



Agenda Report

21-803

Agenda Date: 6/8/2021

REPORT TO COUNCIL

SUBJECT

Report from the City Attorney on California Voter Rights Act (CVRA) Litigation (Continued from May 25, 2021)

COUNCIL PILLAR

Enhance Community Engagement and Transparency

BACKGROUND

The Council has requested a report on the City's expenditures with respect to defending the **Yumori-Kaku v. City of Santa Clara** litigation (CVRA litigation). Because the reasonableness of the expenditures cannot be assessed without a completely transparent disclosure of the events that occurred throughout the litigation, I have attached to this report a Chronology of the key dates that are tied to the expenditures of the City and of the plaintiffs, respectively.

In order to draw conclusions about when litigation costs could have been avoided in the course of a lawsuit, it is critical to understand the difference between lawsuits in which the City is a defendant and lawsuits in which the City is the plaintiff.

Most of the time that the City becomes a party to litigation, it is the result of another party filing a complaint against the City as a defendant. When this happens, the City cannot terminate the litigation unilaterally. It must either participate in the litigation through trial in an effort to obtain a verdict in its favor, or convince the plaintiffs to settle the case and dismiss the complaint against the City.

When the City takes the very rare step of suing another entity or person, it serves and files a complaint on a defendant. In such cases, the City can unilaterally terminate such litigations by simply filing a dismissal of the complaint. Usually, this step will only occur if there is some type of settlement with the defendant. This was **not** the case in the CVRA litigation. Therefore, once the plaintiffs sued the City, the City was not in control of terminating the litigation.

The CVRA was a lawsuit that was brought against the City as defendant. Thus, the plaintiffs had the upper hand as to when and how the litigation could be terminated. As will be explained in detail in this report, until February 2021 the CVRA plaintiffs never offered to dismiss their case or otherwise enter into a settlement that was acceptable to the City Council. Thus, despite two separate ballot measures proposed by the two Charter Review Committees to end the at-large by-seat voting system, plaintiffs opposed these solutions to end the litigation.

DISCUSSION

The City of Santa Clara has been addressing the issue of changing the way it elects its Council

members since as early as 2011 when it first received a letter from Robert Rubin, one of two lawyers in California who has extensively threatened litigation under the provisions of the California Voter Rights Act (CVRA). Attached to this report is a Chronology of the events regarding the City's efforts.

In reaction to the receipt of Mr. Rubin's 2011 letter, the Council empaneled the first of what would grow to be **four** Charter Review Committees to conduct a public process to consider ballot measures to amend the City Charter. Although there was sentiment to move away from the numbered seat system in the City Charter and explore a ranked-choice voting system, the 2011 Charter Review Committee ultimately did not propose charter amendment to put on the 2012 ballot.

The next consideration of changing the City Charter began in October of 2015 when, after a recommendation from the Ethics Committee, the City Council convened another Charter Review Committee to consider amendments. The 2015 Charter Review Committee recommended 4 charter amendments all of which passed, but did not recommend an amendment to change the City's system for electing council members. It is unclear what the impetus for the creation of this Committee was because there is no record of a letter from Mr. Rubin until October of 2016, just before the November 2016 election.

After the election, which failed to elect Asian American candidates in city-wide elections, Mr. Rubin inexplicably withdrew his threat to sue to prevent the seating of the white candidates who had opposed the minority candidates that lost.

The next Charter Review Committee to take on conducting a public process to consider amendments to the City Charter was created by the City Council on April 11, 2017.

The 2017 Charter Review Committee consider several different possible charter amendments. There was virtually no public input indicating a desire to keep the at-large by-seat election process. In a unanimous recommendation, the Charter Review Committee unanimously recommended Measure A which the City Council unanimously approved putting on the June 2018 ballot. Measure A would have created two council districts represented by 3 council members each to be elected using a ranked-choice system of voting.

