

From: [Heather Kratt](#)
To: -- City Clerk
Cc: [Holly Manzano](#); [Robert Gaustad](#); [Kevin McDonnell](#); -- City Council; [Peggy Flynn](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT: Help Requested with Ongoing Stonewalling and Discrimination
Date: Friday, April 5, 2024 7:10:32 PM

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City Clerk,

Please include this email in the next city council public comments. I would like the community to see the absolute disdain that the mayor, city council, and city manager have for small business owners like me. It's been nearly two weeks and not a single member of our alleged leadership team has bothered to respond to me.

Thanks,
Heather Kratt

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

From: **Heather Kratt** [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Mar 25, 2024 at 10:20 AM
Subject: Help Requested with Ongoing Stonewalling and Discrimination
To: Kevin McDonnell <kmcdonnell@cityofpetaluma.org>, <citycouncil@cityofpetaluma.org>, Flynn, Peggy <pflynn@cityofpetaluma.org>
Cc: Holly Manzano <holly@manzano.com>, Robert Gaustad <gaustad@gmail.com>

Mayor Kevin McDonnell, City Council, and City Manager Peggy Flynn:

I am writing to request help from the City of Petaluma's leadership team to put an end to the ongoing stonewalling, mistruths, and irreparable harm caused by the M-Group and Community Development Director Brian Oh. We have asked Mayor McDonnell many times to appoint an objective and professional City staff member to our project, but unfortunately, he keeps referring us right back to Brian Oh, who then hands the project back downstream to the M-Group who started this whole unnecessary problem with our permit back in 2022.

Below and in this link -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HkTVP0CABZuUp00FXpLEk6JDujAbDifw/view?usp=sharing> - is a long overdue and strange response from Community Development Director Brian Oh regarding the progress of our most recent permit application for our 100% mobile, zero development, outdoor community marketplace at the northern gateway to downtown Petaluma.

In our appeal to the City Council on September 11, 2023, Brian Oh told the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and the public that he had offered me a six-month use permit for our lot but that I rejected it. Brian Oh lied to you. Every meeting I have ever had with Brian Oh has been recorded via Zoom and all other communications are documented in email, making his lies very easy to prove.

In our December 13, 2023, recorded meeting with Brian Oh, I asked him about the six-month permit and when he claims he offered it to me. Brian Oh became flustered and was unable to answer the question. Why did Brian Oh lie about the six-month permit? Why did the Mayor and City Council allow that lie to stand without questioning it in greater detail during our appeal? If Brian Oh had offered me a six-month permit, we would not have needed an appeal. Brian Oh's lie was clearly intended to cause undue negative influence on the City Council by falsely portraying me as unreasonable.

In an email dated May 10, 2023, just prior to our appeal to the Planning Commission in May 2023, City Manager Peggy Flynn wrote, "Heather – I'm sorry that you aren't satisfied with the options that our staff have offered you. They have spent significant time trying to come up with a solution to make your property useable, despite it being located in the floodway." I repeatedly asked for clarification on which options she thought had been offered to me, but Peggy Flynn never responded to me. Did Brian Oh and the M-Group lie to Peggy Flynn and tell her that we rejected a six-month permit? What other options did they claim had been offered to me? The only option we've ever been given is to apply for a temporary use zoning permit which is arbitrarily restricted to 60 days of use in a single year. The alleged options Brian Oh and the M-Group claim to have offered us are important details that should be disclosed to me.

In September 2023, Brian Oh promised to work with us to obtain a 60-day temporary use zoning permit, the only option left to us at the conclusion of our appeal to the City Council on this matter. Brian Oh makes a lot of promises but breaks every single one. The 60-day temporary use zoning permit we submitted on May 26, 2023, nearly four months prior to our appeal to the City Council, was totally ignored by the M-Group and Brian Oh, and never processed. The second 60-day temporary use permit we submitted on October 7, 2023, has dragged on for nearly six months now.

