled for 7.45 PM.

Being able to accommodate this scheduling request is very important to me because the matters being discussed this evening could negatively impact the community **permanently**. Specifically, the PTC is scheduled to decide:

(1) whether the Muni Code should be changed to allow almost one-third of Town & Country to convert **permanently** from retail to medical. I oppose this permanent conversion strenuously, and speak on behalf of fellow parents of Paly students, and fellow residents in my neighborhood (Old Palo Alto) and surrounding North Palo Alto neighborhoods. Although I oppose further conversion from retail to commercial (medical or otherwise) as a general matter, I strongly oppose City Staff's recommendation that a large percentage of T&C should permanently change from retail to medical! This modification would serve T&C's commercial owner & developer Ellis Partner's financial interest (Ellis Partners being worth more than \$2.5 billion; see below) but would greatly, permanently harm Palo Alto's resident and small business communities at a time when the City has committed to help residents and small businesses! Staff does not provide a public benefit to this conversion, which by itself makes the conversion legally suspect (at best), and never once discusses why this change cannot be temporary, e.g. for one year. The Staff report points out that the conversion would negatively impact public revenues by reducing sales tax revenue. Also, conversation will reduce retail and restaurant options for consumers, thereby likely increasing prices by reducing competition and supply, and it also will increase rents for small businesses by means of eliminating a large portion of the already-limited supply of locations for small businesses. Both of these impacts will harm our community.

I predict that the Planning Commission will approve this extremely harmful and unjustified permanent change, because three of the members of the Planning Commission represent commercial developers like Ellis Partners for a living, and succeeding in passing this change in the valuable Palo Alto real estate market will make it easier for them to attract new commercial developer clients, and to enact similar changes on behalf of clients elsewhere - both in Palo Alto and outside of Palo Alto. Despite their self-interest in this agenda item, none of the three commercial developer representatives on the Planning Commission (a lawyer being a representative, and Alcheck being a commercial developer himself) are likely to disclose conflicts or recuse themselves. All three commissioners are almost certain to provide (false) legal reasons justifying this conversion and (misleading) market data justifying the conversion. The opportunity to give a consumer- and small-business legal perspective and voice to this critical matter, and to have a chance to sway the other three members towards a resident-focused perspective are examples of **exactly why I seek to serve on the Planning Commission** (and how I regret the inability to be at both places at one time).

(2) The other matter tasked to the PTC tonight involves deciding whether certain modifications should be made to Palo Alto's Municipal Code with regard to Accessory Dwelling Units. Although I strongly favor certain modifications to the Code's provisions on ADUs, and am certain to want to comment on this extremely important issue, I don't yet know my position on these recommendations without completing my review of the staff report, and watching the staff presentation. As such, I can't provide questions or insights to the Commission prior to their taking action by providing recommendations to staff, as requested in the report.

I send this email in order to ask the Planning Commission and the City Clerk representative to allow me to "raise my hand" on these two issues, and **allow me to be one of the first (or last) speakers on these matters if they come up during the time I will be interviewing with City Council, scheduled at 7.45-8 PM**, but possibly later if the City Council is delayed.

Given the unavoidable conflict between the PTC Meeting and the interview schedule for PTC applicants, I greatly hope that you can accommodate this request if at all reasonably possible to do so.

Thank you so much in advance.

Best regards,

Rebecca Eisenberg

**SOURCES regarding Ellis Partners, & Landlords generally receiving pandemic relief packages:**

1. According to Ellis Partners' Website, it owns more than \$2.5 Billion in commercial property; query why its financial needs should be placed above our small businesses (who seek to RETURN to Town & Country) and our community - who is benefited directly by Retail, as written into Palo Alto's Municipal Code to serve that important public benefit. (There is no public benefit from allowing the conversion of 1/3 of Town & Country from retail to medical permanently!) Also, eliminating 1/3 of the supply of retail in this essential retail mall will inevitably result in higher prices to consumers and residents, per the universal laws of supply & demand. (Ellis Partners overview on its website: <https://ellispartners.com/about/#:~:text=Who%20We%20Are,valued%20at%20over%20%242.5%20billion.> )

2. According to the SBA, more than 65,000 businesses in "Real Estate and Rental and Leasing" in California alone received PPP loans (most forgivable) greater than \$150,000. See <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/business/sba-ppp-data/>

3. One of many articles describing the many ways that landlords received windfalls via Coronavirus stimulus loans and other payments: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/landlords-were-never-meant-to-get-bailout-funds-many-got-it-anyway-11590494400>

# Landlords Were Never Meant to Get Bailout Funding. Many Got It Anyway.

At least dozens of property companies are said to have received in aggregate tens of millions of dollars or more due to legal loophole

Rebecca L.  
Eisenberg Esq.



Unlike previous SBA programs, companies that applied for the loans didn't have to prove that they tried and failed to get money elsewhere, attorneys say. The skyline of lower Manhattan on April 21.

PHOTO: ANGELA WEISS/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

By [Will Parker](#) and [Konrad Putzier](#)

May 26, 2020 8:00 am ET

SAVED

PRINT  
Real-estate companies are cashing in on the government's emergency-spending program, despite rules meant to bar landlords and other property owners from the funds.

TEXT  
Congress created the [Paycheck Protection Program](#) to help smaller companies keep workers on payroll during the coronavirus pandemic, but not so-called passive businesses that collect rent and businesses that profit primarily off of price speculation. The Small Business Administration specifically excluded companies that primarily develop or lease real estate.

Because most real-estate firms are private, tracking the number of aid recipients or the total amount of funds the industry has received is next to impossible, say real-estate attorneys and accountants. But they are aware of at least dozens of property companies that have received in aggregate tens of millions of dollars or more because of a legal loophole that allows them to apply through related business units, such as management companies or construction companies.

This means SBA funds could flow to property investors, something that was never intended. Representatives of the real-estate industry have said that even passive real-estate owners

employ essential workers and should be eligible for the government funds like any other business.

Time Equities Inc., which controls more than 30 million square feet of real estate, is one recipient. The New York City-based property investor and developer received \$3.6 million in PPP loans, the company's chief executive, Francis Greenburger, said.

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From the Archives

Hundreds of thousands of renters may miss rent payments for May as the coronavirus crisis enters its third month in the U.S. For smaller landlords, that means facing their own financial crisis. WSJ's Jason Bellini reports. Photo: Fadhila Hussein (Originally published April 30, 2020)

Aside from some small stakes, the company doesn't directly own any buildings. Properties are held by separate special-purpose entities that Mr. Greenburger controls with other investors, making Time Equities eligible for these loans.

Time Equities designs, builds, leases and manages the buildings for a fee, and also provides services like real-estate brokerage and construction management to third parties.

The firm's PPP lender did minimal due diligence and didn't check whether the company was eligible for the money, Mr. Greenburger said. "It was really a self-approved process based on the guidelines they set forth, which were so vague as to be basically impossible to understand," he explained.

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STAY INFORMED

Get a coronavirus briefing six days a week, and a weekly Health newsletter once the crisis abates: [Sign up here](#).

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Trion Properties, a privately held California property manager and developer that oversees roughly 1,300 apartments on the West Coast, also through business entities obtained PPP loans of around \$765,000, according to co-founder Max Sharkansky.

Mr. Sharkansky said his company needed the funds. While most of his tenants have paid their rent, Trion depends on revenue from other sources, such as selling buildings and

refinancing existing holdings, which have all but dried up.

"We're not on such a huge scale where we can survive strictly based on operations," Mr. Sharkansky said.

Critics say that well-financed real-estate companies shouldn't be eligible for government cash grants. They can raise capital in other ways, by taking out mortgages or selling buildings. A company affiliated with Dallas hotelier Monty Bennett, for example, had an agreement to sell a Florida hotel for \$120 million, but backed out of the deal after learning it had been approved for millions in PPP loans, according to people familiar with the matter.

"Unfortunately...the real-estate sector getting money from a program meant for actual small businesses isn't an anomaly," said R.J. Cross, a tax and budget policy advocate for the liberal U.S. Public Interest Research Group. "It's more evidence that the Treasury and related programs in the Federal Reserve need more oversight."

Unlike previous SBA programs, companies that applied for the loans didn't have to prove that they tried and failed to get money elsewhere, attorneys say.

The SBA declined to comment. The Treasury department didn't respond to requests for comment.

Some real-estate firms have returned the funds after political or public pressure. They followed the lead of a number of publicly traded companies, which repaid their loans after the Treasury Department updated guidance to say that large companies with access to capital markets shouldn't be eligible.

Veritas Investments, which manages \$3 billion in real estate and is one of San Francisco's largest landlords, received \$3.6 million from PPP, the company said. The firm obtained the funds through a management entity that is separate from the pooled investment funds that own its buildings.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D., Calif.), whose district covers parts of San Francisco, has called on Veritas to return the money. "Larger companies like Veritas...which has billions in assets and access to liquidity through other sources, were not the intended beneficiaries of PPP loans," she said in a statement.

Veritas has said it would eventually pay back the loan amount, instead of applying for loan forgiveness from the SBA.

Not every real-estate-loan candidate succeeded. Some property managers said their applications were rejected because the bank didn't believe they qualified, said Sam Gilboard, manager of public policy at the National Apartment Association. Smaller real-estate owners, like family businesses that may own just one building, are less likely to have separate entities for their property-management operations.

But now, real-estate trade groups are lobbying Congress and the SBA to allow multifamily real-estate companies to qualify for the loans. They argue that building workers are essential employees, regardless of whether they are employed by a landlord or by a separate property

manager.

Write to Will Parker at [will.parker@wsj.com](mailto:will.parker@wsj.com) and Konrad Putzier at [konrad.putzier@wsj.com](mailto:konrad.putzier@wsj.com)

Corrections & Amplifications

An earlier version of this article misspelled the last name of Trion Properties co-founder Max Sharkansky as Sharkanksy in one reference. (Corrected on May 26)

[www.linkedin.com/in/eisenberg](http://www.linkedin.com/in/eisenberg)  
[www.winwithrebecca.com](http://www.winwithrebecca.com)  
[rebecca@winwithrebecca.com](mailto:rebecca@winwithrebecca.com)  
415-235-8078

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Perron, Zachary](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [City Mgr](#); [city\\_council@menlopark.org](#); [citycouncil@mountainview.gov](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [Jeff Rosen](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Raj](#); [Anna Griffin](#); [Doug Fort](#); [Greg Tanaka](#); [patthurston2@yahoo.com](#); [Planning Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Joe Simitian](#); [supervisor.ellenberg@bos.sccgov.org](#); [roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu](#); [chuckjagoda1@gmail.com](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Raven Malone](#); [Greer Stone](#); [DuBois, Tom](#)  
**Subject:** Minority officers banned from guarding Derek Chauvin jail lawsuit alleges  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 10, 2021 4:05:12 PM

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FYI:

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/minority-officers-were-banned-guarding-derek-chauvin-jail-lawsuit-alleges-n1257176> Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Keith Bennett](#)  
**To:** [Nguyen, Vinhloc](#)  
**Cc:** [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** Presentation re: Agenda #2, ADU Basements  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 10, 2021 3:11:20 PM  
**Attachments:** [Dewatering\\_Impacts\\_PTC\\_210210.pptx](#)

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Dear Mr. Nguyen and Honorable Commissioners:  
I would like to give this presentation at tonight's Planning and Transportation Commission meeting, Agenda Item #2, re: basements for ADUs.

Best regards,

--

Keith Bennett  
<http://savepalaltosgroundwater.org>

# Underground Construction Impacts

from a single residential site  
&  
Relevance to ADUs

**Keith Bennett, Ph.D.**  
**Save Palo Alto's Groundwater**  
**February, 2021**





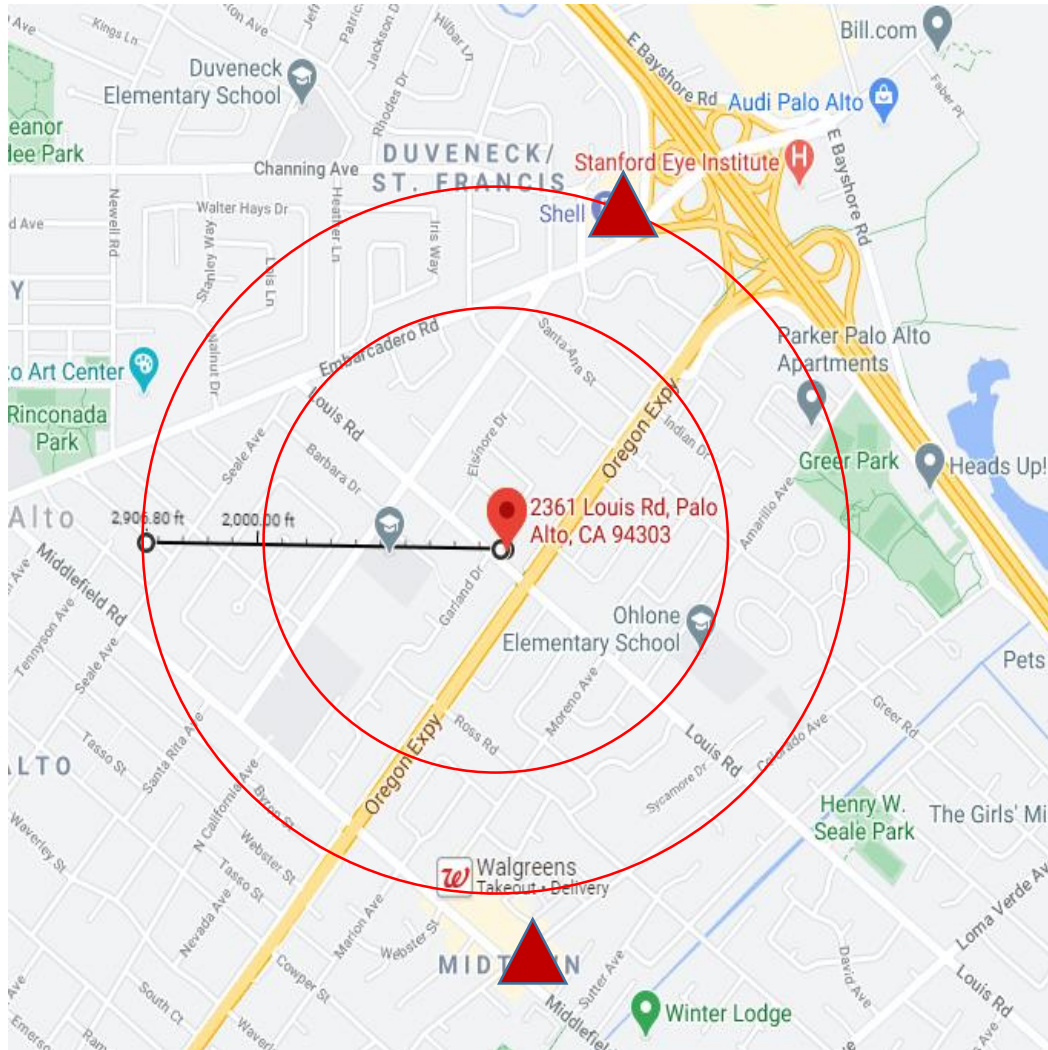
© Sarah Andersen

Underground construction

# Impacts of underground construction

- During construction (if dewatering is required)
  - Waste of water
  - Subsidence and settling and resulting infrastructure damage
  - Toxic plume mobilization
  - Drying of soil over an extended area => reduced soil moisture for trees
  - Damage to tree roots in / near excavation area, including neighbor's trees
- After construction
  - Loss of soil to store stormwater on-site
  - Blockage of stormwater flows during and after storms.

Dewatering, even for a single residential properties affects a very large area. Impacts for 2361 Louis



Only one dewatering project  
“east” of Alma during 2020.