In October 2017, Mr. Rubin sent another letter to the City Council demanding that City Council members be elected by a district system rather than the at-large system in the City Charter. Despite the fact that there was a clear indication that Santa Clarans were interested in moving away from the current numbered-seat city-wide Charter provisions for electing its council, in December 2017 Mr. Rubin, GDBH and the Asian Law Alliance filed a complaint against the City of Santa Clara demanding a judicial change to the City's at large election system and seeking attorney fees under the CVRA. The judge in the CVRA case, Superior Court Judge Thomas Kuhnle, bifurcated the litigation into two phases. The first phase was to determine liability, i.e. whether the City's at-large Charter provisions denied protected classes of voters of Asian ancestry from electing representatives of their choice. The liability phase of the trial proceeded in parallel with the campaign period for the June 5, 2018 election at which Measure A was on the ballot.

It was believed that if Measure A would have passed, there was a substantial possibility that Judge Kuhnle would decide that the CVRA lawsuit was moot because the charter provision at issue in the case would no longer be in effect. Indeed, Judge Kuhnle held off on finalizing his Statement of

Decision on the liability phase of the trial until June 6, 2018, the day after the election on Measure A. It also appeared that plaintiffs also believed that the passage of Measure A would have ended their lawsuit because during the campaign, their representatives reportedly urged a “no” vote “so that they would win the lawsuit.”

During the motions regarding the award of attorneys’ fees for the case, it was revealed that plaintiffs’ law firm expended approximately \$50,000 in unreported campaign in-kind services against the passage of Measure A. If the judge had declared the plaintiffs’ case moot by reason of the charter having been amended, the litigation would have ended, limiting both the City’s costs, as well as creating the very real possibility that the City would have not be obligated to pay plaintiffs’ fees and costs. In this case, the City’s costs might have been limited to the \$500K to 700K range.

After receiving the election results indicating that Measure A had not passed, the CVRA litigation proceeded to the “remedies” phase. Judge Kuhnle ordered the City to engage in a “districting” process that involved a series of public hearings that paralleled the provisions of the state Elections Code. Recognizing that there would not be sufficient time to adhere to the strict provisions of the Code, the judge’s order imposed a series of public hearings on a very tight time frame in July 2018 in order to have an order mandating district elections in time for the November 2018 election.

In compliance with the judge’s order the City Council convened a districting committee to draw up alternative maps for the judge to consider in creating a by-district voting system. Ultimately the court ordered the City to adopt the six-district map that the districting committee had recommended, and the 2018 and 2020 elections were held using this map.

On August 15, 2018, the City filed an appeal of Judge Kuhnle’s decision.

The Council also placed Measure N on the November 2018 elections. Measure N was an advisory measure that asked the voters the following question:

Shall the City of Santa Clara engage the voters in a public process to draft a Charter Amendment ballot measure to elect its Council Members, other than the Mayor, by district?

Measure N received a 70% yes vote. In response to the voters’ approval of Measure N, the City Council convened a Charter Review Committee to conduct robust public outreach to determine what type of district election system should be proposed for a Charter Amendment. The Charter Review Committee recommended that the Charter be amended to proceed with the six-district system for the 2020 election, but then transition to a three-district system with two council members to represent each district to be elected at alternating elections.

In January 2019 plaintiffs moved for an award of their fees and costs as prevailing parties in the litigation. The City moved to reduce their requested award of \$4.1 million. The City’s outside counsel spent approximately \$163K in successfully reducing the amount of the fees to \$3,164,955.61, producing a net savings of \$1,073,100.14.

Following the filing of the appeal, plaintiffs moved for a calendar preference in the Court of Appeal which issued an order stating the it would decide the case by March 10, 2020.