What has been consistent throughout this permit application process that started in October 2022 is the constant moving of the goal posts by the M-Group and Brian Oh. When they present a potential issue with our permit and it is put to rest via our sound facts and solutions, they continue to waste more time by searching for other, new reasons to deny our permit application. The constantly evolving and absurd excuses for their poor treatment of us and continual rejection of our permit applications is clear proof of their retaliatory and discriminatory treatment of us and our small business.

In the response from Brian Oh, he is now claiming that we can use our lot for an outdoor community marketplace as long as food trucks and customers park on some other lot than our own. He also claims that we can't use the two existing driveways on the Petaluma Blvd N side of our lot due to "traffic safety issues". What Brian Oh and the M-Group don't know – because they've never taken any time to truly understand our project and have instead focused solely on denying it from the very start – is that Petaluma Blvd N curves to the south in front of our lot. That means there is an extra lane to the right, near our driveways, that makes pulling in on Petaluma Blvd N safer than the other two existing driveways on Stony Point Rd.

Brian Oh goes on to insult the Petaluma Fire Department by claiming they won't be able to access our corner lot for unspecified reasons. Brian also falsely claims that parking food trucks on a vacant gravel lot is "unprecedented", and therefore confusing, which makes me wonder how he and the M-Group could possibly be qualified to work on the updated General

Plan which surely requires some imagination and predictions for the future. Brian also mentions arbitrary and conflicting setbacks, when we know full well that there are no setback requirements for our 100% mobile, zero development project. Frankly, it's not totally clear what exactly Brian was trying to tell us in his email, because it was so poorly written. But all of the excuses from Brian Oh and the M-Group just reek of desperation to cause us harm and never, not once, included any helpful suggestions.

In his latest response, Brian Oh also finally acknowledged the M-Group's unofficial "ban" on food trucks, which the M-Group quietly, secretly, and without the knowledge or approval of City leadership or the community, implemented as late as 2021. In my recorded meetings with Brian Oh, I specifically and repeatedly asked him if he considered food trucks to be an issue for our permit. He assured me that they were not. Was he lying then or is he lying now? It's hard to keep up with Brian Oh's lies because there have just been so many.

Because we could never get a straight answer for the M-Group's hostility toward our project and their outright dismissal of it in November 2022, I have long suspected that the M-Group didn't want their unofficial "ban" on food trucks to be disclosed to the public. While not intentional, our project did uncover many conflicts of interests and wrongdoings by the M-Group. The City should not be making excuses for the M-Group's assault on the mobile food industry, but should instead put an immediate end to it. Which brick-and-mortar restaurant(s) or association(s) that represent them requested the ban on food trucks? Why would the M-Group be allowed to take any side or action in the brick-and-mortar vs. mobile food vendors discussion? Why is an outsourced planning consultancy firm allowed to attack an entire industry of mobile vendors and not be held accountable for the harm they have caused? Why would a self-proclaimed "foodie" city ban food trucks, an essential part of any foodie scene?

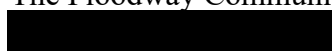
Brian Oh has failed to act professionally and has only caused further intentional delays and harm in our permit application process through his stonewalling, lies, and even showing up totally unprepared to the only meeting he has ever offered and one that took him many months to schedule. Brian Oh and the M-Group have acted in bad faith in their treatment of our simple use permit since day one. At this point, we see City leadership as our last hope to resolve this issue directly with the City.

I understand that you want to trust your staff and consultants to tell you the truth, and I believe you should be able to have that level of trust with them. But Brian Oh and the M-Group have lied to all of us repeatedly – most notably during our appeals to the Planning Commission and City Council – and that bad behavior, which creates a clear liability for the City, needs to be addressed.

Are the Mayor, City Council, or City Manager willing to work directly with us or appoint a City staff member to our project who is capable of performing their job in a professional manner? Or will you not take any action, thereby proving that we have exhausted every reasonable effort to address this problem with City staff and our elected officials? Please advise.