Total water pumped: 20.85 million gallons  
8/6 – 10/27 (82 days), typically ~160 gallons / min

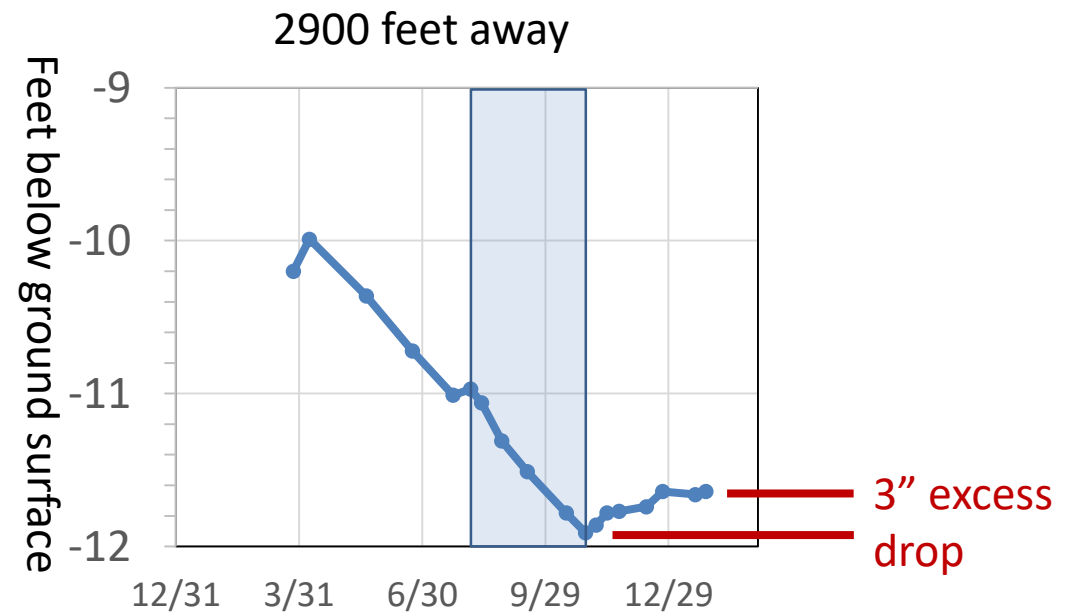
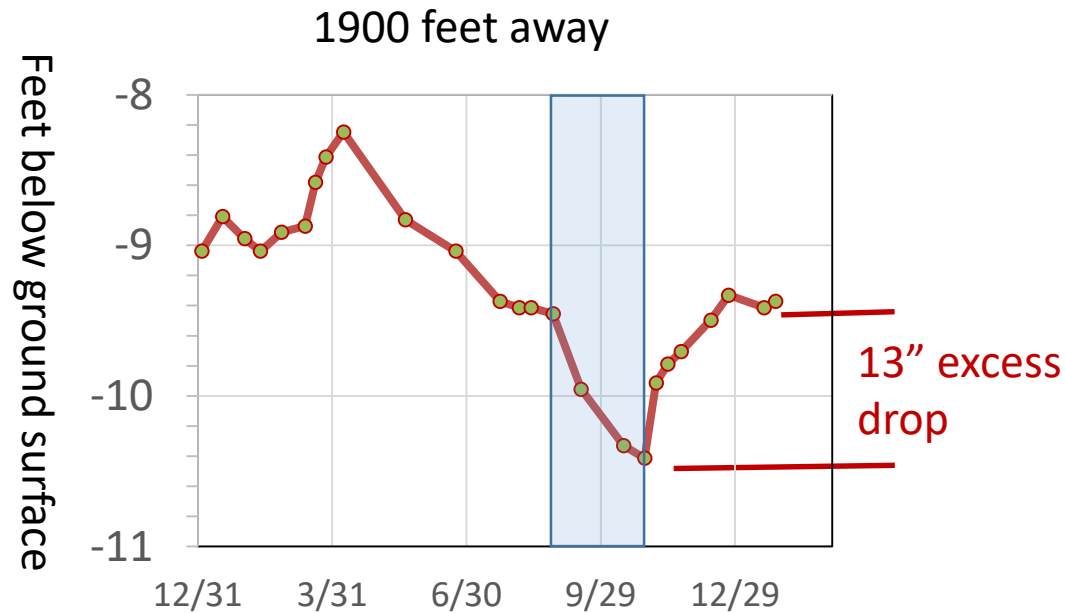
Enough water to lower the water table by  
approximately 1 foot over the entire area of  
the large circle (without inflow)

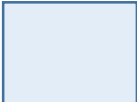
Starting water level: 7’2” bgs  
Water level during pumping: ~12’ bgs

Circles: 1,900 & 2,900 foot radius

▲ Toxic plume

# Groundwater lowered 13" and 3" at distances of 1,900 ft. and 2,900 ft. from dewatering site



 Shaded area shows dewatering period: 8/6 – 10/27/2020.

# Report commissioned by Palo Alto, 2004



Because the deflection is temporary and very localized, and because groundwater levels at the sites recover rapidly once pumping has ceased, there appears to be no discernable long-term effect on the surface aquifer.

In the areas adjacent to the site being dewatered, the water table would be lowered temporarily by the dewatering process. This effect could extend from several feet to several tens of feet beyond the excavation depending on the method used, the level of the water table at the time dewatering began, the permeability of the material adjacent to the excavation, and the length of time the excavation needed to be kept open and dry. The possibility exists that adjacent landscaping could experience deterioration from reduced groundwater availability.

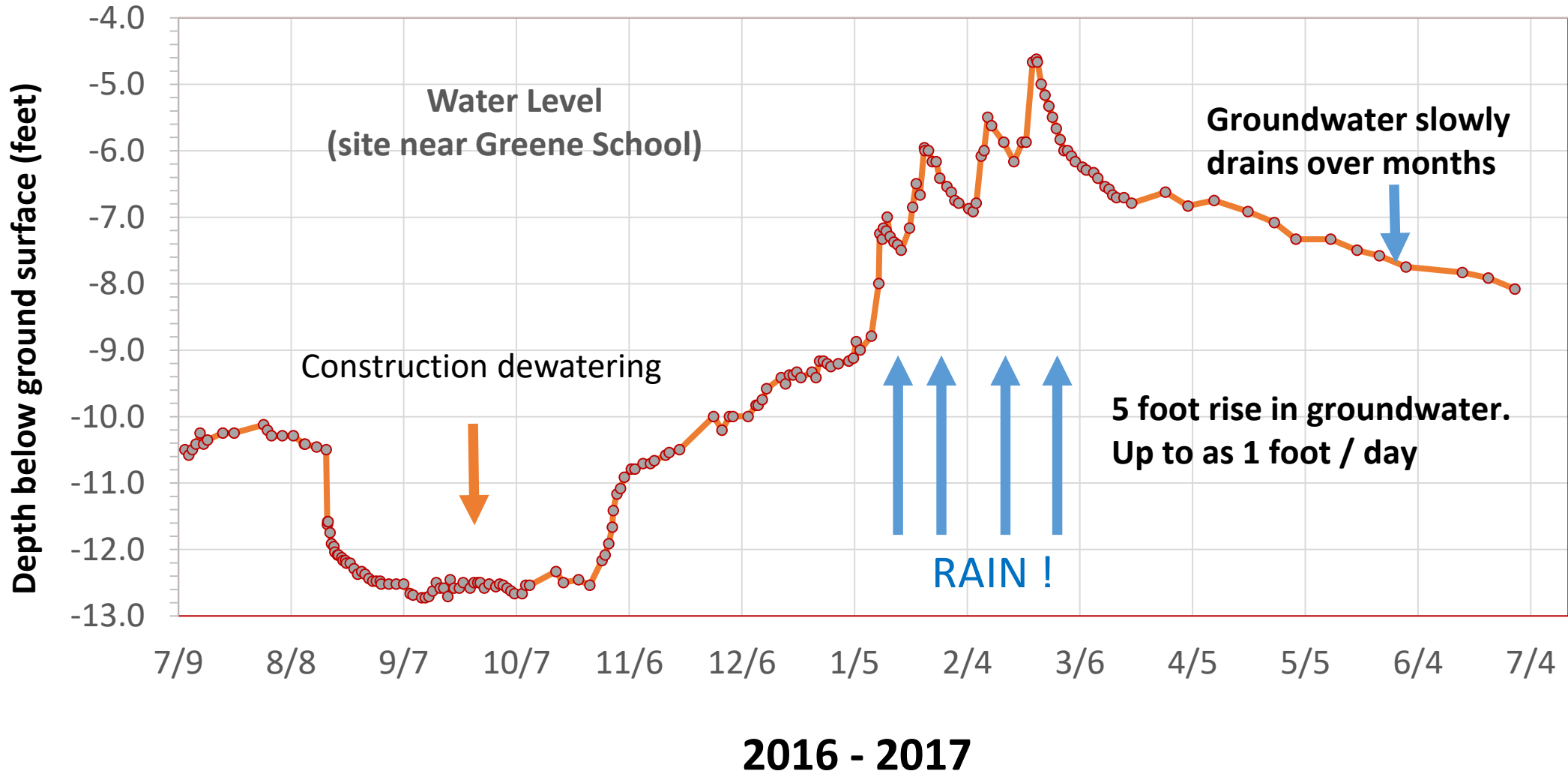
# Where does the water in the raingarden go?



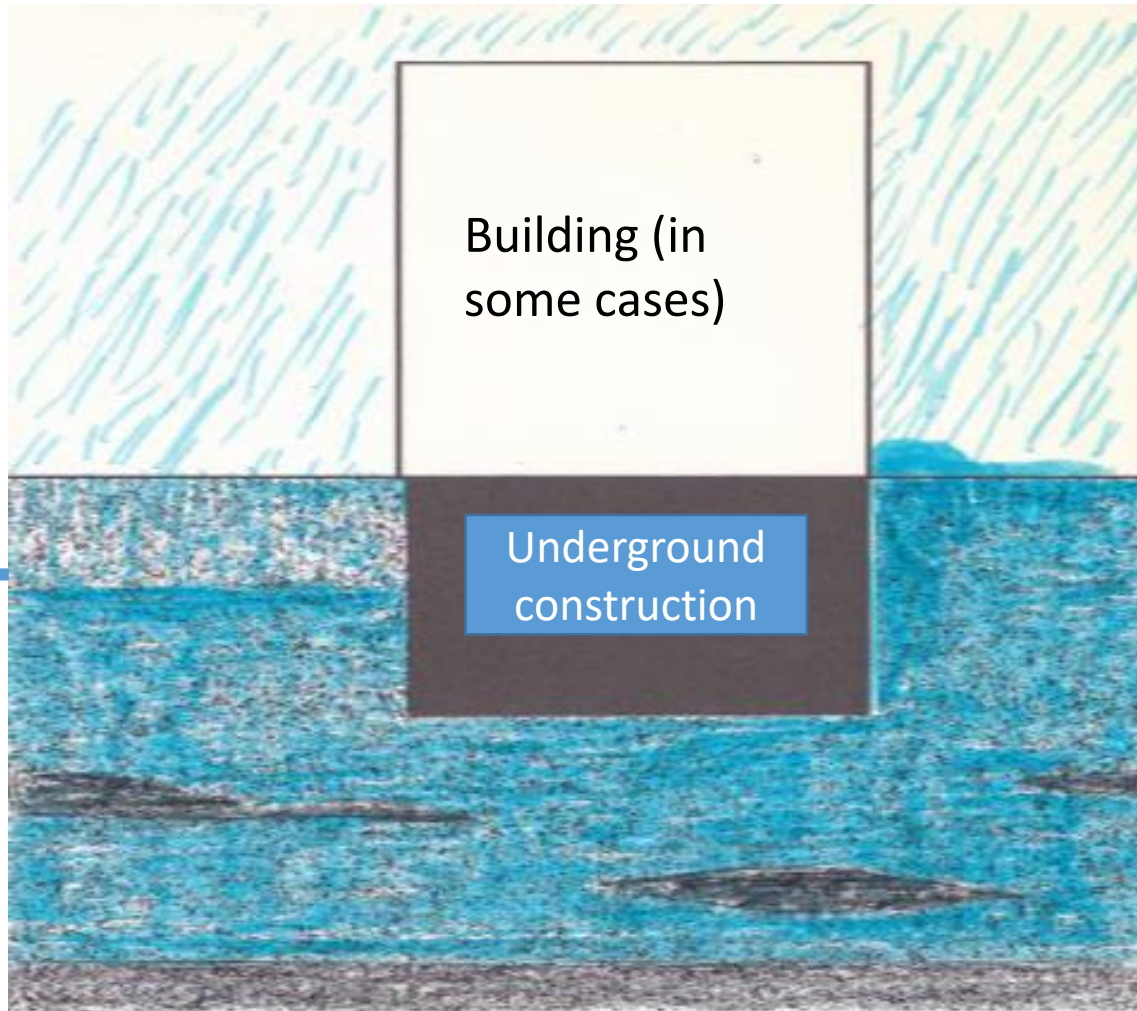
Soils in Palo Alto readily absorb about 1" of rainwater per foot of soil above the water table.

=> Largest part of our stormwater management system (handles 75% of the stormwater)

# Groundwater flows are an important part of Palo Alto's Stormwater Management System



# Underground construction blocks groundwater flows



Groundwater higher upstream  
(possible surface flooding)

Groundwater  
lower downstream

Groundwater Flow



# Maintain our public safety and environmental responsibilities



Permit basements or other underground construction only in the permitted buildable area for the property.

Basements can't be easily removed later.

<https://savepaloaltosgroundwater.org/>

From: [herb](#)  
To: [Planning Commission](#)  
Cc: [Raybould, Claire](#); [Council, City](#)  
Subject: February 10, 2021 P&TC Meeting, Item #2: 855 El Camino Real [20PLN-00252]  
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 1:08:15 PM

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Herb Borock  
P. O. Box 632  
Palo Alto, CA 94302

February 10, 2021

Planning and Transportation Commission  
City of Palo Alto  
250 Hamilton Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

**FEBRUARY 10, 2021 PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
MEETING  
AGENDA ITEM #2: 855 EL CAMINO REAL [20PLN-00252]**

Dear Planning and Transportation Commission:

I urge you to remove this item from your agenda, because the proposed project is not exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and requires either a Mitigated Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report before the Commission can hold a public hearing on this application.

The staff report alleges that the project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Regulation Section 15301 (Existing Facilities).

CEQA Regulation 15301 says,

"15301. EXISTING FACILITIES Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, ***involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use.***" (Emphasis Added)

Staff is recommending a smaller increase in medical office uses than the applicant has requested, but the fact that staff has reduced the applicant's request does not make the recommended increase "negligible".

The recommended percentage increase in office uses is not "negligible".

The recommended absolute increase in gross floor area that can be used as offices is not "negligible".

Proceeding with your scheduled hearing on the basis of staff's

proposed CEQA exemption is a violation of CEQA and a prejudicial abuse of discretion.

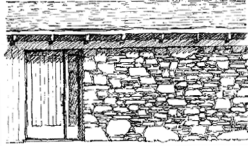
Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Herb Borock

cc: Claire Raybould, Project Planner

# TOPOS



ARCHITECTS

Palo Alto Planning and Transportation Commission  
Palo Alto, California

February 10, 2021

Re: ADU Code Changes to PAMC Chapter 18.09

Dear members of the Palo Alto Planning and Transportation Commission:

I am a practicing residential architect with over 30 years local experience. My office of six employees is located in downtown Palo Alto. We have worked with many Palo Alto families to build and improve their homes. Lately, we have also been involved with several Accessory Dwelling Unit projects, and have designed and permitted six ADUs in Palo Alto over the past three years. I am also a member of the Palo Alto Architecture Review Board since 2014 and am actively involved in numerous community groups and activities. I present my professional credentials because they are similar to many other members of the PA ADU Task Force. We are a group of experienced design professionals with a broad depth of knowledge regarding local zoning and construction practices.

Accessory Dwelling Units offer a means of providing affordable housing distributed uniformly throughout our city with little substantial impact on the built environment and at no direct public cost. It is true that taller backyard housing closer to property lines will impact neighbors. More people in the neighborhood means more cars parked on the street. However, I cannot conceive of a more graceful and appropriate method of increasing housing density than to facilitate individual homeowners to provide and manage additional housing units on their own property as they see fit. Almost every client in our office is now asking for an ADU as part of their new or renovated home. And with good reason-ADU's provide much needed additional housing, are fiscally sensible and are not a burden on residents or neighbors. Accessory Dwelling Units deserve our wholehearted support.

The staff report tries to frame your discussion away from several important issues. Of the 15 suggestions in our letter to council dated Oct. 5, 2020 (p. 66-71 of your staff report) I would like to highlight:

2. and 4. Allow partial basements for ADU's so two-story units are possible. Dewatering and tree impacts are significant issues that are addressed by current codes and practices. Practically speaking, an ADU basement is no different than the basement of a main house, whose lightwell walls are often constructed within two feet of a side property line. Let the same standards apply.
5. Allow reasonable modifications to existing non-conforming structures to facilitate re-use rather than demolition, and to help keep construction costs in check.
6. Allow flexible options for utility connections. Mandated new connections can be very expensive. Practical and technically appropriate solutions are available. Insist that staff proactively work towards providing affordable and practical water, sewer and electrical connections.
9. Palo Alto's additional Tier 2 Green building/Energy efficiency requirements are great for new larger homes. For small ADU's, they are onerous and expensive. Press council and staff to allow compliance with basic state green building and energy efficiency standards for new detached ADUs.
10. Allow noise producing equipment within the four-foot side and rear yard setback if compliance with Palo Alto noise regulations can be ensured. Restricting mechanical equipment locations to the two sides of an ADU opening into a property is unreasonable.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter Baltay". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

Peter Baltay, AIA

654 Gilman Street ♦ Palo Alto, CA 94301

Phone: 650.327.7573

[www.toposarchitects.com](http://www.toposarchitects.com)

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Filseth, Eric \(Internal\)](#); [DuBois, Tom](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Jeff Rosen](#); [Raj](#); [Tanner, Rachael](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Cecilia Taylor](#); [Josh Becker](#); [Council, City](#); [Sunita de Turreil](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [Perron, Zachary](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu](#); [Greer Stone](#); [Pat Burt](#); [Raven Malone](#); [Joe Simitian](#); [supervisor.ellenberg@bos.sccgov.org](#); [rebecca@winwithrebecca.com](#); [paloaltofreepress@gmail.com](#); [Planning Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [wintergery@earthlink.net](#); [greg@gregtanaka.org](#); [wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com](#); [mark weiss](#)  
**Subject:** Major Obstacle to Police Reform: The Whiteness of Union Bosses | The Marshall Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 10, 2021 11:09:48 AM

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<https://www.themarshallproject.org/2020/06/10/a-major-obstacle-to-police-reform-the-whiteness-of-their-union-bosses>

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Anna Griffin](#); [Raj](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Tanner, Rachael](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Sunita de Turrell](#); [Jeff Rosen](#); [David Angel](#); [rebecca@winwithrebecca.com](mailto:rebecca@winwithrebecca.com); [Council, City](#); [chuckjagoda1@gmail.com](mailto:chuckjagoda1@gmail.com); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Raven Malone](#); [wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com](mailto:wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com); [Greg Tanaka](#); [Greer Stone](#); [paloaltofreepress@gmail.com](mailto:paloaltofreepress@gmail.com); [alisa mallari tu](#)  
**Subject:** An extraordinary interview of Bryan Stevenson ...Love is the motive..not a short piece but a most compelling piece  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 10, 2021 7:11:27 AM

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<https://onbeing.org/programs/bryan-stevenson-love-is-the-motive/>

Shared via the [Google app](#)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [doria.s](#)  
**To:** [Nguyen, Vinhloc](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Comments related to basements for ADU  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 9, 2021 6:31:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [Dewatering\\_Zone\\_Of\\_Influence\\_PTC.pptx](#)

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Hi Vin,

Could you please forward this to the entire PTC, as I was the only commissioner to receive it.