It was believed that if Measure C had passed, it would have rendered the appeal moot, ending the litigation. On February 1, 2019, Richard Konda sent a letter to the 49ers asking them to fund a campaign against Measure C. A copy of Mr. Konda's letter is attached to this report. Ultimately, Jed York spent almost \$700K to defeat Measure C, which would prevent the possibility of the Court of Appeal dismissing the case on the grounds of mootness. A dismissal of the case on the ground of mootness could have resulted in limiting the City's expenses to its own outside counsel expenses, as well as gaining substantial leverage in settling with the plaintiffs on the question of paying their costs.

Although the Court of Appeal had issued an order that it would rule on the appeal by March 10, 2020, it was not until November 2020 that it set December 17, 2020 as the date for oral argument.

The November 2020 election was held in accordance with the trial court order with four council members elected from districts under the court-ordered map.

The Court of Appeal held oral argument in the case on December 17, 2020 and issued its ruling on December 30, 2020. The Court upheld the trial court's decision that the City Charter sections providing for a city-wide numbered-seat election system for council elections to be in violation of the CVRA.

On February 12, 2021, the City paid plaintiffs' fees and costs in the amount of \$3,830,090.21 that had been awarded in Amended Judgment for the trial phase of the litigation.

On April 21, 2021, the City and plaintiffs entered into a settlement agreement requiring the City to pay the plaintiffs an additional amount of \$712,500 for their fees and costs on appeal. The settlement agreement requires the City to place a charter amendment on the June 2022 ballot to change its charter provisions from the city-wide system to a six- district system for the election of its council members.

Expenditures

The City's total expenditures to outside counsel in connection with the CVRA matter was approximately \$1.5 million. Those expenditures included approximately \$105K in prelitigation advice with respect to potential charter amendments (Measure A), \$750K in litigation costs through trial, \$163K in expenditures to reduce plaintiffs' attorneys fees award; \$12K in expenditures for advice associated with Measure C; \$430K in fees and costs on the appeal; and \$40K expended on post-appeal settlement efforts.

The total amount of payments to plaintiffs to satisfy the judgments that City Council agreed to was \$4,542,590.21. This included payment of \$3,830,090.21 in satisfaction of trial court judgment inclusive of fees and costs and interest, and an additional \$712,500 for plaintiffs' fees and costs on appeal.

CONCLUSION

Several false narratives advanced against the City Council's decision-making process in defending the CVRA lawsuit warrant correction:

- In defending against the litigation, the Council was motivated by its desire to defend the voters of Santa Clara against the claim that they had elected council members in a racially polarized manner under the at-large provisions of the City Charter. The Council was not attempting to preserve the at-large system in the Charter; it had consistently taken the position that it would ask the voters to amend the Charter to move away from an at-large system to a district-based system.
- Measures A, N and C are all evidence of the City Council's position that it was not seeking to preserve the Charter's at-large election system.
- The City Council was also committed to an inclusive public process in the form of convening two Charter Review Committees to hear from the public about what type of election system to transition to. The Council adopted the recommendations of each of the Committees as to how the Charter should be amended; the Council did not assert its political preferences over the Committee recommendations in placing these measures on the ballot.
- Finally, with the intervention of \$50K in opposition to Measure A, and \$700K in opposition to Measure C by outside parties in alignment with plaintiffs, one could easily draw the conclusion that it was plaintiffs, rather than the City Council, that achieved preservation of the Charter's at-large voting system. Ironically, plaintiffs now concede that a vote of the people is required to amend the Charter provisions in order to bring Santa Clara in alignment with the requirements of the CVRA.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall Council Chambers. A complete agenda packet is available on the City's website and in the City Clerk's Office at least 72 hours prior to a Regular Meeting and 24 hours prior to a Special Meeting. A hard copy of any agenda report may be requested by contacting the City Clerk's Office at (408) 615-2220, email clerk@santaclaraca.gov <<mailto:clerk@santaclaraca.gov>> or at the public information desk at any City of Santa Clara public library.

RECOMMENDATION

Note and file report.