Thanks,

Heather Kratt
The Floodway Community Marketplace



(707) 775-0006

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

From: **Brian Oh** <boh@cityofpetaluma.org>

Date: Fri, Mar 22, 2024 at 4:25 PM

Subject: Response to Floodway Proposal

To: Holly Manzano <[REDACTED]>, Heather Kratt <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Petaluma Planning <petalumaplanning@cityofpetaluma.org>

Heather and Holly,

Thank you for the additional information and your patience. While the additional information that you provided was helpful, I still need the following items that were not answered in your response. I've summarized what is still outstanding below. I recommend that we meet in person to review these so we can answer any follow up questions.

While an outdoor community market may be permitted as a temporary use, development of the proposed on-site parking lot and vehicle access would not be permitted as it would require grading, which is considered development and cannot be approved. Additionally, the proposal would need to demonstrate that the outdoor community market is the primary use with food trucks as an ancillary component of the proposal. Finally, a site plan must be resubmitted that addresses how parking for both passenger vehicles and food trucks can be accommodated off-site and provide an accurate, drawn to scale map of the required 50 ft. preservation setback from top of bank of the Petaluma River and showing all activity involved with the proposed use is outside the preservation setback and is within 150ft from Stony Point Road due to the inability to provide vehicle access for emergency services and the unavailability of Petaluma Boulevard access for traffic safety reasons.

Brian Oh

Director of Community Development
City of Petaluma | Community
Development

[Schedule a Virtual Counter
Appointment](#)

office. 707-615-6568 |
boh@cityofpetaluma.org



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From: [Jodi Johnson](#)
To: -- City Clerk
Subject: Public comments for city council meeting April 8th
Date: Monday, April 8, 2024 9:45:04 AM

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City of Petaluma,

We are grateful that a year ago you listened to our issues and our requests for revisions to the rent stabilization ordinance. You diligently looked at, contemplated and voted in much needed revisions to this ordinance.

Monetarily the only difference these revisions produced was .09 of a percent that park owners could not take annually.

In our parks this year that means owners cannot take \$4 to \$8 per address monthly but does allow \$10 to \$16 per month increase monthly.

The retaliation, intimidation, threats, increased ground rents, attempts to remove some of us from the park because of advocacy, attempts at converting park to all age, to close the park without any legal application and of course the \$923 increase request and the subsequent arbitration not only wreaked havoc on our senior citizens but harmed our mental health and a peaceful pursuit to live a retired life in peace. This has and continues to be a war waged on us and the city we call home. We can't let the relentless pursuit for more or the endless litigation to take away our protections voted in fairly and above board to be decimated by greed.

In July we began the protection sought of a senior park overlay

against an unlawful park status change that wasn't properly noticed and as such on October 16th it was voted into law.

We never had any indication that an arbitrator who states clearly this is not about market rents but current rents would allow a misguided motion in limine, denying us the right to prove that the park owners gained tremendous profits and had not produced the financials we subpoenaed.

What became clear is this ordinance needed clarification of methodology in park owners seeking a misguided fair market increase.

That being said after an exhaustive arbitration the arbitrator ruled against all methods park owners tried to use.

In addition, we believe the arbitrator was never going to give us the decision that testimony and verifiable evidence supported and we believe developed a way (unfounded) to attempt to appease the park owners.

Arbitration limits us from bringing forth perjury charges but in a regular court of law that certainly would have been brought forward against the park owner who testified falsely about his ownership and entities bringing forth profit in our parks.

As such our protection was capped at 4% or 70% of CPI
Now an arbitrator allows an increase for park owners of \$118 a month or anywhere from 12 to 16% increase to ground rents.
This gives the park owner, even though she denies their methods- the rate of return they sought.

It also then gives the park owners an additional \$104,562 profit with the 74 addresses every year on top of \$52,392 in prorated

rent.