Thanks!  
Doria

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Keith Bennett** <[pagroundwater@luxsci.net](mailto:pagroundwater@luxsci.net)>  
**Date:** Tue, Feb 9, 2021 at 5:49 PM  
**Subject:** Comments related to basements for ADU  
**To:** <[Vinhloc.Nguyen@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:Vinhloc.Nguyen@cityofpaloalto.org)>  
**Cc:** [ritavrhel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ritavrhel@sbcglobal.net) <[ritavrhel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ritavrhel@sbcglobal.net)>, E Nigenda <[enigenda1@gmail.com](mailto:enigenda1@gmail.com)>, Doria Summa <[doriasumma@gmail.com](mailto:doriasumma@gmail.com)>

I would like to show / discuss the attached presentation at tonight's PTC meeting (Agenda Item #2).

--  
Keith Bennett  
<http://savepalaltosgroundwater.org>

--  
Doria Summa  
(650) 867 7544 Mobile

# Impact Zone for “Controlled Groundwater Pumping”

from a single residential site

&

Relevance to ADU Construction

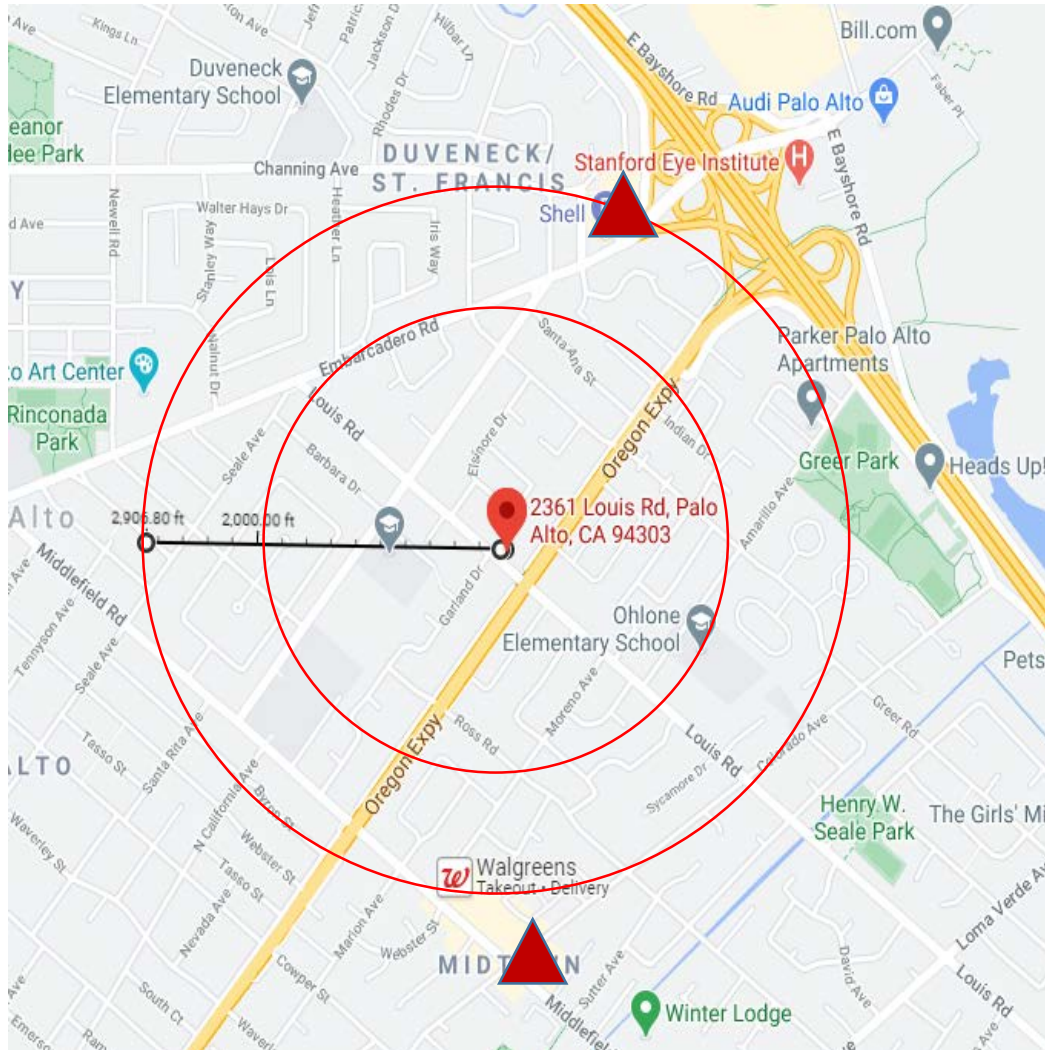
**Keith Bennett**

**Save Palo Alto’s Groundwater**

**February, 2021**



Dewatering, even for a single residential properties affects a very large area. Impacts for 2361 Louis



Only one dewatering project  
“east” of Alma during 2020.

Total water pumped: 20.85 million gallons  
8/6 – 10/27 (82 days), typically ~160 gallons / min

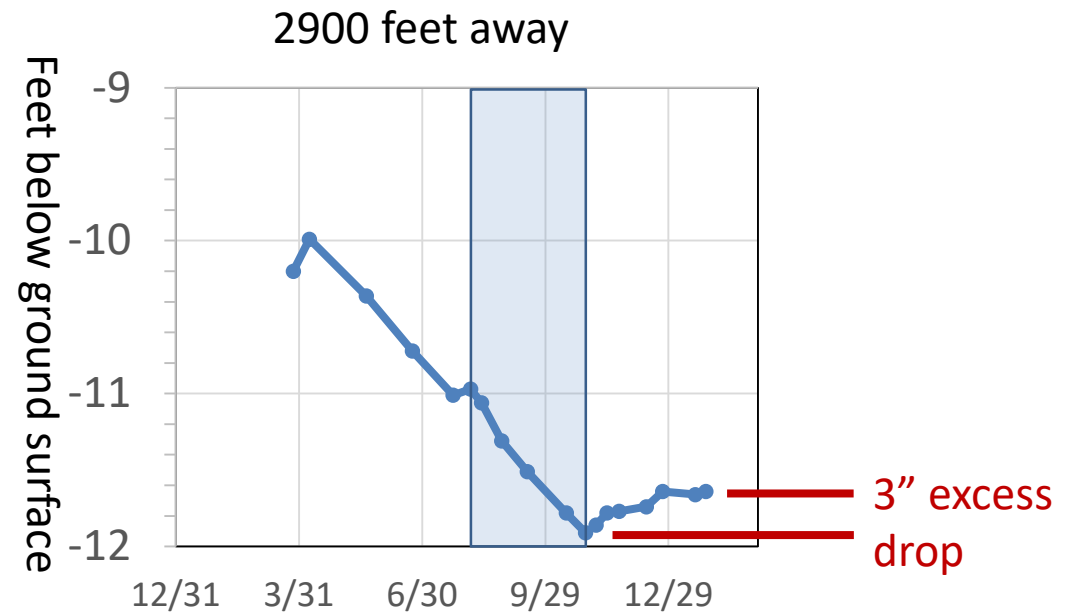
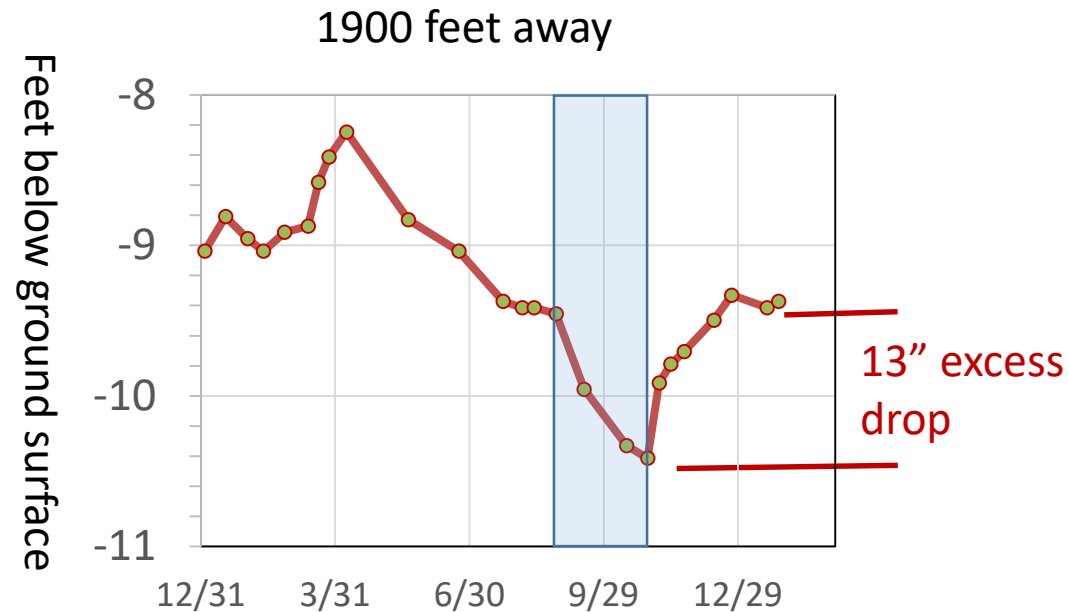
Enough water to lower the water table by  
approximately 1 foot over the entire area of  
the large circle (without inflow)

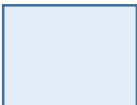
Starting water level: 7’2” bgs  
Water level during pumping: ~12’ bgs

Circles: 1,900 & 5,800 foot radius

▲ Toxic plume

# Groundwater lowered 13" and 3" at distances of 1,900 ft. and 2,900 ft. from dewatering site



 Shaded area shows dewatering period: 8/6 – 10/27/2020.

# Requests

Basements, although out-of-sight, have impacts, especially in high groundwater areas, both during and after construction.

Basements block flows of our largest stormdrain system: the aquifer.

=> Require adequate setbacks from all property lines to allow groundwater flows.

Limit construction dewatering to no more than 40,000 gallons per day.

Limit basement depth to 8 feet or less.

**From:** [Dona Tversky](#)  
**To:** [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** Plans for intersections at El Camino and California Ave & Churchill and Alma  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 9, 2021 8:32:53 PM

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**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

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Dear Planning commission,

I am a long time Palo Alto resident and mother of two kids with concerns for pedestrian and bicycle safety in two local intersections.

1.) El Camino & California Ave: The walk sign is FAR too short for any running adult to use to cross the street, much less a mother walking with kids or kids alone. Can that please be evaluated and lengthened? Many children use that crosswalk getting to schools.

2.) Churchill & Alma: I just heard plans at the School Board meeting for changes to the crosswalks around Paly (which is great) but no mention of the dangerous Churchill crossing at Alma and the train tracks where there is poor visibility and many young bikers sharing the road with fast moving cars and the background of trains.

Can these two sites be evaluated? Are there plans in place?

Thank you,

Dona

Dona A. Tversky, MD MPH

**From:** [Roberta Ahlquist](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Clerk, City](#); [City Mgr](#); [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Dave Price](#)  
**Subject:** Take a break, sit down, and hear these messages  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 9, 2021 3:43:59 PM

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[https://youtu.be/kiN\\_-Zz0aR4](https://youtu.be/kiN_-Zz0aR4)

Dear Council Members:

White folks, especially, have a lifetime of relearning social justice ethics, and unlearning their racism, especially here in Palo Alto, and the Bay Area. If you think that there is no racism here, then this is especially for you. Critical, ongoing, white self-interrogation is necessary for opening up your hearts and eyes to the reality of individual and particularly institutional racism. Perhaps then we can build low-income housing for our ethnically/racially diverse workers and service sector workers who travel so far from home to get to their jobs.

Sincerely,

Roberta Ahlquist, Women's International League for Peace & Freedom,  
Low-income Housing Committee, Peninsula Branch

**From:** [mark.weiss](#)  
**To:** [Aram James](#)  
**Cc:** [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [WILPF Peninsula Palo Alto](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [Council, City](#); [Mark Petersen-Perez](#); [Lewis, James](#); [John Abraham](#); [alisa mallari tu](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Tomorrow's Palo Alto HUMAN RELATIONSHIP COMMISSION annual retreat -priority setting for 2021 ...9am-1pm ( see link to the agenda below)  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 9, 2021 11:17:42 AM

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Related:

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-02-09/name-changes-tell-stories-of-la-black-history>

Mbw

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 4, 2021, at 4:59 PM, Aram James <[abjpd1@gmail.com](mailto:abjpd1@gmail.com)> wrote:

Yes, definitely let's talk it up on no racist poll tax fees at the Ladoris Cordell Foothill Preserve.

Low low income housing on Fry's prop and a 20% reparation set aside in perpetuity for all units built on Fry's property. See u all tomorrow. aram

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 4, 2021, at 12:16 PM, Roberta Ahlquist <[roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu](mailto:roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu)> wrote:

I hope we can also rescind the fees on Foothill Park get them to apply for CAREsact funds for LOW, LOW income housing on the Sobrato Fry's property and get % of housing for low-income people of color , essential workers, and....

On Thu, Feb 4, 2021 at 11:27 AM Aram James <[abjpd1@gmail.com](mailto:abjpd1@gmail.com)> wrote:

FYI: Folks: at tomorrow's HRC retreat from 9am to 1pm - see agenda below- chance to speak to what you think should be the HRC's priorities for the year.

I plan to speak re the HRC pushing the city council to consider renaming Foothills Park in honor of Judge Cordell, ending the coverup re the Zack Perron matter in 2021, developing a robust safe parking program, my anger that the council process for approving a new \$150 million dollar police station jail ( on Monday feb 1) was essentially a Kangaroo court stacked decked for the pro jail -folks. 8-10 witnesses for building the police station jail none for opponents of this unnecessary monument to our failed criminal prison jails industrial complex.

Ok, hope some of you can attend and state your own priorities for the HRC to address in 2021. You don't have to be a Palo Alto resident to express yourself.

Aram

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/80103>

Shared via the [Google app](#)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [WILPF Peninsula Palo Alto](#)  
**To:** [Aram James](#)  
**Cc:** [chuck jagoda](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [rebecca@winwithrebecca.com](mailto:rebecca@winwithrebecca.com); [Tanner, Rachael](#); [City Mgr; citycouncil@mountainview.gov](mailto:City Mgr; citycouncil@mountainview.gov); [Raven Malone](#); [city.council@menlopark.org](mailto:city.council@menlopark.org); [Planning Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Safe Organized Spaces another tactic on the path to ending homelessness in a Richmond  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 9, 2021 9:12:53 AM

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I see this as an important option we should all address to our respective city councils (I'm in Menlo Park where the USGS offices were - and large parking lots. Ray Mueller looked into it but it didn't appear to be feasible.

Judy Adams  
WILPF branch email coordinator

On Tue, Feb 9, 2021 at 7:51 AM Aram James <[abjpd1@gmail.com](mailto:abjpd1@gmail.com)> wrote:

Follow the link below to view the article.

[https://mercurynews-ca-app.newsmemory.com/?publink=0ee2b6026\\_1345c45](https://mercurynews-ca-app.newsmemory.com/?publink=0ee2b6026_1345c45)

Sent from my iPhone



From: [Aram James](#)  
To: [Aram James](#), [Walter Peltreback](#), [wfp@earthlink.net](#), [wfp@earthlink.net](#), [Human Relations Commission](#), [Planning Commission](#), [Public Commission](#), [Jeff Moore](#), [Jeff Rosen](#), [Eugene](#), [Richard Korte](#), [cbscc@earthlink.net](#), [Council City](#), [Cecilia Taylor](#), [Betsy Nash](#), [Cathy Smith](#), [Baker Andrew](#), [Jon Simlar](#), [city@earthlink.net](#), [Kathleen Smith](#), [Chuck Jacobs](#), [Deann Malone](#)  
Subject: Police dog attack, Daily Post, Feb 8, 2021, by Aram James  
Date: Monday, February 8, 2021 5:23:04 PM

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

Last week we asked District Attorney Jeff Rosen to consider filing charges re the alleged vicious police dog attack on an innocent community member. Friday we received our answer: See below:



comments from his public relations guy.

You can bet if you or I released a vicious dog, a potentially deadly weapon, on an innocent neighbor, we would have already been in custody without bail.

Rosen's repeated promises to bring charges against bad acting cops rings hollow yet again.

Its one set of rules for the cops and another for ordinary community members.

It's time for Rosen to resign or time we vote him out of office in 2022.

**Aram James**  
**Palo Alto**

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Daily Post

Monday, February 8, 2021

7

## **OPINION**

### **Police dog attack**

**Dear Editor:** In response to your article on Friday headlined, "Cop off the hook for attack by police dog," I'm not letting our elected district attorney, Jeff Rosen, off the hook.