Approved by: Brian Doyle, City Attorney

ATTACHMENTS

1. CVRA Chronology
2. February 1, 2020 Konda Letter

CVRA Chronology

Date	Event	Notes	City's Fees ¹	Plaintiffs' Fees
2011	First threat letter from Robert Rubin	Unable to locate copy		
01/24/2012	Council approves Charter Review Committee recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Charter be changed to allow At Large Elections o Consider Proportional Representation voting system by end of calendar year 2012 and possible implementation by 2014 o Create a program to encourage voter registration among minorities and allocate funds to monitor the system by January 1, 2013 to address voter registration for the 2014 election o Address the "Barriers to City Council Service" list (attached to November 17, 2011 minutes) with extreme regard to candidate recruitment 		
11/06/2012	City Council Election			
10/05/2015	Ethics Committee requests staff to bring the concept of a review of City Charter provisions to the City Council for consideration			
10/13/2015	CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- ANTICIPATED LITIGATION pursuant to Gov. Code 54956.9(d)(2) – Exposure to litigation Number of potential cases: 1	"No reportable action" ???		
10/27/2015	City Council Agenda Item 19b	MOTION was made by Caserta, seconded and unanimously carried (Marsalli absent), that the Council approve the creation of a Charter Review Committee to consider i) the manner of electing Members to the City Council; ii) City Council compensation; and iii) whether other Charter elements are no longer in compliance with current laws or best practices; direct that the Committee consist of no more than 15 members, including one individual selected by each Council Member and the Mayor, one member to be appointed		

¹ Approximate amounts

CVRA Chronology

		by the Citizens Advisory Committee, one member to be appointed by the Chamber of Commerce, and six at-large members to be selected by the City Council.		
02/04/2016	Charter Review Committee Meeting Discussion on Election of Councilmembers	The City Attorney (Ren Nosky) stated the City of Santa Clara has not been sued, but that several cities have been challenged on their at-large voting and that it has been devastating to those cities. California Voting Rights Act allows cities to self-correct before going into court action. He also stated that the courts cannot impose a charter change, but can mandate district elections.		
2016	Charter Review Committee	Recommended 4 Charter Amendments but did not include ballot measure on Council Elections		
10/06/2016	Robert Rubin letter			
11/08/2016	City Election			
11/15/2016	CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Pursuant to Gov. Code 54959.9(e)(2) – Exposure to litigation Number of potential cases: 1 (FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES) City as potential defendant: October 6, 2016, letter from Attorney Robert Rubin regarding City's alleged violation of the California Voting Rights Act			
12/6/2016	From: Richard Nosky To: Debi Davis, Dominic Caserta, Jerry Marsalli, Kathy Watanabe, Lisa Gillmor, Pat Kolstad, Teresa O'Neill Cc: Rajeev Batra, Rod Diridon, Mike Sellers, Lynn Garcia, Jennifer Yamaguma Date: 12/06/2016 8:37 AM Subject: Voting Rights Issue			

CVRA Chronology

	<p>All—</p> <p>Attorney Robert Rubin contacted me yesterday evening to inform me that he and his client will no longer seek to get an injunction against certifying the 2016 election results. Instead, they will focus on the 2018 election and file their lawsuit early next year. The effect of this is not totally clear yet, but it paves the way for the new council to be sworn in on December 13th. We will keep you advised of further developments. Call me if you have any questions.</p>			
04/11/2017	<p>City Council directs the creation of a Charter Review Committee to include review of the City's election method with a focus on district and other methods of electing members to the City Council in time for the June 2018 primary election.</p>	<p>Charter Review Committee Members: Tino Silva (Chair) Keith Stattenfield (Vice Chair), Chris Horton, Hosam Haggag, Hazel Alabado, Steve Lodge, Markus Bracamonte, Jodi Muirhead, Saskia Feain, Beverly Silva, Mary Hanna-Weir, Teresa Sulcer</p>		
07/18/2017	<p>Charter Review Committee makes <i>unanimous</i> recommendation for 2 Districts with 3 Councilmembers each with Single Transferable Voting system</p>	<p>MOTION was made by Davis, seconded and unanimously carried (Kolstad absent), that the Council approve the 2017 Charter Review Committee's recommendations as itemized; direct the City Manager and Interim City Attorney to draft a Charter Amendment to submit to the 2017 Charter Review Committee for review; and direct the City Manager and Interim City Attorney to bring a report to the Council by December 2017</p>		
Aug 2017	<p>Rubin sends notice letter alleging that proposed system of voting is an at large election system</p>			
Oct 2017	<p>Rubin sends another notice letter</p>			

