
From: <[REDACTED]>
Date: July 2, 2018 at 12:54:21 AM PDT
To: <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Measure B and next steps

[REDACTED]

Dear Melissa:

The purpose of this letter is to persuade you to vote Yes on Councilmember Lalloway's motion, coming up on July 10th, to begin construction of the Veterans Cemetery ASAP, on the ARDA site. In the face of 28,638 NO to 17,078 Yes votes on Measure B, it is obvious that in any related election, like a Recall that many residents are clamoring for, you would have little chance of beating it. And that would be the case regardless the amount of money FivePoint spends to protect you by fighting a signature-gathering effort or in a campaign.

I've spent a lot of time on Nextdoor, and also communicated with many hundreds of people who first signed the Referendum Petition, and then who voted NO on Measure B. Those folks were not fooled by anything or anybody. They will certainly not be fooled in another campaign for whatever purpose. You can claim anything you want in public; but, the reality, that I'm sure you recognize and believe, is that the voters of Irvine want the Veterans

Cemetery in the Great Park, on the original site. They want it now, and that's what the Measure B vote was really about.

You have a year and a half left on the City Council that would be cut short in what would surely be a successful Recall election. As I'm also sure you're aware, it is also far, far easier to collect the required 12,000 (approx.) valid signatures for a Recall over a 5.5 month period, than for a Referendum over a 30 day period.

You can still be faithful to your original concern, plausibly valid, which was to reduce taxpayer burden; but, in this case, the voters have expressed a different balance of values that's also reasonable. So, with a simple Yes vote on Lalloway's upcoming motion, you can get on with life, and serve another year and a half on the Council, doing good for the community. It's also not obvious that you would lose the support of FivePoint. On the Council you can still do something for them. Off the Council you can do nothing, for anybody. And, regardless what he really thinks, Emile Haddad was quoted as saying he's moving on! So, as far as public utterances are concerned, you would have his backing.

If you elect to be removed from office by Recall, you are probably more vulnerable than Christina, because you ran on a platform of supporting the Veterans Cemetery on the ARDA site, while Christina did not. You are surely aware that there's huge pent-up anger over your switching sides, regardless the legitimate-sounding reasons you gave. Christina has a big following independent of the cemetery issue, although the anger over traffic congestion would likely shake loose many of her supporters.

So, if you vote yes on Councilmember Lalloway's upcoming motion, you wouldn't necessarily lose the support of FivePoint, because you'd still be on the Council, and I'm sure they would come up with other schemes. Better still, you could even run for a second term. There are many other issues on which you still maintain Democratic ideals. If you're removed from the Council in a Recall, that would end your career with the City and also end FivePoint's support, since they would have no further use for you.

In the November election, Mayor Wagner must run again for re-election, if he wants. Christina Shea also has another year and a half left. Lynn Schott has stated that she will not run again. The outcome of the November election is impossible to predict, because the voters are now wary (and weary) of a campaign of massive propaganda. If both seats are replaced by No on B supportive people, we will get the original Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park regardless of your vote. However, if only one seat is won by a No on B supportive person, that won't do the trick. You would have to still be recalled; however, to launch a Recall after the November election would risk a great loss of momentum.

The calculus is complicated for you, but also for us. We have to weigh the enormous advantage of launching a Recall immediately after the July 10th Council meeting if you don't support Lalloway's upcoming motion, against the risk of depending on a November election to replace the mayor's seat and also Lynn Schott's seat with two supportive people that would then have avoided the enormous enterprise of a Recall.

If you vote Yes on the 10th on Lalloway's motion, and avoid any substitute-motion detours, we can all hug and have a party.

Regards,

Harvey