We estimate on all 103 addresses that our park owners bring in \$110,000 per month on ground rents, plus additional RV, boat rentals profits and their purchasing and reselling the mobile homes usually up to 100% profit estimated \$1,275,852 yearly plus another \$104,572 and \$5662 prorated per year.

Most of our residents rely on social security or pensions, pay the ground rent which range from \$695 to \$1600(another attack on fairness for the same size grounds) and pay their own trash, water, sewer, electric and insurance and own the very mobile home that sits on park owners land.

On page 38 of the arbitration decision the arbitrator creates a table, the first being a \$16 increase which by the very rent stabilization ordinance our park owner would get anyway as the average ground rent at 2%(the allowable CPI less 30%).

She states that with the \$118 increase this will make the average ground rent at Youngstown \$930 which she states is \$30 more average than Petaluma Estates, a better property.

Missing is the residents with a \$1345 ground rent getting this \$118 increase, the residents with a \$1250 ground rent getting this increase, the residents with a \$1100 ground rent getting this increase and so many more.

Then it is incredulous that park owners would attempt to seek \$435,000 in attorney fees to include talking to the press, deciding if they seek the application, redacted military style ledger lines that can't be verified, emails never seen, and of course shouldn't we be allowed to recoup our attorneys fees on every method they

were denied and that we had to defend.

All the while we were awaiting arbitration, park owners decided they would do whatever they wanted against any ordinance, any protection , or any senior park overlay.

You did address this in Dec. of 2023 with a date of compliance of Jan 7th then the park owners brought a lawsuit against the city again.

Besides the addresses listed as being sold in violation on this signed petition of 87 we submit we have no senior park signs which were taken down months ago, rules and regulations not geared to seniors, selling homes to young families with young children as an all age park, doing purchase agreements with young families as an all age park, months and months of MLS listings throughout the United States showing Youngstown to be an all age park.

Real estate agents being fraudulently told Youngstown is an all age park which continues to this day.

Then in the last 3 months going against the vacancy control conversion tied to the rent stabilization raising ground rents on previously rent stabilized addresses where there was a death etc to \$1863 when the previous ground rent was \$750 a month

No old taken out to put a new mobile home in, no eviction, no conversion in the loop holes which could make those allowable increases.

These were placed on MLS listings, flyers, websites all over. None of these violations resulted in cease and desists, or charges.

If any resident had attempted same violations we would have

been evicted or held accountable.

Double standards cannot continue to be common place with heavy investors or non compliance will have no ramifications throughout the United States and Youngstown will become unrecognizable.

We aren't asking for anything that the laws and ordinances don't reflect should be the compliance process.

We seek the following enforcement in the continuance of proper protections for senior citizens in all 5 senior park overlay zones in Petaluma as well as enforcements on the vacancy conversion assigned under the revised rent stabilization ordinance.

We speak of Youngstown but this is happening in every one of our 7 mobile parks with Littlewoods next defending themselves against over 300% rent increases and also no oversight on owners taking ground rents from \$500 to \$1250 unlawfully.

In addition I believe both the rent stabilization and the senior park overlay may need additional protections as to assignment of attorney fees in arbitrations, the methods to be used in fair market applications, stronger deterrent for violating the protections of the senior park overlay and proper verbiage to support current rent status vs market rent approach investors are choosing to take and of course a look at the allowance of this type of application once every 12 months.

We have had to defend ourselves now for over a year almost on a monthly basis.

We believe that it is fair to ask that park owners must follow the

law, follow the protections of senior citizens, or mobile home residents will be forced from their homes they own.

We are far from done in this advocacy.

All eyes are on our beautiful city and we continue to have hope that we will continue to lead the state in doing what has always been right keeping senior citizens housed and allowing peaceful twilight years for the seniors who earned the right after years of hard work.

Petaluma has and will always be the leader in serving the city with love, care, and a lawful approach for all.

We will continue to acknowledge the well thought out governing our city takes on our behalf each and everyday.