CVRA Chronology

11/30/2017	Complaint for violation of the California Voting Rights Act of 2001, Elections Code §§ 14025, et seq.			
12/05/2017	Council approves Charter Committee's unanimous recommendation	MOTION was made by Davis, seconded and unanimously carried (Mahan absent), that the Council approve the Charter Review Committee's recommendations 1) approve the proposed Charter amendment language to: a) Elect City Council Members by two districts (e.g., District 1 and 2) with three Council Members representing each district; b) Elect the three Council Members at the same time per district alternating/staggering between gubernatorial and presidential election years; c) Utilize Single Transferrable Vote, a form of Ranked Choice Voting, as soon as the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters Office can support such a system and continue with the City's current voting method of plurality until the County can support the new voting method; d) Transition to include: In 2018, elect two members to four-year terms in District 1 and in 2020, elect one member to a two-year term in District 1 and three members to four-year terms in District 2; and e) Change the voting method of all other elected officers, including Mayor, City Clerk, Chief of Police, to match the recommended voting method of CONCURRENT MEETING MINUTES – December 5, 2017 Page 9 of 10 Council Members (Ranked Choice Voting by means of Single Transferrable Vote) beginning in 2020 with the election of the City Clerk and Chief of Police, and then subsequent elections thereafter and 2) direct the City Manager and the Interim City Attorney to initiate the process to draw the districts with public outreach		
12/27/2017	First Amended Complaint		\$105,000	
1/23/2018	Closed Session: Item C			
03/06/2018	Council places Measure A on June ballot 6-0-1 (Mahan absent)	<i>Shall the City Charter be amended: to establish two districts starting in 2018 to be represented by three council members each; and when available, use ranked choice voting to allow voters to select candidates in order of choice to determine the winners of elections of all city elected officers?</i>		
3/27/2018	Closed Session: Item 18-377			
4/18/2018	Closed Session Item 18-502			

CVRA Chronology

4/25/2018	Trial			
4/30/2018	Post-Trial Briefing Order			
5/8/2018	Closed Session: Item 18-625			
05/15/2018	Councilmember Caserta resigns			
05/15/2018	Court issues Proposed Statement of Decision – Liability Phase			
5/22/2018	Closed Session: Item 18-738			
Spring 2018	Plaintiffs’ attorneys bill \$47,750 of time involving political and media activities in opposition to Measure A which are eventually disallowed by the court	There is no record that these expenditures in opposition to Measure A were ever reported		
6/5/2018	Election - Measure A			
6/6/2018	Statement of Decision Issued by Court	Court finds City of Santa Clara in violation of CVRA, trial will proceed to remedies phase		
6/12/2018	Closed Session: Item 18-834			
6/12/2018	Council consideration of appointment of Council member to vacant seat	Councilmembers Mahan and Kolstad vote against the following 5 candidates who are members of a protected class under CVRA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eversley Forte • Hosam Haggag • Kevin Park • Suds Jain • Mohammed Nadeem 		
06/21/2018	Closed Session: Item 18-887			
06/26/2018	Closed Session: Item 18-964			
July 2018	Public Hearings conducted by the court-ordered Ad-hoc Advisory Districting Committee: Yuki Ikezi (Chair), Stephen Ricossa, Bobbi Estrada	Provided public input for creation of six district map to Judge Kuhnle		
7/5/2018	Closed Session: Item 18-964			
7/10/2018	Closed Session: Item 18-970			