Rosen has yet again failed to bring charges against a cop or cops who, this time, allegedly released a vicious Palo Alto police dog on an innocent Mountain View resident, Joel Domingo Alejo.

Rosen doesn't tell us whether he reviewed body-worn camera footage from the incident. Or if the cameras were even on. In fact, Rosen doesn't speak at all.

Rosen's representative says in effect the release of a deadly weapon (the vicious police dog) was an "unfortunate incident" but not a crime. Rosen leaves the dirty work to a non-lawyer spinmeister.

Neither Rosen nor his PR guy give us any legal reasoning, or for that matter, any kind of detailed information for failing to bring charges.

We deserve transparency not non-answers and condescending comments from his public relations guy.

You can bet if you or I released a vicious dog, a potentially deadly weapon, on an innocent neighbor, we would have already been in custody without bail.

Rosen's repeated promises to bring charges against bad acting cops rings hollow yet again.

Its one set of rules for the cops and another for ordinary community members.

It's time for Rosen to resign or time we vote him out of office in 2022.

**Aram James**  
**Palo Alto**

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [City Mgr](#); [Council, City](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [mark weiss](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [Winter Dellenbach](#); [wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** .....please circulate .....Please Help Local Holocaust Survivors Living In Poverty  
**Date:** Monday, February 8, 2021 12:52:04 PM

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FYI: please circulate widely! Aram





Dear Friends,

**Two out of three Holocaust survivors in Silicon Valley are living at or near the poverty line.**

The income these survivors receive does not allow them to afford what is needed to live a dignified life. Many are choosing between heat or food, medicine or rent. Others have dire living conditions because they cannot invest what is needed to repair their homes.

Please join us to help Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley ensure that the urgent and critical emergency needs of Silicon Valley's Holocaust Survivors do not go unmet. Every dollar donated to Operation Dignity will be matched by [KAVOD SHEF in partnership with Seed the Dream Foundation](#) up to \$45,000. **Every dollar raised goes directly to our community's Holocaust survivors.**

Last year, our community raised over \$68,000 to support Holocaust survivors, and people's lives were changed. Here is what one low-income Survivor told us:

*"I got assistance from Operation Dignity so I could go to Target to buy*

*warm clothes, shoes, and one winter sweater. Now, when I wear my new warm jacket, I am so grateful to those generous people who gave me the opportunity to feel their warmth and care.”*

This year's Operation Dignity campaign will continue **through February 22, 2021** so please don't wait to help improve the lives of our community's survivors. As Anne Frank said, “How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”

Please donate today by [clicking here](#).

L'Shalom,



Lael Gray  
CEO, Jewish Silicon Valley



Addison-Penzak Jewish Community  
Center dba Jewish Silicon Valley.



Addison-Penzak Jewish Community Center dba Jewish Silicon Valley | 14855 Oka Road, Los Gatos, CA 95032

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Sent by [jerami@jvalley.org](mailto:jerami@jvalley.org) powered by



**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [City Mgr](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [Stump, Molly](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** [Records Center] Public Records Request :: W002757-020821  
**Date:** Monday, February 8, 2021 11:35:32 AM

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FYI:

--- Please respond above this line ---



02/08/2021

RE: PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST of February 08, 2021, Reference # W002757-020821

Dear Aram,

I am writing in response to your requests for documents under the California Public Records Act (Govt. Code § 6250 et seq.) received by the City on 2/8/2021.

**Your request mentioned:** Feb 4. 2021

Dear City Attorney Molly Stump et al:

Please provide any and all information ( documents) regarding the protocol, city ordinances, or related procedures, to start the process of renaming a city park. As an example, the legal process necessary to rename Foothills Park in honor of Palo Alto resident Judge Ladoris

Cordell.

Thank you all for your assistance in this matter,

Sincerely,

Aram James

**Response:** The City has reviewed its files and has located records responsive to your request. Please log in to the Records Center at the following [LINK](#) to retrieve the appropriate response.

If you have any questions, or wish to discuss this further, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Nelly Baumb  
Deputy City Clerk  
Office of the City Clerk

---

To monitor the progress or update this request please log into the [\[NAMEOFSYSTEM\]](#)





**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Winter Dellenbach](#); [Council, City](#); [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [Perron, Zachary](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [Greer Stone](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Rosen, Jeff](#); [Raj Jayadev](#); [Anna Griffin](#); [Joe Simitian](#); [Dave Price](#); [Emily Mibach](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [mark weiss](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [cindy.chavez@bos.sccgov.org](#); [Stump, Molly](#); [O'Neal, Molly](#); [Richard Konda](#); [Sunita de Turreil](#); [Pat Burt](#); [DuBois, Tom](#); [Filseth, Eric \(Internal\)](#)  
**Subject:** Here is the article I attached to my 1/7/2005 letter re police dog bites in palo alto  
**Date:** Sunday, February 7, 2021 1:16:57 PM

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## Use of Police Dogs Raises Debate About Use-of-Force Fairness

July 30 - As two officers and a police dog staked out Takoma Park, Md., in September 1995 for suspected burglars, they came upon two men sitting on the roof of a printing business and ordered them to descend and surrender. What happened next placed the Prince George's County police canine unit in the cross hairs of federal investigators and prosecutors, and has raised questions about how police dogs are used in departments across the country, especially against minority suspects.

According to a criminal indictment, the two men followed police orders and surrendered. But Cpl. Anthony Delozier allegedly asked his partner if the police dog could "take a bite out of" one of the men. Officer Stephanie Mohr allegedly released the canine, which attacked one of the men, an unarmed, homeless Mexican immigrant whose wounds required stitches.

On Tuesday, the two police officers will go to trial in federal court on civil rights and conspiracy charges related to the 1995 attack, and the judge has allowed into evidence several prior claims that Mohr allowed or caused her dog to attack unresisting people, all of whom were minorities. Following the 1995 incident, the FBI launched a probe of the canine unit and scads of lawsuits have been filed against the department.

### Dogs With Metal Teeth

The Prince George's County saga is just one of several recent police use-of-force cases involving suspects or innocent civilians claiming to have been wrongly targeted by police canines. In many cases, the alleged victims were minorities, who civil rights groups say are disproportionately attacked by police dogs. In one notable incident, a man who was bitten several times during a 1999 arrest in Salt Lake County, Utah, filed a federal lawsuit earlier this month against Bear and Ben, the dogs that bit him. The man also claims the dogs' handlers taunted him, calling him "doggie boy" and barking at him.

Dogs have been used increasingly over the last few decades in police work to help sniff out everything from suspects in hiding to missing persons, explosives, narcotics, and even illegally poached meat. Most police dogs are German shepherds imported from Europe because of superior breeding and characteristics. These dogs have extremely powerful jaws that can exert between 1,000 and 2,000 pounds of pressure per square inch. Their bite, of course, can be quite devastating, often leaving gaping puncture wounds, torn flesh and searing pain. These days, police dogs are even being fitted for titanium teeth on their canine incisors to protect their teeth. The effect is even more frightening for those who find themselves in the glare of a

snarling canine officer.

Although police dogs are living beings, they are in reality no different from any lethal weapon police officers wield, says David Harris, a professor of law and values at the University of Toledo College of Law. Highly trained police dogs rarely attack unless at the command of their handlers. "They're considered tools of the police officer just like a radio or a Mace can or a billy club," he said.

### Bitten While Black

In a dubious moment in police dog history, they were used during the race riots and civil rights marches of the 1960s to control crowds. Images of vicious dogs being used against blacks by white police commissioners such as the infamous "Bull" Connor of Birmingham, Ala., are legendary.

For civil rights groups, recent alleged misuse of police canines is a bit too reminiscent of the 1960s. "This is just part of long legacy of the treatment of people of color in this country," says King Downing, the national racial profiling coordinator for the American Civil Liberties Union, who calls this phenomenon "Bitten While Black."

The ACLU argues that police dogs should only be used when a suspect has committed a violent felony, is believed to be armed, or where there's probable cause the suspect poses a serious threat. It also calls for better training of handlers and recordkeeping of incidents involving canines.

Amnesty International has called for police departments to follow the lead of the Los Angeles Police Department and adopt a less aggressive "find and bark" policy as opposed to the self-explanatory "find and bite." Under "find and bark," police dogs trail a suspect and then corner him instead of biting. Since the 1995 incident involving the unarmed homeless man, Prince George's County has also adopted the "find and bark" strategy. "Dogs need to be used as a last resort - not a first line of defense for the officer," says Van Jones of the San Francisco-based Ella Baker Center for Human Rights.

### The Bark As Good As the Bite

But Jim Watson, national secretary of the North American Police Work Dog Association, says canine policy must be left up to police departments. In some cases, "find and bark" could end up being deadly for the handler if confronted with an armed suspect. In the end, he says, what's important isn't so much which policy is used but how much power the handler has over the dog's actions. "Both rely on the same basic principle of control. Without control you will not have the finished product," Watson says. Allegations of police brutality involving canines must be looked at on a case-by-case basis, Watson says. Investigators must look at the initial training of the canine officers and whether they are required to continue training while on the job. Fewer than 10 states have mandatory testing for canine units before the dogs can hit the streets, Watson says. In a situation where a canine has allegedly been misused, says Harris, investigators first must look to see if the department had the proper training, procedures, and a policy in place for the use of the dogs. Then, the focus falls on the officers themselves and whether they acted in accordance with the policy. "Dogs can be a big help like any other tool, but they have to be used properly," Harris says. "There has to be training on both ends of the leash, and there has to be good policy on

using the dogs properly."

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Winter Dellenbach](#); [Council, City](#); [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [Perron, Zachary](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [Greer Stone](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Rosen, Jeff](#); [Raj Jayadev](#); [Anna Griffin](#); [Joe Simitian](#); [Dave Price](#); [Emily Mibach](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [mark weiss](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [cindy.chavez@bos.sccgov.org](#); [Stump, Molly](#); [molly.o'neal@pdo.sccgov.org](#); [Richard Konda](#); [Sunita de Tourreil](#); [Pat Burt](#); [DuBois, Tom](#); [Filseth, Eric \(Internal\)](#)  
**Subject:** From the archives of Aram James re some history of the use of police dogs in Palo Alto  
**Date:** Sunday, February 7, 2021 12:52:17 PM

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1/7/2005

To members of the city council et al:

Here is the link (<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/cityagenda/publish/cmrs/4091.pdf>) to the CMR, ( City manager's report) dated 1/10/05, to the Palo Alto city council analyzing the canine bite info for the last 36 months. This report attempts to give an overview of the history and function of the PAPP canine unit but, in my mind, glosses over, or altogether ignores, some of the most important issues.

The report does not directly address the striking statistics ( 9 of the 13 dog bites were inflicted on people of color) that suggest that the canine bites, as a weapon, are used in an extremely disproportionately fashion against people of color.

As the attached article suggests, see below, (Use of Police Dogs Raises Debate About Use-of-force fairness), the PAPP's apparent pattern of racially targeting minorities by their canine unit may well reflect a national trend.

Clearly more data is needed to confirm this proposition (I did a brief search on the Internet on the topic and discovered the below attached article), but before the PAPP allows the continued use of canine units this information needs to be gathered and analyzed in light of the critical issues raised by the CMR dated 1/10/05, and the attached article. At minimum the city council and City manager should consider a moratorium on the use of the canine units in Palo Alto until these issues are fully researched and addressed.

Palo Alto is a city that is approximately 75% Caucasian with an African-American population making up approximately 2% of the city's population. Based on the statistics provided, it would appear that nearly 70% of those bitten by the dogs are people of color. As an aside, I'm most certain Chief Lynne Johnson, consistent with her dismissive attitude re the troubling statistics on racial profiling in Palo Alto generally, will attempt to artfully explain away this information/data as well.

The report does not address the severity of the injuries inflicted by the police dogs or provide details of the necessary medical attention needed to mend the wounds of those subject to these vicious canine attacks. What do the photos of these injuries look like? How many stitches were needed to close the wounds? Will Lynne Johnson claim this information is confidential? But then, without missing a beat, attempt to reassure us that if she could disclose this info the attacks/injuries are of the most benign nature?

Were any of the victims bitten in the area of the face or other vital areas? What were the medical bills for these 13 dog attacks? Are the injuries inflicted consistently more severe when the victim of the canine attack is a minority or is there no distinction in this regard?

Are the dogs being used to patrol the border (so to speak) between East Palo Alto and Palo

Alto, more than in other areas of the city? Are the PAPD canines fitted with metal teeth (titanium), ( allegedly to protect the dogs teeth, but surely increasing the torture of those bitten)?

sar

Does PAPD have any reason to have a policy that allows for their dogs to bite the alleged suspect, as opposed to a less aggressive "find and bark," only policy, see below, (Use of Police Dogs Raises Debate About Use-of Force Fairness) used by other departments? Should the city of Palo Alto ban the use of canine's altogether? Or limit their use to rescue operations only? How much money is budgeted annually for all canine related resources? Why the increase from 4 canine units from two?

Given the disclosures revealed by the canine statistics of the last 36 months should the city council request data going back at least another 36 months-- to see if in fact a long term pattern of racial targeting by the PAPD canine unit is a reality?

I ask that all concerned citizens receiving this email consider reading the CMR ( see link above) and then developing their own set of questions for Chief Johnson on the issue of canine units in Palo Alto.

It's time we find out what our police department is up to. It's time the citizens of Palo Alto take an active part in formulating police policy that is administered in our names.

Sincerely,

Aram James  
(650) 424-1249  
[abjpd1@juno.com](mailto:abjpd1@juno.com)

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [mark weiss](#)  
**Cc:** [chuck jagoda](#); [Raven Malone](#); [Pastor Kaloma Smith](#); [WILPF Peninsula Palo Alto](#); [Carol Lamont](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [alisa mallari tu](#); [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [city.council@menlopark.org](#); [Perron, Zachary](#)  
**Subject:** Re: First tent in front of city hall, downtown Palo Alto. ( And the Zack Perron's coming out party?)  
**Date:** Saturday, February 6, 2021 10:13:07 PM

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**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

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.           The Zack Perron Coming out Party  
Hi Mark,

And don't forget Zack Perron has apparently been coached to find his voice after what seems like a two years silence.

He was interviewed in the Daily Post yesterday, Friday (Feb 5) in a front page story titled : *RV campers on police radar....is this Perron's coming out party....the start of a PR campaign to rebuild his reputation...or doesn't he have a reputation to restore?*

Should we expect that Perron will finally answer questions about his alleged racist comments to black PAPD officer Marcus Barbour..... in front of other officers, and then Perron's punishment is to be promoted to captain while Marcus Barbour is run out of the PAPD.... now with the Santa Clara County Sheriff's department and performing famously.

Ok, Zack Perron, here is you challenge : step out from behind your claims of confidentiality, don't hide behind your union, your enhanced Officer's Bill of Rights...and just tell the damn truth get the stink off your chest.

Let the city begin to heal. Ask to be forgiven suspend yourself for a year without pay ...the family income gets cut from \$800,000 a year to \$400,000. Assign yourself 1 yr of public service cleaning up the streets of Palo Alto as a member of the Down Streets Team.

Teach your children, teach the kids of Palo Alto, teach the entire community— how your alleged racist comments hurt so many.

Then through the power of restorative justice both you and the community can be made whole. You can do it Zack. Its on you to do the right thing.

For you who have forgotten about the Perron scandal see the link below.

Regards, aram

<https://padailypost.com/2019/05/22/cops-use-of-n-word-led-to-investigation-that-never-became-public/amp/>

at 8:30 PM, mark weiss <earwopa@yahoo.com> wrote:

Well, as Chief Seattle said “All things are connected”. Chief Seattle the indigenous proto-environmentalist. Not to be confused with Chief Adrian Diaz, the current chief of police in Seattle.

Mark Weiss

In Palo Alto

Re: tents at 250 Hamilton, shantytowns as student agit prop in Hanover, Berkeley and Stanford 35 years ago, homelessness, safe parking, Ladoris Cordell, Al Young, Craig Lee, Albert Hopkins, and the trees in blue.

I think Democracy in Palo Alto needs a safe word...

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 6, 2021, at 6:46 PM, Aram James <abjpd1@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Mark,

For a day off you still talking like the great poet I know you to be. Stay on it!

Do you remember the Albert Hopkins case? City paid out \$250,000 to settle his case after he was brutally beaten by two PAPD officers. Can you name one or both of the involved officers? At trial a jury split 8-4 for guilty on felony charges....if memory serves me right the charges were excessive force under color of authority.

The DA refused to retry the case and ultimately the DA offered the defendant cops a 415 disturbing the peace as an infraction -max punishment \$250. Oh, I represented a few Stanford students circa 1985 —for taking over some administration buildings in protest of Stanford’s investment portfolio in Apartheid South African...just recently gave Rebecca a copy of the 200 plus questions I prepared for jury selection in the case.

BTW if I can locate my letter to the judge/DA I wrote re the two cops who went on trial for the beat down of Albert Hopkins I will send it your way. You the one with magic pen!! Keep it coming my brother!!

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 6, 2021, at 4:52 PM, mark weiss <earwopa@yahoo.com> wrote:

Excuse the digression but in 1985 liberal activists

interested in divestment that is to say stopping apartheid in South Africa built on the campus green at Dartmouth College a “shantytown” ..