We are Youngstown, Petaluma Estates, Leisure Lakes, Littlewoods, Cottages, Royal Oaks and Capri strong and always will stand for the values that make Petaluma a beacon of light.

The residents of Youngstown Mobile Park

April 8, 2024

To: Mayor, City Council, City Manager, City Staff, and City Attorney

My name is Nickola Frye and I am the Chair of the Petaluma Senior Advisory Committee.

I would like to address an issue that was first brought forth at your City Council meeting on Monday, January 8, 2024, regarding a question that concerns our requested need for clarification regarding why the Senior Advisory Committee does not have a City Council Member Liaison.

At that time Council Member Healy stated that he felt that the lack of a liaison was not satisfactory and he asked city staff to arrange a rotating calendar of appointments for City Council members to attend SAC meetings to get a flavor of the SAC.

Council Member Pocekay noted committees do have City Council Liaisons.

City Attorney Danly commented that he saw no reason for not having a liaison to the SAC, but that he would want to research the specifics based upon the requirement of being a Charter City, and the fact that enabling legislation must include the direction of the Council regarding this matter. He also said that he would return to the Council with the information at the next meeting, and that the council could, of course, set committees up as they desire.

It is now April, and at this time, the SAC has not received any information or answer to our request for a City Council Liaison.

Some background information - the current sitting members of the Senior Advisory Committee have unanimously voted to formally request a City Counsel Liaison and requested that I do some research to answer City Attorney Danly's inquiry regarding the enabling legislation. In addition, they have asked me to determine, if anything, has transpired regarding Council Member Healy's request made to staff to facilitate a rotating calendar of visits to the SAC meetings.

1. **Enabling Legislation** - Effective date August 3, 2015 - Resolution No. 2015 -126 N.C.S. of the City of Petaluma, California - ESTABLISHING A RECONSTITUTED SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE (see attached)
2. Per this Enabling Legislation we do not see anything that would limit the City Council's ability to establish a City Council Liaison position to the SAC, perhaps City Attorney Danly, might have a more legal view of this resolution.
3. **Rotating Calendar of City Council Member visits** - the SAC has received one meeting visitor, which actually transpired prior to January 8 - City Council Member Nau. We have not been advised regarding any additional visits, nor have we been contacted by any city staff member regarding Council Member Healy's request.

Since January 8, when I initially requested a City Council Liaison, the SAC has been contacted by several City Council Members, who have stated that they would be happy to be the Council Liaison to the SAC, but we are *all* still awaiting a formal decision.

We, the Senior Advisory Committee, await your response. Thank you for your time this evening.

March 26, 2024

On October 16th, 2023, the Petaluma city council voted in a senior park overlay zoning for all 5 senior mobile parks in Petaluma.

These parks include Youngstown, Leisure Lake, Royal Oaks, Petaluma estates and The Cottages.

Prior to the unanimous vote all the 102 spaces had at least one 55-year-old or older resident at Youngstown. To qualify to lease the ground at Youngstown you had to qualify as a 55 or older person.

During the passage of the senior park overlay (before the second reading) and following the passage of the senior park overlay Youngstown mobile home park has violated daily every mandate included in the overlay. This includes:

- The removal of senior-only signs, rules, and regulations not for seniors,
- Selling homes to young couples with very young children as all-age,
- Purchase agreements and leases stating that Youngstown is an all-age park instead of a senior park.
- Every space leased in Youngstown since the passage of the senior overlay has been advertised in MLS listings as all-age.

As mandated by the senior park overlay it states that the mobile park signs must reflect the senior park status, must be advertised as a senior park, must have rules and regulations for seniors, and

must state on purchase and lease agreements the state senior park status.

In addition, park management cannot demand of real estate brokers with buyers that this is an all-age park.

By law, 20% of the units in a park can be sold or leased to households of any age, however having senior rules would not make it viable for a young child to play or roam outside.

It is important to note that Youngstown MHP could have always implemented the 20% rule, but as all senior residents with senior rules and qualifications, their violations only started with the improperly noticed attempt to convert this entire park to all age.