CVRA Chronology

7/16/2018	Council places Measure N on November ballot	Measure N Ballot Question: Shall the City of Santa Clara engage the voters in a public process to draft a Charter Amendment ballot measure to elect its Council Members, other than the Mayor, by district?		
7/16/2018	Closed Session: Item 18-1011			
7/17/2018	Closed Session: Item 18-1013			
7/18/2018	Remedies phase of Trial			
7/20/2018	Closed Session: Item 18-1047			
7/23/2018 7/23/2018	Statement of Decision regarding Remedies Phase of Trial Closed Session: Item 18-1050	Mayor, Watanabe, Davis, O'Neill, Mahan: Reject plaintiffs' offer 5-0		
7/24/2018	Amended Statement of Decision re: Remedies Phase of Trial; Judgment			
7/24/2018	Closed Session: Item 18-1052			
7/27/2018	Notice of Entry of Judgment		\$750,000	
08/07/2018	Council adopts Resolution 18-8585	Six-District Map adopted, call for election of councilmembers for Districts 2 and 3 in November 2018		
8/15/2018	Notice of Appeal on Judgment filed	City does not appeal council districts ordered by the Court; does not seek a stay of the Court's order		
8/21/2018	Closed Session: Item 18-1151			
11/06/2018	General Election	City Wide Election: Lisa Gillmor Mayor Hossam Haggag City Clerk Measure N – 70% District 2: Raj Chahal District 3: Karen Hardy		

CVRA Chronology

01/22/2019	Order re: Motion for Attorneys' Fees	Plaintiffs request: \$4,238,055.75 Judge reduces amount to: \$3,164,955.61 Net reduction: \$1,073,100.14	\$163,000	
01/22/2019	Amended Judgment entered			
05/07/2019	City Council approval of the creation of a Charter Review Committee to implement voter-approved Measure N			
06/04/2019	Closed Session Item 19-704			
07/10/2019	The City Council appointed Charter Review Committee members	District 1 - Benjamin Cooley District 2 - Steven Silva District 3 - Christine Koltermann District 4 - Katherine Almazol District 5 - Sudhanshu Jain District 6 - Stephen Ricossa At-Large - Richard Bonito		
Oct 2019	Appeal is fully briefed		\$430,000	
11/05/2019	Charter Review Committee recommendation presented to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 District System for 2020 election with transition to 3 Two-Member District System • 30-day residency requirement • Independent redistricting committee 	\$12,000	
11/19/2019	Council (4-2) adopts resolution placing Charter Review Committee Recommendation for Measure C on the March 2020 Ballot (Hardy and Mahan oppose, Chahal absent)	Shall the City Charter be amended to elect city council members by district, excepting the mayor, as follows: for the 2020 election to establish six districts for the election of one council member to represent each district; and, beginning in 2022 to establish three districts for the election of two council members to represent each district; and to require an independent redistricting committee?		
02/01/2020	Letter from Richard Konda to R. Chandhok	"My purpose in writing is to request the 49ers organization help to defeat Measure C in Santa Clara placed on the ballot for the March election."		

CVRA Chronology

February 2020	Jed York spends \$700K in No on C campaign			
03/03/ 2020	Statewide Primary Election	Measure C loses		
12/17/2020	Oral Argument 6 th District Court of Appeal			
12/30/2020	Court of Appeal issues ruling	Upholds Trial Court decision		
02/12/2021	City pays Amended Judgment Amount	Fees and Costs = \$3,339,505.51 Interest = \$490,584.70		\$3,830,090.21
04/21/2021	Settlement Agreement signed	Requires additional payment for fees and costs on appeal of \$712,500		
04/23/2021	Second Amended Judgment Entered City pays additional amount to plaintiffs		\$40,000	\$712,500.00
	TOTALS		\$1,500,000	\$4,542,590.21

February 1, 2020

Mr. Rahul Chandhok
San Francisco 49ers
4900 Marie P DeBartolo Way
Santa Clara, CA 95054

Dear Mr. Chandhok:

First, we'd like to wish the team good luck tomorrow. What a great accomplishment to reach the Super Bowl this year. Congratulations.