After about six months, right wing activist destroyed it in the middle of the night. Then we had a one day teach-in about racism. Then for a while at the museum, the art museum displayed part of the former Shanty as artwork per se. I wonder if they still have it in storage.

If the tent in this picture is blue maybe it has something to do with the art installation by the Australian couple whose name escapes me but they painted the trees blue so that people will look with fresh eyes at things that were not made by man i.e. nature.

Personally I was kind of tripping out and in fact had a 10 minute conversation today with Officer or agent Craig Lee a 22 year veteran of our police force who was in patrol car was parked on the third floor of the 445 Bryant garage in my neighborhood and I was wondering if he should do a welfare check on the person who was sleeping in the second basement floor still sleeping even at 11 AM on a Saturday. There were actually two homeless people sleeping there. But What sent me there is the idea that apparently we paid tesla to sell us some charging equipment rather than asking them to pay us for the use of our garage which I think of as a type of corporate welfare.

I'm sorry if my argument is all over the map today is actually my off day. Jewish Sabbath and all that.

Mark

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 6, 2021, at 12:54 PM, chuck jagoda <chuckjagoda1@gmail.com> wrote:

Yes, yes, and yes!

I would also add a guillotine.

On Sat, Feb 6, 2021 at 11:27 AM Roberta Ahlquist <[roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu](mailto:roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu)> wrote:

m

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nextdoor University South**

<[reply@rs.email.nextdoor.com](mailto:reply@rs.email.nextdoor.com)>

Date: Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 8:37 PM




Subject: First tent in front of city hall,  
downtown Palo Alto.  
This is a bold step and maybe we should  
have a tent city here?  
r



View on Nextdoor

 Shelly Still, Duveneck - St. Francis

What are your thoughts on this?   
What do you think the city or  
residents need to do here? Do we  
watch and let it grow into tent city?

General · Feb 5



2



14

[See 12 previous replies](#)



Shelly Still  
What is your solution?  
And what is your  
immediate solution to  
prevent tent city all over  
Palo alto?...



Shelly Still  
Is that the solution? So  
they are encouraging  
camping in Palo Alto?

[View or Reply](#)

This message is intended for  
roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu. [Unsubscribe here.](#)  
Nextdoor, 420 Taylor Street, San Francisco, CA  
94102

|

--

**Chuck**

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [mark weiss](#)  
**Cc:** [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Perron, Zachary](#); [Cary Andrew Crittenden](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [Council, City](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [Sunita de Turreil](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Planning Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Anna Griffin](#); [raj@siliconvalleyde-bug.org](#); [WILPF Peninsula Palo Alto](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [james pitkin](#)  
**Subject:** From the archives of Aram James --letter to DA George Kennedy as assistant DA Karyn Sinunu  
**Date:** Saturday, February 6, 2021 7:29:30 PM

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5/3/2005

*To: District Attorney George Kennedy & Assistant District Attorney Karyn Sinunu*

*Re: Request that your office retry the criminal case against Palo Alto officers Craig Lee and Michael Kan*

Dear Mr. George Kennedy & Ms. Karyn Sinunu:

I am writing to you to request that your office retry the criminal case against Palo Alto police officers Michael Kan and Craig Lee. I would like to make some observations and comments regarding the recently completed trial in this matter wherein the jury ultimately hung 8 to 4 for guilty. I would then like to comment on the importance of this case being retried. I hope you will consider all of my comments in the constructive manner in which they are intended.

Comments re the recently completed trial of Defendants Kan & Lee

- First I think it is important to acknowledge the fine work performed during the course of all of the proceedings in this matter by Deputy District Attorney Peter Waite. Not only was his preparation and presentation of the case outstanding, but it was apparent that his confidence in the strength of the case grew as the matter proceeded. No doubt the case was not tried without some mistakes and at least one questionable judgment call, but, given all of the many pressures and roles being balanced, it was an outstanding job. By the time the case went to the jury it was my observation/opinion that Mr. Waite had out performed the very talented attorneys for the defendants. (I sat through the entire PX and trial in this matter.)
- From the perspective of a former public defender and trial lawyer it was clear to me that Mr. Waite and his investigative team (Sgt. Mike Denson and Sgt. Ron Watson from the PAPD) left few stones unturned in an effort to assure that the prosecution in this matter was both professionally managed and aggressively pursued.
- I had no sense during the trial of this matter, despite the obvious political pressures and ramifications for the entire prosecution team, that at anytime that the prosecution team treated this case lightly or in any fashion differently than any other serious felony matter. Finally, Mr. Waite, in an example that more public servants should model, made himself available to members of the public who had endless questions for and observations to share with him.

During the jury selection process in this case Mr. Waite's questions and the nature of the responses by prospective jurors re the role of race, racial profiling, the right of citizens to be free of undue and unwarranted harassment by the police etc., were both fascinating and instructive re the current public mood towards law enforcement. Had the voir dire process been taped it would have made a provocative documentary on the current status of the relationship between law enforcement and the community. As indicted by the responses during voir dire, as it currently stands, the relationship appears tenuous at best.

- There were numerous jurors who expressed just barely restrained anger re the recent killing of Bic Cau Tran by San Jose police officer Chad Marshall and similarly deep concern re other recent high profile killings by members of the SJPd.
- What came across strongest from the jury selection process is that both the depth and width of anger and concern over misconduct by law enforcement in this county is much greater than reflected by the mainstream media in Santa Clara County. Whereas the conventional wisdom has been that police cases are hard to successfully prosecute in this county the current dynamically shifting demographics, combined with a well informed citizenry re police misconduct issues, may well have changed the landscape permanently. Given the above, it would appear that police prosecutions are much more like to be successful in this county now and in the future.
- During the course of the jury selection the defense exercised a peremptory challenge against the one black female who made it into the jury box. Given the quality of her responses to the questions posed by attorneys for both sides it was clear that this prospective juror was totally free of bias for either side.
- Despite the fact that Mr. Waite made an appropriate Batson/Wheeler objection that the defense, specifically attorney Harry Stern, had exercised the challenge in a racially discriminatory fashion the judge, Andrea Bryan, declined to ask defense counsel for a showing of specific bias (to establish a race-neutral reasons for the strike) or to find a prima facie case for requiring a response by the defense. The judge should have reseated the juror in the presence of the entire panel as a clear message to the defense that the racist removal of a fair minded juror would not be tolerated. (Case law clearly supports the notion that one race based peremptory challenge is sufficient to trigger the remedies contemplated by Batson/Wheeler and its descendants.)
- Given that only three African-Americans were in the initial jury panel of approximately 160 prospective jurors called for in this case, there is little doubt that the discriminatory strike of the one black female to make it into the jury box denied the people a jury made up of a cross-section of the community and thus a fair trial.
- The following quotes serve as a reminder of the impact of a discriminatory challenge based on race in the context of this case: ... "The harm from discriminatory jury selection extends beyond that inflicted on the defendant and the excluded juror to touch the entire community." Batson V. Kentucky, 476 U.S, at 77 (1986).
- "The need for public confidence is especially high in cases involving race-related crimes. In such cases, emotions in the affected community will inevitably be heated

and volatile. Public confidence in the integrity of the criminal justice system is essential for preserving community peace in trials involving race related crimes.” (Citations omitted). Finally, as to Judge Bryan’s role in denying the community a fair trial the following is pertinent: “Be it at the hands of the state or the defense, if a court allows the juror to be excluded because of group bias, it is a willing participant in a scheme that could only undermine the very foundation of our system of justice—our citizens’ ” (citations omitted).

- In addition to the failure of Judge Andrea Bryan to perform her constitutional responsibility to insure the selection of a fair jury in this matter it was apparent that the court allowed the atmosphere surrounding the trial to favor the defense. Not only did the court appear to bend over backwards to rule in favor of the defense on issues where you would normally not expect such favorable rulings, but the court personnel, including the bailiffs, routinely acted with favoritism to members of law enforcement. This included providing preferential seating in the courtroom to members of law enforcement, to allowing outbursts by law enforcement spectators to go unpunished while, at the same time, closely monitoring the conduct of non-law enforcement citizens in the courtroom to the point of a constitutional chill on access.
- Despite all of the efforts by the court and its personnel to tamper with the jury selection, evidentiary rulings, deny equal access to the courtroom to the public versus members of law enforcement, all in a thinly veiled attempt to direct a verdict of acquittal, 8 members of the community still rendered a verdict of guilty refusing, in the greatest tradition of independent jurors, to buckle under the weight of the intimidating atmosphere allowed to exist by Judge Andrea Bryan. All of this speaks volumes re the strength of the evidence in this case and the fine job done by the prosecution team.
- Despite the fact that only 8 of the 12 jurors in this case voted for guilty the verdict was still one of historic proportions in Santa Clara County. I know of no other case in recent Santa Clara County history where 8 jurors have voted to convict police officers for the beating of an African-American citizen. This result calls out for a retrial.

#### Conclusion re why case should be retried.

- Community sentiment: I have enclosed an editorial from the Palo Alto Daily News, *Accused officers should be retried, April 20, 2005*, outlining some of the reasons why this case should be retried and encouraging your office to do so, both in the interest of the Palo Alto Police Department and the Community at large.
- Given the statements attributed to Karyn Sinunu in the San Jose Mercury News (enclosed), (April 19, 2005), that the district attorney usually retries hung juries and given that in this case 8 citizens voted for guilty under the difficult conditions described in the first section of this letter, failure to do so in this case would feed into the perception that there is two standards of justice in this community, one for the ordinary citizen and one for police officers.
- Given comments in a recent article in *The Recorder, April 27, 2005*, that there will be a chase for endorsements by police and law enforcement groups by the presumed candidates for District Attorney in 2006, and given Ms. Sinunu’s apparent intent to

run for this position, failure to retry this case might well be seen as decision based on political expediency rather than the merits of retrying this case.

- It is clear that this case would likely not have come to light but for the courageous act of a few “whistle blowing” members of the PAPD willing to break down the traditional “code of silence” that so perniciously permeates much of law enforcement in this community. By the jury’s verdict in this case the community has spoken: it is time, once and for all, to send the message that the so-called “code of silence” will not longer be tolerated by those we entrust with the awesome power of the badge. Failure to retry this case would discourage officers in the future to speak out against rogue officers in their ranks and, as result, put the public at risk of more unwarranted beatings and deaths.
- Given all of the above, the strength of the evidence presented in the first trial, the resources and efforts expended by the prosecution, the strong likelihood of a conviction beyond a reasonable doubt at a second trial, the efforts of the trial judge to sabotage the prosecution’s case in the first trial, and the strong public support for a retrial in this matter it is my request that you exercise your prosecutorial discretion in favor of a retrial in this case.

Sincerely,

Aram James  
Citizen Advocate

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [mark weiss](#)  
**Cc:** [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Council, City](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Rosen, Jeff](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [WILPF Peninsula Palo Alto](#); [Supervisor Simitian](#); [Perron, Zachary](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#)  
**Subject:** Kan & Lee PX from the archives of Aram James  
**Date:** Saturday, February 6, 2021 7:13:11 PM

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**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

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9/10/2004

*To: Palo Alto City Council, City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Police Chief Lynne Johnson and the Citizens Of Palo Alto.*

*From: Palo Alto Citizen Aram James*

Comments on the Kan and Lee Preliminary examination (The Hopkins's case).

I recently sat through the entire proceedings in the Kan and Lee matter and despite PAPD Chief Lynne Johnson's protestations to the contrary the evidence presented was compelling, in fact overwhelming, that officers Kan and Lee engaged in an extreme case of police brutality.

My review of the evidence suggests that the case was undercharged by the DA's office and that the evidence presented, including the injuries sustained by the victim, easily supported multiple counts of assault with a deadly weapon and the possibility of sustaining an attempted murder charge against the officers.

As is the tradition, if police are charged at all, the number and seriousness of the charges are reduced from the outset. Similarly, where an ordinary citizen would be faced with high bail often resulting in being held in custody during the pendency of the case, the police are most often allowed to remain out of custody – without bail --while being paid not to work. In the case of officers Khan and Lee, they were paid not to work for nearly a year. The city has yet to disclose the cost to the taxpayers of this paid vacation policy.

Despite the overwhelming evidence presented by the prosecution, Chief Lynne Johnson, who, by the way, sat in on none of the proceedings, made the following statement reported in the San Jose Mercury News on Saturday September 4, 2004: "All the information I have leads me to believe they should not have been held to answer."

Not only did Superior Court Judge Diane Northway find the evidence at the preliminary examination convincing, but the Palo Alto City Council after reviewing the case, (a former long time judge among its members) awarded the victim of this brutal attack \$250,000.

Chief Johnson continues to protect and defend her worst offending officers even when the facts are clear to any unbiased observer that a particular officer or officers have engaged in a pattern of criminal brutality or violations of the constitutional rights of our citizenry.

Chief Johnson's actions/words continue to show that she does not fully understand her role as police chief. The chief's Job is not to simply be a rubber stamp for her officers, right or wrong, but rather to protect and defend the community by closely scrutinizing the facts of alleged criminal behavior whether the source is an ordinary citizen or a rogue officer or officers. When the alleged criminal is one of her own officers, Chief Johnson appears to lose all desire or ability to analyze the facts in any reasonably objective fashion.

Unfortunately chief Johnson's most recent comments, in clear contradiction to the evidence presented in the Kan and Lee matter, are not an aberration. She has consistently spoken out in support of her officers regardless of the extreme nature of their criminal misconduct and before being fully informed of the facts.

The Hopkins' case, Jameel Douglas' (Skateboarder) case, the forced and false confession of Jorge Hernandez etc., as well as the ongoing and escalating problem of racial profiling of minority citizens by the PAPD all continue to go unpunished by Chief Johnson. As the great American civil rights leader Julian Bond has said: its one thing to collect data on racial profiling and or police abuse, but absent punishment of individual officers who engage in such conduct it is simply a hollow act.

Equally troubling is the fact that Lynne Johnson consistently reminds the community how hard she is working to ensure that her officers are not engaged in racially motivated conduct. In fact she has gone to great lengths to appear as though she is reaching out to the minority community with her public relations campaign to convince the minority community that things will change.

Chief Johnson's PR tactics are nothing more than a thinly veiled bait and switch scam— on the community she has sworn to protect. As an example she continues on a quarterly basis to collect data establishing beyond any reasonable doubt that certain of her officers continue to engage in racial profiling but no action is taken to punish the offending officers.

Every time the chief is asked for hard information on an offending officer, she invokes officer confidentiality as a shield to providing any answers of substance. Time and again she raises the hope of the community that real change will occur but when the rubber hits the road it's the same tired mantra—my officers have done nothing wrong.

Ultimately the victim of the initial police misconduct becomes the Chief's scapegoat and is blamed for the officer's misconduct—thus; the endless cycle of police violence continues unabated.

Lynne Johnson for all practical purposes and based on her repeated public pronouncements appears to be doing little more than the bidding of the admittedly biased adversarial organization--- designed legitimately to protect the rights of police officers -- the POA ( In this case the Palo Alto Police officer association.)

The Palo Alto Police Officers Association already has a capable spinmister in Agent Dan Ryan -- and surely doesn't need Chief Johnson to



echo in a knee jerk fashion his every pro cop -- 100% support sentiment sound bites.

The Chief's recent irresponsible statements, regarding the nature of the testimony at the just completed Kan and Lee preliminary examination, only encourages her officers to engage in more of the same criminal/brutal racially motivated conduct—knowing that she will always be there to excuse their conduct. Ask yourself how long Chief Johnson would last if the majority of the citizens of this community were people of color. How long will the citizens of Palo Alto tolerate a chief who says one thing and does another?

How many more citizens will have their constitutional rights violated by the PAPD? How many more citizens will be beaten or brutalized by the PAPD? How many more civil judgments need be exacted from the taxpayers of this city before the City Manager and the City Council takes steps to rein in or fire Chief Johnson? It's time for a change. Lynne Johnson may well be a fine human being but her tenure as Police Chief has been a dismal failure.

Sincerely,

Aram James

(Recently retired Santa Clara County  
Deputy Public Defender and co-founder  
of Santa Clara County Citizens to Elect  
Our Public Defender [www.electpd.org](http://www.electpd.org) )

Palo Alto, Ca 94306  
(650) 424-1249  
[abjpd1@juno.com](mailto:abjpd1@juno.com)

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Donna Wallach](#)  
**Cc:** [Council\\_City](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Jeff Rosen](#); [Molly O'Neal](#); [Stump, Molly](#); [Anna Griffin](#); [Raj](#); [Lewis, James](#); [alisa mallari tu](#); [Patrice Ventresca](#); [Drekmeier, Peter](#); [Winter Dellenbach](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Mary Hughes Thompson  
**Date:** Saturday, February 6, 2021 4:44:41 PM

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Dear Donna,

Thanks so much for sending this sad news my way. I will copy others in on your message. I'm guessing you likely accompanied Mary Hughes on at least one of her boat trips to break the siege in Gaza. You are an amazing activist for justice on so many fronts. Thanks for all you do.