Youngstown per zoning is not now an entirely all-age park.

To date since passage of the senior park overlay on Oct 16th, 2023, the following addresses have been leased as all age with non-senior residents.

7 Belle

114 Pamela Court

119 Pamela Court

4 Belle (listed for sale now by their own park owners)

29 Pamela Drive (vacant but being sold as all age)


and upcoming 71 Michael Drive

Per real estate agents that were representing potential buyers, buyers were told that Youngstown is an all-age park and told that the ground rent could increase as much as 100%. The current listed ground rents are \$1863 including on properties where a death occurred, and the previous resident had a ground rent of \$795.00.

Seniors at Youngstown and the other senior parks covered under the senior park overlay zoning believe it is time for the city of Petaluma to enforce their senior park overlay zoning and the revised rent stabilization ordinance violations.

Youngstown was given a notice to comply by January 7th, 2024 and has not complied with that notice and sued the city of Petaluma on January 22, 2024.

The following residents want enforcement:

Print Name	Street Address	Signature
Donna Rose Bradp		Donna Rose Bradp
Kris Weis		Kris Weis
SANDY SHUTEROFF		Sandy Shuteroff
Kelly Walker		Kelly Walker
Marilyn Walker		Marilyn Walker
Arthur Walker		Arthur Walker
Peter S. CLARK		Peter S. Clark
Donna Doralyn Ruchalski		Donna Doralyn Ruchalski
Kristine Karlunay		Kristine Karlunay
Joel C. Allen		Joel C. Allen
MARIANNE KROLIK		Marianne Krolak

Print Name	Street Address	Signature
MIKE GOLDFINGER		Mike Goldfinger
Elizabeth Russo		E. Russo
DEBRA PARKS		Debra Parks
KAREN MAILON		Karen Mailon
Catherine Miller		Catherine Miller
MONICA CURTO		Monica Curto
DEENA ZENIA		Deena Zenia
Gloria Robinson		Gloria Robinson
Sue Haynes		Sue Haynes
RUDY B MAGLENTY		Rudy B Maglenty
Rich Lemos		Rich Lemos
Jennifer Boyle		Jennifer Boyle
MARIA MORAGA		Maria Moraga
MARY RUPPENHAAL		Mary Ruppenhaal
Chuck McGowan		Chuck McGowan
Debra Vitelli		Debra Vitelli
LORRAINE GRUNBERG		Lorraine Grunberg
Jim Laraine Erwin		Laraine Erwin
Jim Erwin		Jim Erwin
Janis Barker		Janis Barker
Tim Portocarr		Tim Portocarr
Melanie Bledsoe		Melanie Bledsoe
DANNIE MORTON		Dannie Morton
Karen Baker		Karen Baker
CHRISTEN M. PARKER		Christen M. Parker
Lucy Mullane		Lucy Mullane
Jane H. DeB...		Jane H. DeB...
Bert Batta		Bert Batta
Micki Carroll		Micki Carroll

Print Name	Street Address	Signature
CHRISTINA YOUNKERS		Christina Younkers
Linda Tortora		Linda Tortora
Deborah Roberts		Deborah Roberts
JOHN ROBBINS		John Robbins
MIA HARRIMAN		Mia Harriman
Tim Harriman		Tim Harriman
Cherie Siegel		Cherie Siegel
LOIS STEWART		Lois Stewart
Deborah Rose		Deborah Rose
Devra Cirimeli		Devra Cirimeli
Edward Souza		Edward Souza
Lucy Camporeale		Lucy Camporeale
Angela Eddy		Angela Eddy
Debbie Pate		Debbie Pate
Robert Rado		Robert Rado
Stephen Lawson		Stephen Lawson
Virginia Rivera		Virginia Rivera
Linda Ranney		Linda Ranney
Tamara Gull		Tamara Gull
RICHARD PERA		Richard Pera
REAGAN PORRAS		Reagan Porras
Steve Braga		Steve Braga
CAROL FIELDS		Carol Fields
JORGE PANANA		Jorge Panana
Tamara Schneider		Tamara Schneider
Judy Grider		Judy Grider
OLGA BURLIGA		Olga Burliga
Mark Burelga		Mark Burelga

