

From: [Flynn, Peggy](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [-- City Council](#); [REDACTED]; [Halter, Drew](#); [Carter, Patrick](#)
Subject: Re: Who runs this town our elected officials representing citizens or city staff? The last Parks Commision meeting was a joke and a huge mess. Please watch it!
Date: Sunday, February 19, 2023 1:32:22 PM

Lendri—my understanding is that an ad hoc of the Parks & Rec Commission will be formed and will review the various options and make recommendations to the Commission. Nothing will be rushed through and we will do it right for all.

Peggy Flynn

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On Feb 19, 2023, at 1:01 PM, lendri purcell [REDACTED] wrote:

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Dear City Council Members,

I hope this email finds you well and thank you for your service to our community. It was really disturbing this week to watch parks staff basically ignore, evade and obfuscate the concerns and recommendations of several vocal Parks Commissioners for over 40 minutes who were uncomfortable with the latest IMPM draft that was presented to them. Your body has asked for a mostly organic and very strong IPMP. Staff chose to hire Blankenship and Associates at roughly 65k taxpayer money against the recommendations of local organic IMPM experts because this group does not specialize in organic IPMPs and works with big agriculture which is known for its extensive chemical use. Pesticide Free Petaluma even had a non-profit in Irvine (Non-Toxic Neighborhoods) willing to write our IPMP for free since they do that for other places, but staff chose to go

with the corporate consultant instead. In the end they presented a plan which disregarded the most basic and important expert stakeholder recommendations and created a ton of vagaries and loopholes. If staff has their way, this new IPMP will not significantly differ from our current IPMP and this whole exercise was just a charade. When several of our parks commissioners expressed concern and suggested creating an ad hoc committee and volunteered to participate, they had to repeat and beg for this to be granted for 45 minutes. Cindy Chong even came to the meeting just to tell them how hard it would be and how it was unprecedented for their body to do that. Staff claimed they needed to rush the IPMP through to get it to CC per urgent deadline, which is not true -- it is ahead of schedule. Is that how the government works around here? For three years I have been sitting in living rooms of local residents in meetings about this issue. I have sat with cancer survivors, long-time community advocates, naturalists and so many experts who know we can have a strong organic plan here. Why is city parks staff so afraid to do the right thing and codify that in a strong IPMP? How sad. Please watch that meeting and only vote for a true organic first IMPM. I am happy to meet with you about this and to bring in several community experts who have been working on this issue for years. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Lendri Purcell