Best,

Aram

On Feb 6, 2021, at 3:53 PM, Donna Wallach <cats4jazz@gmail.com> wrote:

Greetings all,

Please read below the message sent out yesterday from Jane Jewell. In addition to what Jane wrote about Mary Hughes-Thompson, Mary was also one of the originators of the idea of breaking the siege of Gaza by boat. She was one of the tens if not hundreds of solidarity activists who had been illegally deported by War Criminal Terrorist Apartheid Israeli govt with a stamp in her passport not to let her back in for at least 10 years. She knew that Palestinians did not want to wait another 10 years for her to return to work with them in solidarity, meaning the Palestians are the leaders and she would be there to do the solidarity work. Although she had also thought of other ways of entering, the idea of entering by boat seemed the best option. The Free Gaza Movement was born in 2006. It took 2 years and many volunteers and volunteer hours to raise funds, find the first two original Free Gaza Movement boats, purchase the boats, build up a team to support the boat trips and vet all the people who signed up for the first and then 4 more boat trips from Cyprus to Gaza in an ongoing effort to break the illegal siege/blockade/collective punishment on the Palestinians living in Gaza Strip. Besides being a kick-a\*\* Palestine solidarity activist, Mary was also a mother, an avid knitter, a lover of animals. I think she had a license to fly. She was involved in the film arts in some way. And so much more. She was an amazing woman.

She was diagnosed with terminal lymphoma cancer in her sinuses back in October 2020. Thanks to the Right to Die Act, she could choose when she had enough of suffering with pain and chose to drink the prescription to end her suffering on

Friday 5th February 2021. Mary Hughes-Thompson Presente!

Please read below

in solidarity,  
Donna Wallach

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jane** <[14friendsofpalestine@gmail.com](mailto:14friendsofpalestine@gmail.com)>  
Date: Sat, Feb 6, 2021 at 10:11 AM  
Subject: Mary Hughes Thompson  
To: <[14FP@googlegroups.com](mailto:14FP@googlegroups.com)>

Just to let everyone know, Mary Hughes Thompson, cofounder of the Free Gaza Movement, passed away yesterday at her home in Los Angeles with her son by her side.

She was 87.

She was a determined activist for Palestine, with great courage and enterprise. Palestinians and her many friends mourn her lose.

Jane Jewell

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "14fp" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to [14fp+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:14fp+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com).

To view this discussion on the web visit

[https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/14fp/CAAZ%3D3UAGNYvTM4sAj70%2B-Lb2rUaj6gCmCpfFn3-1fqK9\\_fCHQg%40mail.gmail.com](https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/14fp/CAAZ%3D3UAGNYvTM4sAj70%2B-Lb2rUaj6gCmCpfFn3-1fqK9_fCHQg%40mail.gmail.com).

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**2 books you must read:**

**"Against Our Better Judgement: The hidden history of how the U.S. was used to create Israel"** by Alison Weir

<http://www.againstourbetterjudgment.com/>

**"State of Terror: How Terrorism Created Modern Israel"** by Thomas Suarez

<http://thomassuarez.com/SoT.html>

**Other important websites to visit**

<http://www.ifamericansknew.org>

<http://www.councilforthenationalinterest.org/new/>

<https://wearenotnumbers.org/>

**End the Blockade/Siege on Gaza!**

**Tear down the Apartheid Walls in West Bank & Gaza!**

**End the War Criminal Israeli collective punishment on the Palestinian people!**

**End the illegal Apartheid Israeli Occupation of all of Palestine!**  
**Right to Return to their homes and land in Palestine for all Palestinians!**  
**End all U.S. aid to Israel**  
**Free Palestine! Long Live Palestine!**

**Support Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) &  
Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel  
(PACBI) Campaigns!**

<http://www.bdsmovement.net>

<http://www.WhoProfits.org>

<http://www.pacbi.org>

**Support Solidarity with Gaza Fishers**

<https://sgf.freedomflotilla.org/>

<https://freedomflotilla.org/>

<https://sgf.freedomflotilla.org/category/we-are-not-numbers>

**Support ISM volunteers in West Bank and Gaza Strip!**

<http://www.palsolidarity.org>

Donna Wallach

[cats4jazz@gmail.com](mailto:cats4jazz@gmail.com)

Skype: palestinewillbe

Twitter: @PalestineWillBe

(cell) 408-569-6608

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [chuck jagoda](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [rebecca@winwithrebecca.com](mailto:rebecca@winwithrebecca.com); [Council City](#); [Greer Stone](#); [Raven Malone](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Sunita de Turrell](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [Stump, Molly](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Jeff Rosen](#); [Dennis Upton](#); [David Angel](#); [wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com](mailto:wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com); [Winter Dellenbach](#)  
**Cc:** [Stump, Molly](#); [wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com](mailto:wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** See In re Eichorn re the application of the Defense of Necessity -in cases involving those who are unhoused (application to a tent or tent city in front a city hall-will the defense fly)? Read the case and you decide  
**Date:** Saturday, February 6, 2021 1:55:39 PM

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See re the application of Defense of Necessity in cases involving the persons who are involuntarily unhoused, u can Google it: In re Eichorn (1998).

Hi Folks,

Each case will need to stand on its own facts. But checkout this appellate decision.

Arresting folks for being involuntarily unhoused raises at least the possibility of the putting on a Necessity Defense. A tent or tents city in front of a city hall-dependng again on the specific facts ...is certainly a distinct possibility.

And, of course, the county jails needs no unnecessary arrests leading to the possibility of more Covid victims. My bet neither the DAs office or the Public Defender, or the courts for that matter, would want these cases further backing up and already overloaded system. We need housing solutions not arrests and further criminalization of our unhoused population.

I know a little bit about the necessity defense in a slightly different context-re the application of the defense in a nuclear weapons protest case In re Weller (1985) 164 Cal App 3d 44. I had the honor, as a public defender of trying the case -and handing the appeals over 6-7 years. Lost at every stage...but learned a little bit along the way.

Weller is an interesting read for any legal nerds out there.

Aram

<https://law.justia.com/cases/california/court-of-appeal/4th/69/382.html>

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Rebecca Eisenberg](#)  
**To:** [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [Aram James](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [WILPF Peninsula Palo Alto](#); [Lewis James](#); [Council, City](#); [Mark Petersen-Perez](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#)  
**Cc:** [mark weiss](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [John Abraham](#); [alisa mallari tu](#); [Stump, Molly](#); [Shikada, Ed](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Tomorrow's Palo Alto HUMAN RELATIONSHIP COMMISSION annual retreat -priority setting for 2021 ...9am-1pm ( see link to the agenda below)  
**Date:** Friday, February 5, 2021 3:26:50 PM

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Because I had to miss this meeting due to a conflicting meeting for Paly High School parents, I will take this opportunity to share my thoughts on goals for 2021:

- City Council just approved the spending of unprecedented taxpayer (aka residential) sums (truly, the most in PA history) to build a new, large police HQ and Jail off California Ave. **We need HOMES not JAILS.**

- City Council accepted only two bids for the \$110 million project -- both by white-owned firms - and did not allow any minority- or women-owned firms to submit bids. **We must demand that people of color and women receive an opportunity to compete for city projects.**

- City Council approved a poll tax on Foothills Park, claiming that there is "no other way" to pay for maintenance. **We must stop taxing the poor and start taxing the rich**

- At every meeting, City Council has had an opportunity to put an emergency ballot measure to tax ONLY the largest and most profitable companies, yet has refused to do so, even though 80% of our land is owned by large corporations/billionaires, and every other city in California taxes its largest businesses. **We must require billionaires and the wealthiest few to pay their fair share.**

- In a few weeks, City Council officially will allow a wholly-private commercial school to take 3 more homes off the Palo Alto market (evicting tenants), destroy 200 ancient trees, and place a large commercial garage and regulation-sized high-tech swimming pool (with no entry opportunities for residents, even for money) on the only bike boulevard that serves North Palo Alto's public schoolchildren. **Palo Alto must protect our residents and natural environment from exploitation by wealthy private interests.**

- When City Council directs the Palo Alto Planning Commission to use its limited resources to require the community to enable Castilleja's unprecedented commercial expansion onto 60 residential lots, without finding a "**Public Benefit**" as is required by local and state law, it will subsidize a private group of billionaires at the expense of the Palo Alto community and Palo Alto Public Schools, whose budget City Council hit with a \$6 million annual deficit when Palo Alto City Council terminated its Cubberley lease this past spring. **Palo Alto must stop taking money from our public schools in order to give windfalls to walled cities and billionaire private interests.**

- Every week, Palo Alto City Council continues to give freebies to the richest commercial interests while asking nothing in return, including over this past week, granting Stanford University the right to remove two more College Terrace homes

off the Palo Alto residential market permanently, and signing a lease agreement with Tesla, where Palo Alto will be paying the most profitable company in the world for the use of chargers-- instead of demanding that Tesla, who has never paid ONE CENT in tax to Palo Alto, provide chargers, solar panels, and electric shuttle to our community to compensate for its cost-free use of our public services and community resources. **We must stand up for our community, rather than giving billionaire private interests everything they ask for, and more.**

- City Council continues to approve commercial projects that dig basements into the ground near El Camino, despite the presence of one of the country's biggest toxic waste spills - the HP Superfund Site - underground. **We must stop forcing residents, especially low-income and minority residents, to live and work in contaminated environments.**

- Palo Alto's lowest income workers suffer the largest housing shortage in our country, with only one affordable home for each SEVEN low-income workers. **Palo Alto must recognize if low income workers are good enough to deliver life-saving health services, service and deliver our groceries and meals, and clean up our toilets and parks, they are good enough to live here. We MUST house every low income essential worker, first responder, health care worker, teacher, janitor, service worker, food worker, child care provider, and laborer!!**

- Palo Alto continues to protect wrongdoing committed by its police force, failing to demand any accountability for its violent acts and harassment, despite a proven record of violence against black people and other people of color, per FBI and ACLU investigations. We demand 100% transparency into police actions, personnel files, reprimands and terminations (if any), and radio communications. **There is no safety without full accountability.**

Thank you for considering, and please consider reading my updates on my new blog at [rle.medium.com](http://rle.medium.com).

Best,  
Rebecca Eisenberg

Rebecca L. Eisenberg Esq.  
[rle.medium.com](http://rle.medium.com)  
[www.linkedin.com/in/eisenberg](http://www.linkedin.com/in/eisenberg)  
[www.winwithrebecca.com](http://www.winwithrebecca.com)  
[rebecca@winwithrebecca.com](mailto:rebecca@winwithrebecca.com)  
415-235-8078

On Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 10:50 AM Roberta Ahlquist <[roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu](mailto:roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu)> wrote:

I hope that folks were able to speak. Keep us posted.

r

On Thu, Feb 4, 2021 at 4:59 PM Aram James <[abjpd1@gmail.com](mailto:abjpd1@gmail.com)> wrote:

Yes, definitely let's talk it up on no racist poll tax fees at the Ladoris Cordell Foothill Preserve.

Low low income housing on Fry's prop and a 20% reparation set aside in perpetuity for all

units built on Fry's property. See u all tomorrow. aram

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 4, 2021, at 12:16 PM, Roberta Ahlquist <[roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu](mailto:roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu)> wrote:

I hope we can also rescind the fees on Foothill Park get them to apply for CAREsact funds for LOW, LOW income housing on the Sobrato Fry's property and get % of housing for low-income people of color , essential workers, and....

On Thu, Feb 4, 2021 at 11:27 AM Aram James <[abjpd1@gmail.com](mailto:abjpd1@gmail.com)> wrote:

FYI: Folks: at tomorrow's HRC retreat from 9am to 1pm - see agenda below- chance to speak to what you think should be the HRC's priorities for the year.

I plan to speak re the HRC pushing the city council to consider renaming Foothills Park in honor of Judge Cordell, ending the coverup re the Zack Perron matter in 2021, developing a robust safe parking program, my anger that the council process for approving a new \$150 million dollar police station jail ( on Monday feb 1) was essentially a Kangaroo court stacked decked for the pro jail -folks. 8-10 witnesses for building the police station jail none for opponents of this unnecessary monument to our failed criminal prison jails industrial complex.

Ok, hope some of you can attend and state your own priorities for the HRC to address in 2021. You don't have to be a Palo Alto resident to express yourself.

Aram

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/80103>

Shared via the [Google app](#)

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Randy Popp](#)  
**To:** [Planning Commission](#)  
**Cc:** [ADU Task Force](#)  
**Subject:** ADU Code Changes to PAMC Chapter 18.09  
**Date:** Friday, February 5, 2021 2:54:08 PM

---

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Members of the Palo Alto Planning and Transportation Commission:

I am writing to you as a representative of the ADU Task Force which includes a group of 17 local building professionals. We are excited to see the forward progress of our ADU ordinance and hope you understand both our willingness to participate in the process and our gratitude for being included to this point.

At the 10/5/2020 City Council meeting, we shared what we felt were important comments and items for consideration concerning the ADU Ordinance. As an outcome of that meeting Council moved to "Direct Staff to continue working with the community, including the ADU Task Force, during the PTC process."

Since that time we were invited to participate in a discussion with Staff regarding Affordable ADUs on December 18. The topic of that discussion centered around increased flexibility as an incentive for creating a Deed Restriction. Around that time we were told a PTC hearing would be scheduled for 1/27/21. To the best of our knowledge, there has been no further follow-up or outreach since that meeting. At this point, other than an opportunity to provide comment during the public comment period of your meeting, it does not appear we will be able to dialog or discuss our points with the PTC or Staff further.

This ordinance is highly technical, very detailed, and requires alignment with aspects of the State legislation it responds to. We understand the California Department of Housing & Community Development is currently developing a response to the approved Palo Alto ordinance that will obligate significant revisions for a number of the items we have already raised as being problematic. At this point, as reflected in the report issued for the 2/10/21 meeting, Staff has elected to not support or even address many of the "15 Suggestions for Consideration" we outlined. We believe this limits your ability to interface with the topics in the way Council intended.

We are hugely appreciative of the effort and thought that has been directed toward this ordinance and believe much of what is in place is very good. There are however a number of important items that currently limit our ability as professionals to support the production of ADUs. We respectfully request you defer this item to a date that is well communicated to our group so we can manage our schedules to attend. We also ask that the item be conducted as a discussion rather than just an action item so we can participate and support the dialog. I imagine if we do not defer there could be a third cycle on this topic which would be an unfortunate use of resources.

Respectfully submitted as a representative of the ADU Task Force,  
Randy Popp

**Randolph Popp**  
ARCHITECT

---

904 High Street  
Palo Alto, CA 94301  
[650.427.0026](tel:650.427.0026)  
[408.666.6516 mb](tel:408.666.6516)  
[www.rp-arch.com](http://www.rp-arch.com)

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Human Relations Commission](#); [Council\\_City](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [Raven Malone](#); [roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [paloaltofreepress@gmail.com](#); [Greer Stone](#); [Steven D. Lee](#); [DuBois, Tom](#); [Planning Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [rebecca@winwithrebecca.com](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Stump, Molly](#); [Anna Griffin](#); [Raj](#); [Richard Konda](#); [alisa mallari tu](#); [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Lewis, James](#); [Bunny Chiba](#); [Perron, Zachary](#)  
**Subject:** Malcolm X quote -in Cornell West's book RACE Matters —see quote below  
**Date:** Friday, February 5, 2021 11:53:55 AM

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>  
> “ You don’t stick a knife in a man’s back nine inches and then pull it out six inches and say you’re making progress.  
>  
> No matter how much respect, no matter how much recognition, whites show towards me, as far as I’m concerned, as long as it is not shown to every one of our people in this country, it doesn’t exist for me.”

Malcolm X (1964)

>  
>  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jeanne Fleming](#)  
**To:** [French, Amy](#)  
**Cc:** [Clerk, City](#); [DuBois, Tom](#); [Lait, Jonathan](#); [chow\\_tina@yahoo.com](mailto:chow_tina@yahoo.com); [wross@lawross.com](mailto:wross@lawross.com); [todd@toddcollins.org](mailto:todd@toddcollins.org); [Planning Commission](#); [Architectural Review Board](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Verizon Cluster 4 Resubmittal  
**Date:** Friday, February 5, 2021 10:45:11 AM

---

Dear Ms. French,

Thank you for this information. Thank you as well for separately explaining that the currently-under-review Verizon Cluster 4 cell tower resubmittal is for a subset of the new cell towers Verizon is proposing to install in the Downtown North, Crescent Park, University South and Community Center neighborhoods.

I appreciate your looking into the Building Eye problem. So you know, I never received a notification from Building Eye of this new Verizon resubmittal, nor have I ever received notification from Building Eye of *any* of the many cell tower applications the city has received in the years since I signed up for the Building Eye service. In short, since City Manager Shikada directed Staff in 2019 to stop updating the Wireless Hot Topics page, the only way a resident can obtain this information is by asking you or your colleagues for it.

Sincerely,

Jeanne

Jeanne Fleming, PhD  
[JFleming@Metricus.net](mailto:JFleming@Metricus.net)  
650-325-5151

---

**From:** French, Amy <Amy.French@CityofPaloAlto.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 4, 2021 2:57 PM  
**To:** Jeanne Fleming <jfleming@metricus.net>  
**Subject:** FW: Verizon Cluster 4 Resubmittal

Answers to your three questions.