[illegible]

From: [MarySue Bucket](#)
To: [-- City Clerk](#)
Subject: Public Comment for City Council Meeting 4/8/24
Date: Monday, April 8, 2024 11:54:52 AM

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---Warning: Use caution before clicking any attachments. THIS EMAIL IS FROM OUTSIDE OUR EMAIL SYSTEM.---

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to state my support for a Ceasefire Resolution to be passed by the Petaluma City Council.

I believe it is important for the city to advocate for a ceasefire of the violence in Gaza and to show solidarity for members of our community who have been personally affected by the violence.

The death toll in Gaza is high and primarily made up of civilians, journalists and aid workers, including American aid workers as of a week ago. In the wake of that bombing, President Joe Biden made his strongest statement yet, pushing Netanyahu to increase availability of humanitarian aid to the civilians in Gaza.

We too can make a stronger statement against this violence by passing a Ceasefire resolution.

Please consider this again, your city wants you to.

Sadie Fick
Petaluma

From: [susan kirks](#)
To: [-- City Clerk](#)
Subject: General Public Comment - April 8
Date: Monday, April 8, 2024 12:34:05 PM

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Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

Agendizing for discussion and recorded vote a Resolution supporting a permanent Ceasefire in Gaza, to stop the IDF bombings, killing, and forced starvation, while calling for release of all hostages and condemning the Hamas Oct. 7 attack in Israel is overdue.

Many community members have spoken eloquently, asking for this topic to be agendized with a recorded vote. Only two elected officials are needed to request agenda placement. Suggesting that Petaluma community members can review the Sonoma County Human Rights Commission's letter as representing all of us is not appropriate.

The Petaluma City Council needs to address issues that will support and lift up all community members. Please agendize and discuss, with a recorded vote, the latest draft of the Resolution provided to you.

Susan Kirks
Petaluma



ReLeaf Petaluma

City Council Public Comment, In Recognition of Arbor Day

Monday, April 8, 2024

ReLeaf is very pleased to be receiving the Arbor Day award from the Petaluma City Council. Thank you. It means so much to us to know our efforts are appreciated and valued. We couldn't have achieved this honor without the help and guidance of the City Council and Staff who have enabled ReLeaf's work over the past three and a half years. We would like to thank a few people who have been so helpful along the way.

First, we must thank *Cindy Chong*, who guided and inspired us before we even became an organization, and reminded us as part of our reach for excellence to keep focused, resist bright and shiny ideas and ventures that distract from our goals, be realistic about our capabilities and plan for the long term.

We thank *Drew Halter* for his wisdom, leadership, vision, and proactive assistance. He and *Delana Bradford*, have helped us navigate our work with the City, and Drew provided key ideas and inspiration for the concept development of the USDA-Forest Service Petaluma Canopy Grant. ReLeaf could not have performed as we have without the backing of the entire Recreation and Parks group, including its Commission and Tree Advisory Committee.

We thank *Peggy Flynn's* City Manager's office for faith and support of our mission to build a greater and healthier tree canopy throughout the City. In particular *Patrick Carter* has supported our efforts from the earliest days, and was simply essential in the landing of the \$1M Petaluma Canopy grant.

We also thank *Ken Eichstadt*, Engineer in Public Works, *Ingrid Alverde*, Director of Economic Development, *Jeffery Bart* in Parks, and *Jamieson Bunn*, Communications Program Manager for interrupting their normal duties and squeezing in time to help us help the trees.

Lastly, we recognize with deep appreciation *Heather Hines'* excellent work on a very challenging, year-long assignment of writing the new Tree Protection Ordinance.

We look forward to working together with the City staff and Council again this year. Thank you so much.