My purpose in writing is to request the 49ers organization help to defeat Measure C in Santa Clara placed on the ballot for the March election. I write on behalf of Reverend Jethroe Moore II of the San Jose- Silicon Valley NAACP, Victor Garza of La Raza Roundtable and former State Assemblyman Paul Fong.

As a valued community organization in Santa Clara, we know the 49ers share our collective and steadfast belief that we can build strong and healthy communities when all of our voices are heard and represented. For that reason, we urge you to join us in our fight to defeat Measure C.

Measure C would amend the Santa Clara city charter to reduce City Council districts from six to three, with the consequence of disenfranchising minority and underserved communities. To be clear, if passed, Measure C would institutionalize anti-democratic elections in Santa Clara that would deny many in the community equal representation on the City Council—a fact that has been affirmed by the Santa Clara County Courts.

In 2018, the Santa Clara County Superior Court ruled that the city's at-large election system was a direct violation of the California Voting Rights Act. Furthermore, the Court mandated Santa Clara adopt a six-district election system that guarantees that members elected to the City Council live and reflect the needs of the communities they serve.

In nearly 40 years, Santa Clara has only elected one non-white City Council member. And that member was elected under the new system of six council districts. Santa Clara's economic and cultural vibrancy is enhanced by its rich diversity. There is no doubt that there is a better democracy and a better Santa Clara when that diversity is reflected and represented in local government.

Measure C is bad for democracy and bad for Santa Clara. Nevertheless, there are those who want to maintain the antiquated and illegal system of government for political power motives. These individuals are invested in the passage of Measure C. We simply cannot allow that to happen.

We hope that you will join us publicly and with resources to reach the voters in ensuring Measure C is defeated on March 3, 2020.

We look forward to discussing this further.

Sincerely,

Richard Konda
Executive Director
Asian Law Alliance
408-823-0799
rgkonda@hotmail.com

*organizations listed for identification purposes only

Council and Authorities Concurrent Meeting on 2021-06-08 4:00 PM

Meeting Time: 06-08-21 16:00

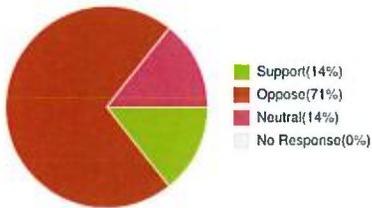
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Council and Authorities Concurrent Meeting on 2021-06-08 4:00 PM	06-08-21 16:00	61	7	1	5	1

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Council and Authorities Concurrent Meeting on 2021-06-08 4:00 PM

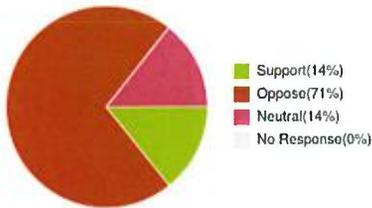
06-08-21 16:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
STUDY SESSION	2	0	1	1
4.P 21-803 Report from the City Attorney on California Voter Rights Act (CVRA) Litigation (Continued from May 25, 2021)	1	0	1	0
6. 21-810 Public Hearing: Adoption of a Resolution Setting Rates for Overall Solid Waste Services and Annual Clean-up Campaign in the Exclusive Franchise Area (Continued from May 25, 2021)	3	1	2	0
12. 21-824 Action on Censure of Councilmember Watanabe and Admonishment of Mayor Gillmor	1	0	1	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

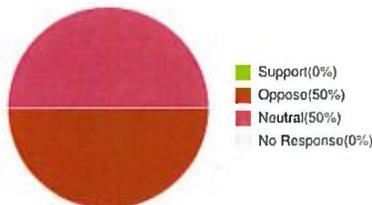
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for STUDY SESSION

Overall Sentiment



Annabel Gong

Location:

Submitted At: 8:07pm 06-08-21

Thank you City Council and Mayor for supporting RJJT. I had a comment about the \$20 flat rate ticket fee: im not sure it is equitable to have such a high price (more than a movie ticket) for families to come see a community theatre show. I hope we can find a way to make theatre more affordable for all audience members and theatre participants in Santa Clara.