1. Yes. See <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/news/displaynews.asp?NewsID=4924> the webpage for 20PLN-000118 or Verizon cluster 4 - resubmitted Monday, staff are currently reviewing that project. Comments are due by 2/11. The planner is aware you are interested in hearing the outcome.
  2. No.
  3. I don't know. I have reached back to our data analyst to find out if he knows whether this has been resolved as per December statement by a Building Eye rep.
-

**From:** Jeanne Fleming <[jfleming@metricus.net](mailto:jfleming@metricus.net)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 5:35 PM

**To:** French, Amy <[Amy.French@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Amy.French@CityofPaloAlto.org)>

**Cc:** Clerk, City <[city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org)>; DuBois, Tom <[Tom.DuBois@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Tom.DuBois@CityofPaloAlto.org)>; Lait, Jonathan <[Jonathan.Lait@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Jonathan.Lait@CityofPaloAlto.org)>; [chow\\_tina@yahoo.com](mailto:chow_tina@yahoo.com); [wross@lawross.com](mailto:wross@lawross.com); [todd@toddcollins.org](mailto:todd@toddcollins.org); Planning Commission <[Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org)>; Architectural Review Board <[arb@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:arb@cityofpaloalto.org)>

**Subject:** RE: Verizon Cluster 4 Resubmittal

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---

Dear Ms. French,

Thank you for this information.

I would appreciate it if you would tell me:

1. Are you referring to the project 20PLN-000118 (i.e., to new cell towers in the Downtown North, Crescent Park, University South and Community Center neighborhoods)?
2. Have there been any other submittals/resubmittals since mid-December, 2020, which is when I last received an update from the Planning Department?
3. Has there been any progress in fixing whatever the Building Eye problem is that prevents me from automatically receiving notifications of cell tower projects?

Finally, I would appreciate it if you would tell me what the outcome is of Staff's review of Verizon Cluster 4 when that is completed.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Jeanne

Jeanne Fleming, PhD  
[JFleming@Metricus.net](mailto:JFleming@Metricus.net)  
650-325-5151

---

**From:** French, Amy <[Amy.French@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Amy.French@CityofPaloAlto.org)>

**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 5:38 PM

**To:** Jeanne Fleming <[jfleming@metricus.net](mailto:jfleming@metricus.net)>

**Subject:** Verizon Cluster 4 Resubmittal

Ms. Fleming,

BTW, the Verizon Cluster 4 Resubmittal the City received today is now being reviewed by City staff.

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [Perron, Zachary](#); [Council, City](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Dave Price](#); [wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com](mailto:wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com); [Raj](#); [Richard Konda](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Planning Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Mark Petersen-Perez](#); [Greer Stone](#); [Pat Burt](#); [Bains, Paul](#); [wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com](mailto:wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [Winter Dellenbach](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [mark weiss](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#)  
**Subject:** police-misconduct-reports-released-for-the-first-time-with-officer-names ( Hawaii ) CLEARLY THIS IS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION —CALIFORNIA ( including PAPD) —need similar legislation now!!  
**Date:** Thursday, February 4, 2021 6:36:10 PM

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<https://www.khon2.com/local-news/annual-police-misconduct-reports-released-for-the-first-time-with-officer-names/amp/>

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [ParkRec Commission](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Council, City](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [Raven Malone](#); [Jethroe Moore](#); [rebecca@winwithrebecca.com](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [mark weiss](#); [Joe Simitian](#); [cindy.chavez@bos.sccgov.org](#); [supervisor.ellenberg@bos.sccgov.org](#); [wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com](#); [DuBois, Tom](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [Council, City](#); [Planning Commission](#); [paloaltofreepress@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** More background on the amazing accomplishments of judge Ladoris Cordell  
**Date:** Thursday, February 4, 2021 5:35:35 PM

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<https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/honorable-ladoris-cordell>

Shared via the [Google app](#)

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Stump, Molly](#); [Minor, Beth](#); [Van Der Zwaag, Minka](#); [Baumb, Nelly](#); [Tanner, Rachael](#); [Constantino, Mary](#)  
**Cc:** [Jeff Moore](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [mark weiss](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Lewis, james](#); [Bunny Chiba](#); [paloaltofreepress@gmail.com](mailto:paloaltofreepress@gmail.com); [wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com](mailto:wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** California Public Records Act request regarding all documents relevant to the process necessary to rename a city park  
**Date:** Thursday, February 4, 2021 12:29:22 PM

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Feb 4, 2021

Dear City Attorney Molly Stump et al:

Please provide any and all information ( documents) regarding the protocol, city ordinances, or related procedures, to start the process of renaming a city park. As an example, the legal process necessary to rename Foothills Park in honor of Palo Alto resident Judge Ladoris Cordell.

Thank you all for your assistance in this matter,

Sincerely,

Aram James

**From:** [Moore, Jeff](#)  
**To:** [mark weiss](#)  
**Cc:** [ParkRec Commission](#); [chuckjagoda1@gmail.com](#); [rebecca@winwithrebecca.com](#); [Planning Commission](#); [cindy.chavez@bos.sccgov.org](#); [supervisor.ellenberg@bos.sccgov.org](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Jeff Rosen](#); [Council City](#); [City Mgr](#); [Aram James](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [Judy Adams](#); [Representative Anna G. Eshoo](#); [Cherrill Spencer](#); [Mary Gallagher](#); [Mark Mollineaux](#); [paloaltofreepress@gmail.com](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [Anna Griffin](#); [Winter Dellenbach](#); [Cecilia Taylor](#); [Joe Simitian](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Desegregate Foothill Park  
**Date:** Thursday, February 4, 2021 6:14:01 AM

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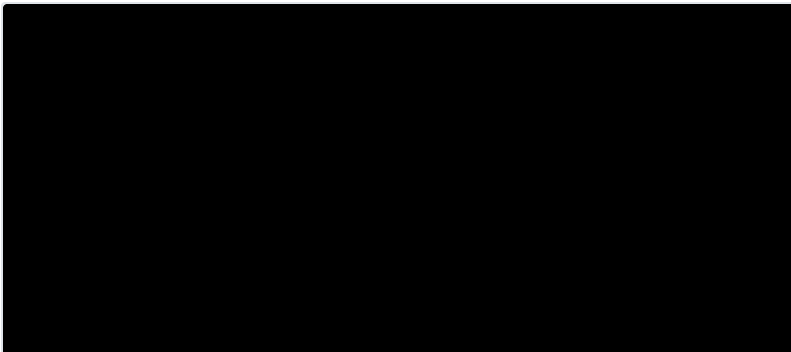
---

Yes, I like wise support naming the Park after the judge. But do believe our best energy would be to define the steps in renaming process,

On Wed, Feb 3, 2021 at 9:43 PM mark weiss <[earwopa@yahoo.com](mailto:earwopa@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Dullards. Our squirrels are not dullards.

[Let's rename the park](#)



**Let's rename the park**

Let's rename the park, for a Black man. We're all equal, not a sequel. With 2020 hindsight, we'd repair the funkAl...

I know our bleeding stops.

---submitted by Mark Weiss, as a follow up to a 2 minute comment on same topic to Parks and Recs

On Wednesday, February 3, 2021, 08:02:18 PM PST, Aram James <[abjpd1@gmail.com](mailto:abjpd1@gmail.com)> wrote:

Mark,

I only wish I could borrow your mind, even for a minute. You're way more cool -then I could ever even imagine being. Your poetry in motion says it all with humor and wit, while the best I can do is hit it with a hammer. Keep it up!

Aram

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 3, 2021, at 6:50 PM, mark weiss <[earwopa@yahoo.com](mailto:earwopa@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Let's rename the park, for a Black man.  
We're all equal, not a sequel.  
With 2020 hindsight, we'd repair the funk  
All the other parks, they want the ~~darks~~ darkness  
We charge the poor to park the car,  
but we don't tax the man, and drive Tesla.  
Poet laureate, poet laureate;  
the epitome of literacy.  
Life's a brief candle, but he lit it.  
He hit it, he didn't shit it.  
For his game, he's like the Willie Mays or Willie Mac,  
the Barry or the Bobby, meanings clearly or at bottom.  
We can't change our past, but we can change our minds.  
There's more than 1s and 0s, there's more than of's and "ahvs"

A temple of listening. To see it glistening.  
Let's rename the park. Let's rename the park.  
aeiou! aeiou!  
We want to mingle, to hit a single.  
Even our squirrels think the new rules are uncool. They're not ~~dells~~-dullards

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 3, 2021, at 6:25 PM, Aram James <[abjpd1@gmail.com](mailto:abjpd1@gmail.com)> wrote:

Thanks Roberta!! Well done! I'm still working on having the park named after Judge Ladoris Cordell. When Rebecca and I, and I'm pretty sure Mark Weiss, memory fading a bit with so many meetings, attended the latest Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.... we received a boarder line hostile response to our name change suggestions.

Although I've had major disagreements with Judge Cordell - we go back to at least 1980- when she was a young judge and me a young criminal defense attorney/public defender —her contributions to civil rights, a wide scope of social justice issues, a culture warrior on so many levels ...are nearly unmatched anywhere. One woman who zoomed into the meeting said no way to the Cordell name change —not verbatim here ...but she essentially said: Cordell shoved the Foothills Park open to all idea down our throats ..and she's a controversial woman!!! I kid you not!

If Ladoris was white with the same remarkable contributions to justice for all —this would not even be a close call. The Park would in fact be named after her. Straight up vile sexism and racism still carries the day in majority white wing Palo Alto. Just my thoughts and I'll own them...take full responsibility for them ...speaking on my own behalf .....

Best regards,

Aram

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 3, 2021, at 2:46 PM, Roberta Ahlquist <[roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu](mailto:roberta.ahlquist@sjsu.edu)> wrote:

Dear Council Member Cormack:

You were the only council person who considered the impact of a fee on people with a limited income wishing to visit Foothill Park. We believe that the park should have NO fees, as parks all over the bay area are, for the most part, open and free to all. This park has been paid for. The city has ample funds for cleanup, and if needed people can donate to a park fund, and even help with cleanup days. After the holidays we visited the park during 'peak hours' (between 10am and 3pm) several times, and found the park clean, quiet, and we counted only 18 cars in the parking lots. The council once again has reacted in the interests of keeping some folks out of the park. What a limited vision we have for the health and interests of the larger community. Thank you for your concerns. Let's hope that the Parks folks, and Council reconsider their reactive response and drop the fee.

Sincerely,

Roberta Ahlquist, Women's International League for Peace & Freedom-low  
income Housing Committee

**From:** [Jeanne Fleming](#)  
**To:** [French, Amy](#)  
**Cc:** [Clerk, City](#); [DuBois, Tom](#); [Lait, Jonathan](#); [chow\\_tina@yahoo.com](mailto:chow_tina@yahoo.com); [wross@lawross.com](mailto:wross@lawross.com); [todd@toddcollins.org](mailto:todd@toddcollins.org); [Planning Commission](#); [Architectural Review Board](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Verizon Cluster 4 Resubmittal  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 5:35:36 PM

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Dear Ms. French,

Thank you for this information.

I would appreciate it if you would tell me:

1. Are you referring to the project 20PLN-000118 (i.e., to new cell towers in the Downtown North, Crescent Park, University South and Community Center neighborhoods)?
2. Have there been any other submittals/resubmittals since mid-December, 2020, which is when I last received an update from the Planning Department?
3. Has there been any progress in fixing whatever the Building Eye problem is that prevents me from automatically receiving notifications of cell tower projects?

Finally, I would appreciate it if you would tell me what the outcome is of Staff's review of Verizon Cluster 4 when that is completed.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Jeanne

Jeanne Fleming, PhD  
[JFleming@Metricus.net](mailto:JFleming@Metricus.net)  
650-325-5151

---

**From:** French, Amy <Amy.French@CityofPaloAlto.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 5:38 PM  
**To:** Jeanne Fleming <jfleming@metricus.net>

**Subject:** Verizon Cluster 4 Resubmittal

Ms. Fleming,

BTW, the Verizon Cluster 4 Resubmittal the City received today is now being reviewed by City staff.

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [chuck jagoda](#); [Dennis Upton](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [Council, City](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [Winter Dellenbach](#); [Raven Malone](#); [Greer Stone](#); [Perron, Zachary](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Anna Griffin](#); [raj@siliconvalleyde-bug.org](#); [james pitkin](#); [A.M.](#); [Cecilia Taylor](#); [Tony Dixon](#); [mark weiss](#); [Jeff Moore](#)  
**Subject:** Floyd case fir pattern of roughness by Officer Accused in killing  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:37:08 PM

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[https://blendle.com/i/time/floyd-case-fit-pattern-of-roughness-by-officer-accused-in-killing/bnl-newyorktimes-20210203-1\\_3](https://blendle.com/i/time/floyd-case-fit-pattern-of-roughness-by-officer-accused-in-killing/bnl-newyorktimes-20210203-1_3)

Shared via the [Google app](#)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jeanne Fleming](#)  
**To:** [Tanner Rachael](#)  
**Cc:** [Planning Commission](#); [Clerk, City](#); [DuBois, Tom](#); [Lait, Jonathan](#); [chow\\_tina@yahoo.com](mailto:chow_tina@yahoo.com); [wross@lawross.com](mailto:wross@lawross.com); [todd@toddcollins.org](mailto:todd@toddcollins.org)  
**Subject:** PTC consideration of Wireless Ordinance  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 10:56:15 AM

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Dear Rachael,

I understand from our earlier correspondence that you and Jonathan Lait decide when consideration of revisions to the Wireless Ordinance will appear on the Planning & Transportation Commission's Agenda. I would appreciate it if you would tell me:

1. Are any members of the PTC involved in any way in this decision (for example, Commission Chair Bart Hechtman)?
2. When do you anticipate that revisions to the Wireless Ordinance will appear on the PTC's Agenda? As you may recall, on May 31, 2020, you wrote to me that the PTC was tentatively scheduled to consider the revised Wireless Ordinance on August 12, 2020. This in itself represented a delay of many months.

As I am sure you know, telecommunications companies have been continuing to submit cell tower applications to the city in the year since February 13, 2020, when the PTC directed city staff to return to them with a revised Wireless Ordinance. In short, this is a matter of considerable urgency.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Jeanne

Jeanne Fleming, PhD  
[JFleming@Metricus.net](mailto:JFleming@Metricus.net)  
650-325-5151



**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Rebecca Eisenberg](#)  
**Cc:** [City Mgr](#); [Council, City](#); [Planning Commission](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [chuck jagoda](#)  
**Subject:** It's Marjorie Taylor Greene's Party Now —by Michele Goldberg NYT's -Feb 2  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 2, 2021 8:44:18 PM

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Hi Rebecca,

You've probably already seen this piece, quite scary to say the least. At least one very interesting turn of phrase. In any event I look forward to discussing the article when your time permits.  
Best, aram

P.S. Will share with the HRC, Parks & Recreation, PTC, and city council in hopes of generating some conversation around the subject matter of the letter.

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Jeff Rosen](#)  
**Cc:** [Raj](#); [Richard Konda](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [Winter Dellenbach](#); [wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com](#); [Pat Burt](#); [Council, City](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [Anna Griffin](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Joe Simitian](#); [supervisor.ellenberg@bos.sccgov.org](#); [cindy.chavez@bos.sccgov.org](#); [Molly O'Neal](#)  
**Subject:** Dog Attack coverup, Daily Post, Feb 1, 2021 by aram james  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:14:54 PM

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Hi Jeff, ( Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen):

I would greatly appreciate your office looking into the allegations referred to in my short piece. I have not seen any body camera footage, medical records, police reports, witness accounts, the alleged victim's statements to the police, etc....obviously you have access to this information not me. I look forward to any information you are allowed to share with the public re this matter.

Best regards,

Aram James

415-370-5056



told about the June 25, 2020, incident when the Daily Post reports it?

3. Why has our district attorney, Jeff Rosen, not yet filed felony assault with a deadly weapon charges against the officer or officers who released their dog on Mr. Joel Domingo Alejo?

After last year's brutal police execution of George Floyd, witnessed by the entire world, there were widespread calls to defund police departments and abandon the current police culture in this country altogether. Many opposed such a drastic, defunding of the police remedy, instead calling for reforms not defunding.

With the latest \$20 million claim filed against the city of Palo Alto combined with at least one other multi-million-dollar lawsuit arising from an incident involving multiple members of our police department, it would now appear that our rogue police department is single-handedly attempting to defund our entire city. I think it's time to fire "Mr. Transparency" and look for

new leadership, ASAP!

**Aram James**  
**Palo Alto**

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Rosen, Jeff](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Raj Jayadev](#); [Palo Alto Free Press](#); [Council, City](#); [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Joe Simitian](#); [supervisor.ellenberg@bos.sccgov.org](#); [cindy.chavez@bos.sccgov.org](#); [O'Neal, Molly](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [Perron, Zachary](#); [Cary Andrew Crittenden](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [mark weiss](#); [Lewis James](#); [Sean James](#); [Gennady Sheyner](#); [Bill Johnson](#); [Winter Dellenbach](#); [Anna Griffin](#); [Patrice Ventresca](#); [Rodriguez, Miguel](#); [Raven Malone](#); [Steven D. Lee](#); [Cecilia Taylor](#); [Tanner, Rachael](#); [Minor, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** Dog Attack coverup, in today's Daily Post Feb 1, 2021, by Aram James  
**Date:** Monday, February 1, 2021 8:49:02 AM

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**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

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The below piece titled: Dog attack coverup ( by Aram James) was published by the Daily Post today Feb 1, 2021.  
See Opinion pages 6-7

## **Dog attack coverup**

Dear Editor:

Your article of January 28, 2021: “*Police Dog attacks innocent man*,” suggests that the Palo Alto police are, yet again, up to more violence, targeting another person of color. Here are a few questions I would like to ask our police chief Robert “Mr. Transparency” Jonsen:

1. When will the body camera footage of this incident be released?
2. Why is the first time the public is told about the June 25, 2020 incident when the Daily Post reports it?
3. Why has our District Attorney, Jeff Rosen, not yet filed felony assault with a deadly weapon charges, against the officer or officers who released their dog on Mr. Joel Domingo Alejo?

