



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

RE: 4/2 BOS Agenda Item #5 - Mt. Murphy Bridge Project

1 message

Melody Lane <melody.lane@reagan.com>

Fri, Mar 29, 2013 at 9:19 AM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us, bosfive@edcgov.us, bosone@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us, Ron Briggs <bosfour@edcgov.us>

Cc: Don Spear <don.spear@edcgov.us>, Kimberly Kerr <kimberly.kerr@edcgov.us>, Terri Daly <terri.daly@edcgov.us>

Please pull Item #5 – Mt. Murphy Bridge Project from the 4/2/13 Consent calendar for public discussion.

Also ensure this entire correspondence is posted along with the two attached 3/19 presentations to the BOS as previously requested. They are relevant to the issues addressed in the Amador County Grand Jury letter concerning Ms. Kerr.

Be prepared to **transparently** address the questions posed within these documents.

Melody Lane

Founder – **Compass2Truth**

Conservatives Serving God in Truth and Liberty

Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for dinner. Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote.

From: Melody Lane [mailto:melody.lane@reagan.com]

Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2013 7:23 PM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us; bosfive@edcgov.us; bosone@edcgov.us; bosthree@edcgov.us; bostwo@edcgov.us; 'Ron Briggs'

Subject: BOS Agenda Item - Mt. Murphy Bridge Project

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Please ensure this correspondence along with the attached documents are posted to the BOS Agenda item when the Mt. Murphy Bridge project is rescheduled in two weeks.

I wish to bring to your attention that *all* my presentations to the BOS have been carefully timed prior to approaching the podium. Apparently some individuals are more equal than others. Had Supervisor Briggs not repeatedly interrupted me, I would have been 15-20 seconds short of the 5 minutes allotted as speaker of **Compass2Truth**:

"Public Testimony will be received on each agenda item listed under Department Matters as it is called. Principal party on each side of an issue (where applicable) is allocated 10 minutes to speak, individual comments are limited to 3 minutes, and individuals speaking for a group are allocated 5 minutes. (Adopted 8/10/93)"

Supervisor Santiago: Previously you had described these CIP matters as *"information overload, black widow spiders and too many moving parts."* **Thank you** for acknowledging the importance of transparency & process relevant to both my public comments during yesterday's BOS - *Open Government is Good Government.*

Respectfully,

Melody Lane

Founder – **Compass2Truth**

Conservatives Serving God in Truth and Liberty

***"We, the people are the rightful masters of both Congress and the courts not to overthrow the Constitution, but to overthrow men who pervert the Constitution."* ~ Abraham Lincoln ~**

2 attachments



BOS 3-19-13 Mt. Murphy Bridge.doc
54K

BOS 3-19-13 Sunshine.doc

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3/29/13

Edcgov.us Mail - RE: 4/2 BOS Agenda Item #5 - Mt. Murphy Bridge Project Public Comment

 49K

By now you know me well enough that I may not be politically correct, but I am biblically correct. As founder of a Watchdog organization I give credit where credit is due. Conversely I have no problem calling a spade a spade, especially when it comes to matters of injustice or malfeasance. Every conscientious citizen has a moral and civic duty to hold elected representatives accountable to their oaths of office.

My purpose this morning is to bring to your attention that March 10-16 was National Sunshine Week – Open Government is Good Government.

In that vein, I'd also like to acknowledge the February 13th meeting held with Kim Kerr, Don Spear and Supervisor Briggs. It took us nearly 4 years to finally have this "come to Jesus meeting" but I'm glad you finally did the right thing by addressing these long standing issues of transparency and accountability.

Ron, I'd also like to thank you for acknowledging that Roger Trout was wrong in refusing to cooperate and deal responsibly or transparently concerning RMAC and Development Services matters. During our meeting you asked for a copy of the retaliatory letter that Roger distributed relevant to our September 4th meeting in the office of Sheriff D'Agostini with MGD Park Superintendent Jeremy McReynolds.

Madam Clerk: For the public record here's a copy of Roger's letter along with the recap of the event, related agendas and correspondence. I trust that each of the supervisors will closely examine the issues in this material.

Note there have been no authorized SUPs for two years, the file disappeared from the Planning Department and Code Enforcement failed to do its' job. The matter still needs to be properly addressed.

In that same vein, I'd also like to acknowledge Kim Kerr's response dated March 5th relevant to the July 2011 and October 2012 letters specific to DOT, CIP and Parks & Recreation discussed during our meeting last month. Kim, your most recent response to the July 2011 letter lacked target dates, evaded the matters of inaccurate data and failed to provide the financial statistics requested

4 times in writing over the past 20 months. This isn't intended to embarrass you, but that does not bode well for the CAO's office.