Sally SC

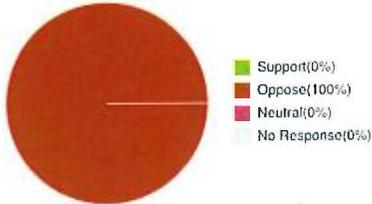
Location:

Submitted At: 6:03pm 06-08-21

No cuts to public safety! If our city was really in such a bad way, we wouldn't still be trying to hire more positions in the City Manager's office. How do you justify hiring there, yet not in other departments? Give the residents the level of service they deserve in this city, a fully staffed police department and fire department.

Agenda Item: eComments for 4.P 21-803 Report from the City Attorney on California Voter Rights Act (CVRA) Litigation (Continued from May 25, 2021)

Overall Sentiment



Sally SC

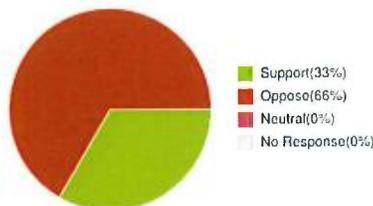
Location:

Submitted At: 6:08pm 06-08-21

The public apology people are asking for is ridiculous. Let's just all move along already.

Agenda Item: eComments for 6. 21-810 Public Hearing: Adoption of a Resolution Setting Rates for Overall Solid Waste Services and Annual Clean-up Campaign in the Exclusive Franchise Area (Continued from May 25, 2021)

Overall Sentiment



David Bonafede

Location:

Submitted At: 12:06am 06-09-21

The fact that this continues to be pushed and argued is quite ridiculous. The city and Green Waste are already in contract. This was already voted upon by council, and the city staff has moved forward based on that vote. THIS IS HOW A DEMOCRACY WORKS! If the current city council does not like the result, then they must wait until the current contract ends before a new negotiation can take place. Please stop this nonsense and move forward. This council is becoming an absolute embarrassment.

Adam Thompson

Location:

Submitted At: 7:37pm 06-08-21

The waste fee increase will have a large impact on many families within the city and should be investigated further prior to signing a long term contract. I understand the state has put additional requirements on local entities to sort garbage. The trial wasn't received well but many did not understand why there was a change or that the impact of not complying with the new requirements would result in massive fee increases. Please work on alternatives before signing. SC needs to get creative!

Adolfo Garcia

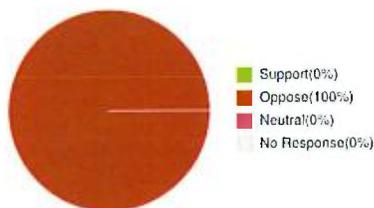
Location:

Submitted At: 7:52pm 06-07-21

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion. Further to my letter of 19 May 21 to the City Clerk and based on additional information received on 5/27/21 and on 6/1/21 from the Director of Public Works, I continue to voice my opposition to and encourage the City Council to reject the proposed CY2021/2022 Solid Waste rate increases.

Agenda Item: eComments for 12. 21-824 Action on Censure of Councilmember Watanabe and Admonishment of Mayor Gillmor

Overall Sentiment



Sally SC

Location:

Submitted At: 6:10pm 06-08-21

Councilmember already apologized. And quite honestly this whole situation was blown completely out of proportion just because others told a certain councilmember he should be offended. As far as Mayor Gillmor is concerned, this had nothing to do with here and she should have never been dragged into this. It's time to move along already. Especially since other councilmembers shouldn't throw any stones at glass houses.