After last year’s brutal police execution of George Floyd, witnessed by the entire world, there were widespread calls to defund police departments and abandon the current police culture in this country altogether. Many opposed such a drastic, defunding of the police remedy, instead calling for reforms not defunding.

With the latest 20 million dollar claim filed against the city of

Palo Alto combined with at least one other multi-million dollar lawsuit arising from an incident involving multiple members of our police department, it would now appear that our rogue police department is single-handedly attempting to defund our entire city. I think its time to fire “Mr. Transparency” and look for new leadership, ASAP!

Aram James  
Palo Alto, CA

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Jeff Rosen](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Molly O'Neal](#); [Council, City](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Steven D. Lee](#); [Greer Stone](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [DuBois, Tom](#); [Filseth, Eric \(Internal\)](#); [Planning Commission](#); [paloaltofreepress@gmail.com](mailto:paloaltofreepress@gmail.com); [Anna Griffin](#); [Winter Dellenbach](#); [wlpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com](mailto:wlpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [mark weiss](#)  
**Subject:** Car protest calls for release of prisoners during pandemic—  
**Date:** Monday, February 1, 2021 7:14:12 AM

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Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [chuck jagoda](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [Steven D. Lee](#); [Council, City](#); [Raven Malone](#); [Greer Stone](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [paloaltofreepress@gmail.com](mailto:paloaltofreepress@gmail.com); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Joe Simitian](#); [supervisor.ellenberg@bos.sccgov.org](mailto:supervisor.ellenberg@bos.sccgov.org); [Winter Dellenbach](#); [wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com](mailto:wilpf.peninsula.paloalto@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Biden extends and in some cases expands Project Room-Key in the Bay Area  
**Date:** Monday, February 1, 2021 7:03:29 AM

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**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Council\\_City](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [mark weiss](#); [Joe Simitian](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [Greer Stone](#); [Steven D. Lee](#); [Ed Lauing](#); [Raven Malone](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Anna Griffin](#); [Perron, Zachary](#); [Jonsen, Robert](#); [supervisor.ellenberg@bos.sccgov.org](#); [cindy.chavez@bos.sccgov.org](#); [Lewis, James](#); [paloaltofreepress@gmail.com](#); [Winter Dellenbach](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Police chief, officer asked to resign following racist video ( BUT Zack Perron still get a free pass in Palo Alto) Come Palo Alto where's you're back bone !!!!!  
**Date:** Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:40:14 PM

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Sorry for typos. Time for Perron to go!!!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 31, 2021, at 6:37 PM, Aram James <abjpd1@gmail.com> wrote:



**News Break**  
OVER 10 MILLION PEOPLE USE


[Open APP](#)

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## Police chief, officer asked to resign following racist video

The Associated Press

HAMILTON, Ga. (AP) — The police chief in a west Georgia city has resigned and an officer was terminated after footage from a body camera was discovered that shows the two making racist comments, a news station reported.



[Click to read the full story](#)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [mark.weiss](#)  
**To:** [Aram James](#)  
**Cc:** [Council\\_City](#); [DuBois, Tom](#); [eric.filseth@cityofpaloalto.com](#); [Greer Stone](#); [chuck.jagoda](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [Planning Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Winter Dellenbach](#); [Palo Alto Free Press](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [Steven D. Lee](#); [Cary Andrew Crittenden](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [Joe Simitian](#); [Stump, Molly](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Aram's 2021 suggested city council priorities--edited version--original version sent 1/30/2021  
**Date:** Sunday, January 31, 2021 2:04:52 PM

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I appreciate Mr James' longstanding advocacy for a betterment of our community. I don't argue with this list but the ones that resonate with me most are #s 7 and 10. If not Ladoris Cordell Park, maybe Al Young Park or Wallace Stegner Big Rock Candy Mountain and Nature Preserve. It's interesting that "Sullivan" in this context is synonymous or shorthand for dissent. Its namesake was a racist bastard.  
—Mark Weiss

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 31, 2021, at 11:59 AM, Aram James <[abjpd1@gmail.com](mailto:abjpd1@gmail.com)> wrote:

1/31/21

Dear Council members:

I inadvertently left the city council off my list- when I e-mailed my proposed priorities for the city council for 2021. I did briefly discuss the bulk of these issues- during oral communication- at yesterday's retreat.

Best regards,

Aram James

P.S. I've made some small edits and additions from the original of this e-mail, that was sent out rather hastily yesterday.

1. Continue to vigorously pursue the Zack Perron cover up- and in that regard- ask council to make certain internal complaints, one

officer's allegation against another –particularly where racism, sexism, internal police misconduct are alleged, when serious matters are concerned—that the complaints are sent to the IPA (Independent Police Auditor)—not buried in the HR department .

2. Make 2021 the year Palo Alto funds a robust safe parking program—as we move towards more permanent solutions for housing those now forced to live in their vehicles or in the streets of Palo Alto.

3. Don't let the Downtown Streets Team sexual harassment scandal fall through the cracks. Insist that the full 44-page report/investigation be released –before considering future funding.

4. Model the statewide Reparations Commission (AB3121) by creating a similar reparations commission in Palo Alto. \*( The primary author of AB 3121, is the amazing ,Dr. Shirley Weber, who is now California's first African American Secretary of State)

5. City Council to rein in our current city manager and police chief –emphasizing the importance of transparency and adequate notice on key issues to be made mandatory. The City Council should lead - NOT our city manager—more aggressive questioning of both the police chief and city manager by council members. Remember who the people elected (the city council).

6. Our City Council must more closely scrutinize the consent calendar to make certain critical items are put on the agenda as action items for public debate.

7. LaDoris Cordell Foothills Park Preserve. ( Name change to honor the extraordinary contribution to all causes related to social justice, the civil rights movement, and much more, by the Honorable Judge Ladoris Cordell)

8. Put off building a new police station until the budget issues are clarified—consider regional approach to policing, as a viable option to a new police station.

9. Allow more robust participation by community members during

oral communications and discussions of agenda items.

10. Read and enforce *New York Times Co. V Sullivan (1964)* that allows: for vehement, caustic and sometimes unpleasantly sharp attacks on government and public officials.....see also Justice Brennan's language- in the same decision: "*If judges are to be treated as men ( and, I (Aram James) would add women) of fortitude, able to thrive in a hardy climate, surely the same must be true of other government officials, such as elected city commissioners*"

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [City Mgr](#); [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** SJ City Council mulls change in housing density  
**Date:** Sunday, January 31, 2021 12:35:13 PM

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FYI: something the planning commission should consider for Palo Alto!

>

> Follow the link below to view the article.

> [https://mercurynews-ca-app.newsmemory.com/?publink=1554b6261\\_1345bf7](https://mercurynews-ca-app.newsmemory.com/?publink=1554b6261_1345bf7)

>

>

> Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [City Mgr](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Raven Malone](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [WILPF Peninsula Palo Alto](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [Palo Alto Free Press](#); [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Zack](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [Ed Lauing](#); [Steven D. Lee](#); [Cari Templeton](#)  
**Subject:** Aram James's suggested priorities for the city of Palo Alto 2021  
**Date:** Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:01:18 AM

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1. Continue to pursue the Zack Perron cover up and in that regard ask council to make certain internal complaints one officer's allegation against another –particularly where racism, sexism, internal police misconduct, serious matters are concerned the matters are sent to the IPA –not buried in the HR department .
2. Make 2021 the year Palo Alto funds a robust safe parking program as we move to more permanent solutions for housing those now forced to live in their vehicles or in the streets of Palo Alto.
3. Don't let the downtown streets team scandal fall through the cracks.
4. Model the statewide Reparations Commission (AB3121) by creating a similar reparations commission in Palo Alto.
5. Ask the city council to rein in our current city manager and police chief –emphasizing the importance of transparency and adequate notice on key issues to be made mandatory. The city counsel should lead -not our city manager—more aggressive questioning of both the police chief and city manager by council members. Remember who the people elected (the city council).
6. Includes more closing scrutinizing the consent calendar to make certain critical items are put on the agenda as action items for public debate.
7. LaDoris Cordell Foothill Preserve.
8. Put off building a new police station until the budget issues

clarified—consider regional approach to policing.

9. Allow more robust participation by community members during coral communication and discussion on agenda items.

10. Read and enforce NYT v Sullivan --allows vehement, caustic, and sometimes unpleasantly sharp attacks on government and public officials.

**From:** [Jeanne Fleming](#)  
**To:** [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Two Questions  
**Date:** Friday, January 29, 2021 5:24:21 PM

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**From:** Jeanne Fleming <jfleming@metricus.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 29, 2021 12:05 PM  
**To:** 'Lait, Jonathan' <Jonathan.Lait@CityofPaloAlto.org>  
**Cc:** 'Clerk, City' <city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org>; 'DuBois, Tom' <Tom.DuBois@CityofPaloAlto.org>; chow\_tina@yahoo.com; wross@lawross.com; todd@toddcollins.org; Plannning.Commission@CityofPaloAlto.org; 'Architectural Review Board' <arb@cityofpaloalto.org>  
**Subject:** Two Questions

Dear Jonathan,

For some months now, your reports for the Planning and Transportation Commission have included the following on the list of “Upcoming Items:” “PTC Review of Objective Standards.”

I would appreciate it if you would tell me:

1. To what does that item refer? Specifically, does it refer to revisions to the Wireless Ordinance, does it refer to the new “Objective Zoning” standards consultants have prepared at the behest of City Staff, or does it refer to something else?
2. If this language does not refer to the Wireless Ordinance, why do revisions to the Wireless Ordinance no longer appear on your list of “Upcoming Items” for the PTC? As you know, the PTC preliminarily reviewed Staff’s proposed revisions to the Wireless Ordinance almost exactly one year ago, but have yet to conduct their final consideration of these revisions before the revisions go to City Council.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Jeanne

Jeanne Fleming, PhD  
[JFleming@Metricus.net](mailto:JFleming@Metricus.net)  
650-325-5151





**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Greer Stone](#); [Steven D. Lee](#); [chuckjagoda1@gmail.com](mailto:chuckjagoda1@gmail.com); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Jethroe Moore](#); [Jeff Rosen](#); [Molly O'Neal](#); [Council, City](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [Raj](#); [Anna Griffin](#); [mark weiss](#)  
**Subject:** Stop the attempt to derail D.A. George Gascon's criminal justice reforms —by Erwin Chemerinsky Dean of the UC Berkeley School law & Miriam Aroni Krinsky executive director of Fair and Just Prosecution.  
**Date:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 11:11:00 PM

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FYI:

>

> <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2021-01-28/george-gascon-los-angeles-district-attorney-lawsuit?amp=true>

>

>

> Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Jeff Rosen](#); [Molly O'Neal](#); [Jethroe Moore](#); [Raven Malone](#); [Steven D. Lee](#); [Council, City](#); [Greer Stone](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [DuBois, Tom](#); [Rebecca Eisenberg](#); [mark weiss](#); [palaltofreepress@gmail.com](#); [Jonsen, Robert](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Raj](#); [Anna Griffin](#)  
**Subject:** Queens Prosecutors Long Overlooked Misconduct. Can a New D.A. Do Better?  
**Date:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 2:04:23 PM

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FYI:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/27/nyregion/melinda-katz-queens.amp.html>

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Greg Tanaka](#); [Kou, Lydia](#); [paloaltofreepress@gmail.com](mailto:paloaltofreepress@gmail.com); [Greer Stone](#); [Raven Malone](#); [Steven D. Lee](#); [Council, City](#); [Human Relations Commission](#); [Planning Commission](#); [ParkRec Commission](#); [Anna Griffin](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [Roberta Ahlquist](#); [Jethroe Moore](#)  
**Subject:** Palo Alto Banned From Reinstating Exclusionary Ordinance | Palo Alto, CA Patch  
**Date:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 11:57:59 AM

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FYI: Great News!!!

<https://patch.com/california/paloalto/palo-alto-banned-reinstating-exclusionary-ordinance>

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Aram James](#)  
**To:** [Tanner, Rachael](#)  
**Cc:** [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** Re: If possible can you address the sad state of the city's effort to fund( city and county ..not faith community)  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 11:00:43 PM

---

Hi Ms.Tanner,

I did speak at the city council meeting on Monday and after raising my concern re the stingy and pathetic nature of the proposal for a safe program, during oral communications, that you presented for the city, both in dec of 2020 and at the HRC meeting last February -both Mayor Tom D and Vice Mayor Pat Burt did suggest just as you describe below, after I spoke at Monday's meet.

I met with Tom D., re a safe parking program, after I had traveled to Santa Barbara to study their program( august 2012 visit ( -shortly after he was elected for his 1st term. Similarly I spoke with Pat Burt circa 2011-2012-2013 when he attended one of the candidate forums I presided at for STB ( Stop The Ban).

Despite the PTC chair's concerns that I was speaking off topic to the quality of life issue ..related to excessive solo car travel ...I disagreed believing the excessive RV driving necessitated in large part by a lack of a robust Safe Parking program was exactly on point. Similarly our police often driving around appearing to be in their cars when they could be walking in our community...was, in my view, also spot on. As I said to the chair during my second talk ....I though it was extremely tacky for the PTC chair to use you to cut me off from completing my full three minutes ...without even allowing me the opportunity to explain why my yet to be heard comments were relevant to the agenda item. But that's ok ....will see what the future brings with your chair at future PTC meetings.

Ok, so thanks for the heads up that you will NOT be speaking on safe parking at the Feb 2021 HRC meeting. Will you be speaking on the Safe Parking Program at the March HRC meeting? If so I look forward to attending.

Have any churches yet to be approved by planning and gone through your appeals process...and are actually up and running? Or are we still at zero churches actually up and running? Please let me know.

Finally, I was apparently under the mistaken impression that the tier 3 program that you say has been approved by the city is actually being run and funded by Santa Clara County not the City of Palo Alto. Please advise. Am i right or wrong? Thanks so much!!

Best regards,

Aram James

415-360-5056  
Abjpd1@gmail.com

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jan 27, 2021, at 9:54 PM, Tanner, Rachael <Rachael.Tanner@cityofpaloalto.org> wrote:

>

> Hi Mr. James,

>

> As you may have seen the Council did direct staff to, "Look at how to allocate additional resources to RV parking, unhoued, and childcare." Staff will return to Council with that report early this year.

>  
> I believe the schedule for HRC has been adjusted and I will be at the March HRC meeting.  
>  
> Thank you for your feedback on the regulatory program for congregation-based safe parking. As the Policy and Services Committee members noted, the congregation-based 1 tier of a 3-tier regulatory framework; one that would ultimately allow safe parking at congregations, other private lots, and finally city owned property. The Council did authorize a tier 3 program at city owned property at Geng Road; this should open in the next few weeks.  
>  
> Please continue to provide that feedback to the City Council, who are the ultimate decision-makers regarding both regulatory policy and program funding.  
>  
> Take care,  
> Rachael  
>  
>  
>  
> Rachael A. Tanner, MCP  
> Assistant Director, Planning & Development Services Department  
>  
> 250 Hamilton Ave | Palo Alto, CA 94301  
>  
> D: 650.329.2167  
> E: Rachael.Tanner@cityofpaloalto.org  
>  
> Quality|Courtesy|Efficiency|Integrity|Innovation  
>  
>  
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: Aram James <abjpd1@gmail.com>  
> Sent: Monday, January 25, 2021 7:10 PM  
> To: Tanner, Rachael <Rachael.Tanner@CityofPaloAlto.org>  
> Cc: Rebecca Eisenberg <rebecca@privateclientlegal.com>  
> Subject: If possible can you address the sad state of the city's effort to fund( city and county ..not faith community)  
>  
> CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.  
> \_\_\_\_\_  
>  
> Hi Rachael,  
>  
> If possible can you address the sad state of the city's effort to fund( city and county) ..not faith community-a robust safe parking program? I want the city to have money from the police budget and new police station ( 5% max) to make this happen. In my mind it is an abdication of our responsibility as a city not to reallocate funds for a robust parking program. Ok, look forward to also speaking with u at the feb HRC meeting. I reread your comments( from the minutes) from last feb's presentation, my response, Rev Smith comments etc. In my view the city plan you proposed was sad and stingy. Is this plan in your hands or dictated from above. With much respect.  
>  
> Thanks so much,  
>  
> Aram James  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Angie Evans](#)  
**To:** [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** PTC Item #3: Reducing Demand for Single Occupancy Vehicles and Traffic  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 1:37:01 PM

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Dear Chair Templeton and Planning Commissioners,

I'm writing today to urge you to consider ending parking minimums as part of the effort to reduce traffic congestion and use of single occupancy vehicles in Palo Alto. Not only do our extraordinarily high parking requirements reduce the financial feasibility of multi-family housing proposals, they incentivize driving. This week, Berkeley City Council unanimously voted to end parking minimums and I hope to see this replicated in more cities with limited land and high access to public transit. As any housing developer would tell you, parking minimums in Palo Alto are increasing the cost of construction substantially and inflate our current and future home prices. Because of our height limits, multifamily developers must construct parking underground, causing debates over the water table and stacked parking ease of use. If we want a less car-centric city then we must build more housing, especially affordable housing, near jobs and public transportation. I applaud you for focusing on low income commuters by advocating for transit and lyft subsidies but I hope that we can begin to think more broadly and include solutions that are not simply stop-gap measures.

Thanks so much,  
Angie Evans  
Crescent Park Mom