

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT -- Commissioner Ward

From: James Wright <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 22 Aug 2011 19:12:54 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Commissioner Ward,

Your condemnation of the Commissions' activities lacks commitment.

A little story (original author unknown);

One morning in the farm yard a cow, a hen and a pig were walking together.

They came upon a farmhouse window and saw the farmer at his breakfast.

The cow looked in the window, spoke first and said:

"I contributed that milk in the farmer's breakfast"

The hen alighted on the cow's head, looked in the window and said:

"I contributed those eggs in the farmer's breakfast"

Whereupon the pig turned away in disgust and said:

"That's the trouble with folks nowadays, they just don't know the difference between contribution and commitment".

If you are truly committed in your condemnation of the Commission's processes and product, you should strongly underscore your position by resigning from the Commission.

I, for one, would be saddened by your departure since you have often been a voice of reason during the deliberations. However, Mr. Ward, it is now time for you to leave.

Jim Wright
a voter from San Jose

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT -- Posting of public comments

From: James Wright <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 22 Aug 2011 18:38:36 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Commissioners,

Regarding continued posting of public comments:

The Commission needs to continue to accept and retain all public comments offered. But, only certain of them need to be posted on the website and distributed among the Commissioners as follows:

1. Litigation

People will want to share their comments on what is happening. There may be a gem or two within their comments. I do hope that the invective will not get out of hand, but folks need an outlet for both their ideas and frustrations.

Posting of litigation related items can cease as soon as all litigation and/or referenda have been completed. Or the court orders you to stop.

2. Changes to the laws and rules

One of your charges in the law is to review the process, laws and any rules governing it. You have already received some suggestions to be merged with your own and there will certainly be more as time goes on. Beyond that, the interested parties will wish to evaluate and comment on your discussions and progress as you consider what items to propose to the Legislature, et al.

Posting of comments related to law and rule changes needs to continue for some time (perhaps two or three years or more) to enable a complete airing of any proposals.

You may also receive some atta-boys for your efforts among these comments.

Of course, any comments received in whatever form must be retained in the public record, but all other postings (such as those commenting on the maps) can cease as of 8/15 unless the court, for some reason, wishes them to be continued.

Jim Wright
a voter from San Jose

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT -- today's (8/22) teleconference

From: James Wright <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 22 Aug 2011 19:01:09 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Commissioners,

Today's (8/22/2011) teleconference did not go well.

I'm not writing about the discussion itself, but the process of conducting the conference at each of the several noticed locations.

I listened with Commissioner Barabba in his hometown of Capitola. The room was unsuitable to the activity because other people were also using it. This is not a complaint about the room arrangements, just an explanation.

The equipment available was unsuitable because the volume needed to hear the discussion was inadequate. This is a complaint about the equipment available to the individual commissioners in such situations where the audience is more than just themselves. The BlackBerry device is unsuitable for this purpose! Commissioner Barabba switched to his personal cell phone so both of us could hear the proceedings (just barely).

More importantly, the discussion was not broadcast onto the internet for any interested parties to listen in.

I believe the process, as it was constituted today, was a direct violation of Bagley-Keene and any decisions that may seem to have been made during the meeting are null and void.

The use of teleconferences in the future should be carefully assessed before any more such meetings are scheduled. The following are necessary:

- Each location should be scheduled for the exclusive use of the Commissioner(s) during the scheduled time of the meeting. Some certainly were, others not.
- Appropriate equipment must be provided to both permit the Commissioner(s) to participate and for they and any members of the public to easily hear the discussion. Some form of amplification is needed.
- The meeting (audio only) must be recorded and later posted on the Commission website. This is in lieu of a transcript.
- The meeting must be broadcast (audio only) through the Commission website so that interested parties who are not in attendance may experience the discussion live.

Jim Wright
a voter from San Jose