It does however beg the question as to how this Board of Supervisors can be expected to make informed decisions based on faulty information provided by the departments you oversee? The BOS is responsible for how it handles erroneous information since the repercussions will affect every citizen and increase the likelihood of expensive litigation. That is not wise management of county resources. On several occasions these same concerns have been brought before the BOS and during other public meetings.

Forgive me for mentioning the obvious, but the Emperor has no clothes. You'll recall these same issues were raised last year by the Amador County Grand Jury concerning your role as Manager of the City of Ione. Unfortunately the corruption that tainted the EDC Grand Jury disbandment leaves our county vulnerable to an even worse scandal.

Madam Clerk: Please enter this October letter into the public record and note Kim's failure to meet the overdue target date of March 1st to respond to these 14 specific items.

Supervisor Briggs, as discussed last month we're counting on you to honor your word to proactively participate in dialogs with department heads to improve transparency, communication & customer service. We need better methods in how business is conducted that are consistent with the EDC mission statement. I'll be following up with your secretary soon to schedule these meetings.

Do you have any questions or comments at this time?

For at least two years now this project has been listed on the 5-year Approved CIP Project List. Two down, 3 to go...and we're still no closer to getting answers to what already appears to be a "done deal." Historically DOT, the BOS and certain Department Heads have avoided constituent concerns as demonstrated during Open Forum and by the sampling of comments posted to this agenda item.

Upon examining the 44-page consultant agreement, there are several questions regarding the Mt. Murphy Bridge project that still need answers that can't be properly addressed via the government website:

- Who is paying the \$550K consultant fees on this project, or is it funded totally by grants?
- By approving the blank consultant agreement, is the BOS approving the concept or actually implementing an undefined plan for this project?
- Is the bridge to be replaced, maintained for its historical significance, or both?
- What agency or department is tracking this project?
- Photos labeled **Mik Visits Mt. Murphy Bridge March 17th** - Why Mik?
- Kim Kerr & Don Spear attended the Mt. Murphy Road Bridge meeting February 7th, but I didn't see Mik or any other supervisors amongst the crowd at Grange Hall. We question why your name was associated with this project outside your district?
- Several neighbors left early in disgust as indicated by the public remarks posted to this agenda item. The question arises as to why associated DOT-CIP issues in District #4 are perpetually obfuscated and diverted?
- February 5th - **2013 Capital Improvement Program and Transportation Work Plan** was scheduled for 1 hr. but ran 3.5 hours due to Mik's questions. Good questions, but it deprived some residents the opportunity to address their concerns about this project. We attempted to schedule a meeting to discuss this matter, but it never came to fruition. Afterwards I was informed SOC requested Mik ask questions rather than rubber stamp everything. Mik your intentions were commendable, but are you aware how difficult it was to get neighbors to show up on short notice, and their frustration in not being able to voice their concerns?

- Regarding the 4 bridge projects in Coloma, we question whether Supervisors Mikulaco or Veercamp are up to speed about the history of resident concerns involving inconsistent data, behind closed doors meetings, falsified records, the scandal concerning Jack Sweeney “giving away easements”, the eminent domain issues or the negative impacts to affected properties relevant to the projects?

During our meeting last month with Supervisor Briggs, Kim Kerr acknowledged the communication & customer service problem regarding inaccurate statistics, financial data & timeliness of information being disseminated to the public. Actually it goes beyond communication & customer service. Transparency and accountability, or lack thereof, is a concern to every conscientious citizen.

Kim, as expressed previously, the CIP projects on the table in Coloma are reminiscent of the Amador County Grand Jury investigation. This isn't meant to embarrass you, but the public has a right to know about matters that concern them. Here is just a small sample from the recent Amador County Grand Jury letter to the Mayor of the City of Ione:

How have you improved the following:

- Tracking of various contracts
- Reconciling past accounting irregularities
- Consultant work performance & payment process
- Tracking of Local Agency Investment Fund transfers
- Was any action taken to determine if former City Manager, Ms. Kerr, was acting illegally?
- Has the City pursued legal action against Ms. Kerr?
- If yes, what action was taken? If not, why not?

Madam Clerk: For the public record this February 20th Amador Grand Jury letter will shed a little sunshine on the topic.

The last question is, can we expect this board to deal with these issues responsibly, or will you just rubber stamp them for the sake of expedience without due diligence?

Who'd like to take the first stab at open and transparent government?