



City of
Santa Clara
The Center of What's Possible

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JUL 11 2018

City Clerk's Office
City of Santa Clara

CITY COUNCIL WRITTEN PETITION

Date: 7-11-18

I, Teresa Sulzer, hereby request that the following subject be placed on the City of Santa Clara Council and Authorities Concurrent Meeting Agenda:

A Censure of Council members Holstad + Mahan

For more information about this subject, please see below:

pls see attached letter to Mayor + Council

I believe that council members Mahan +
Holstad did not act in the best interests
of the city + its residents + violated their
code of ethics by refusing to appoint a
candidate to fill the vacant council. I believe
this behavior should have a consequence + that
consequence should be a censure

By submitting this form, I am confirming that I am the requestor herein listed and that the information provided is truthful and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that it is important that I attend the meeting in the event there are any questions the Mayor and/or Council wishes to ask me. I also understand that the City may not place my item on the Agenda if it is not verifiable and within the subject matter jurisdiction of the City.

Street Address (Optional)

City

Zip

Telephone

NOTE: This is a public document.



To: MayorandCouncil@santaclaraca.gov,
lgillmor@santaclaraca.gov, toneill@santaclaraca.gov,
ddavis@santaclaraca.gov, kwatanabe@santaclaraca.gov
and 2 more...

Bcc: [REDACTED]

Dear Council Members -

I am writing to express my disappointment at what happened at last week's Council meeting.

On Tuesday night there was an opportunity to show vision and leadership and to make room on the City of Santa Clara Council - for a new member who would bring diversity of opinion, background and expertise to our City government. Any one of the final candidates would have made an excellent addition to our Council, and would clearly reflect the wishes of the electorate. They all have a history of being active members of the Community and have devoted countless volunteer hours to bettering our City, its democracy and our way of life (I refer to their bios and personal statements). In the case of three of the candidates, the people of Santa Clara are well acquainted with them as they had run for City Council in previous elections. In 2016 one of the candidates received a mere 4% fewer votes than Council Member Mahan. In 2014, one candidate received only 10% fewer votes than Council Member Kolstad.

At the start of the Council meeting all of you took an oath to act in the best interests of the City and its residents. Then you all voted to accept the process put forward by the City Clerk on how the appointment would be conducted. And yet, when the time came to follow through on this, Council Members Kolstad and Mahan reneged on their duty and their oaths and refused to participate. Council Member Mahan read her prepared statement at 1:30 am - after most of the public had already left - while trying to persuade people that her decision was not pre-planned. Had she announced this earlier, concerned citizens would have had the opportunity to address this abdication of duty. Council Member Kolstad didn't even bother to justify his actions.

We have seven seats on our City Council for a reason. The City is best represented and protected when all the Council seats are occupied. Diversity of opinion, knowledge, backgrounds and interests are what create a robust and healthy environment for governing. A full Council is the best way to represent our diverse City and is required by our City charter.

It is disheartening and extremely disappointing that 2 members of our Council lacked this vision and leadership. As a consequence of this behavior I respectfully request that the Council immediately do the following -

1. Create a process for censure as soon as possible. As soon as this process is in place Council Members Mahan and Kolstad should be censured for their dereliction of duty by failing to participate in appointing a candidate to the vacant council seat after they voted to do so
2. Please put on the agenda for the next Council meeting an opportunity for the public to address Council Members Mahan and Kolstad to express our disappointment at this lack of leadership.
3. After every Council meeting there should be public access to the voting record of the meeting and a public profile of each Council member and their entire voting record for the duration of their term.

Respectfully submitted by

- Teresa Sulcer
Santa Clara City Resident

View

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_SLA

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Dad

Dan Hardy

Daja Vu

Daja Vu Social

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