

## Gautho, Julia

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**From:** John <jxmuly@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 22, 2025 8:40 PM  
**To:** Gautho, Julia; City Clerk; City Council  
**Subject:** Appointment Deux

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please count me in for another round of compromise candidate. I never expected to be this successful. Paperthin. This whole county. Everything exactly as it seems lol.

Melinda choosing politics over ideals was as modeling predicted.

Getting boring. Spice it up Jamie send me another threatening email. That inspired me the last couple months.

Well. If no compromise candidate this is gonna be fun. Sue prob takes it. Gerry and Sue omg what fun Melinda's comments and behaviors will be at meetings. She already has done wild things. Imagine what frustration will bring out.

Good times.

Warmly JM

**Gautho, Julia**

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**From:** John <jxmuly@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 23, 2025 4:09 PM  
**To:** City Council; Goldstein, Jamie (jgoldstein@ci.capitola.ca.us); City Clerk  
**Subject:** If not Enrique

My vote is for Sue Westman. She will make for an excellent steward representative of a large demographic of Capitola voters. She has no strong opinions on political issues as Councillor Orbach suggested and isn't likely to run again in 2026.

Warmly JM

## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** Rosemary Brogan <robrogan1946@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 25, 2025 7:05 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Appointment of Susan Westman to the City Council

I have lived in Capitola for 53 years and strongly support Susan Westman for the City Council. She is knowledgeable about all aspects of our city and she is fair and committed to Capitola. I can think of know one better to tackle the difficult issues that need to be resolved.

## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** Mark Ban <markban@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 26, 2025 9:21 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Capitola City Council appointment (corrected letter from Mark Ban)

May 26, 2025

Dear Capitola City Council,

As the city is now facing the second city Council Member to quit, it is an opportunity for the council to appoint a new member with decades of experience. We are more than fortunate to have Susan Westman step up. There is no other candidate that can even come close to Susan Westman's Capitola experience, city knowledge and management skills. It is an honor for Capitola to have this opportunity to appoint Susan Westman to the Capitola City Council.

I have to agree with Council Member Orbach.

We need somebody ready to hit the ground running.

If you cataloged Susan Westman's positions and appointments it would be easy to see no one else even comes close to what the council would gain by having Susan Westman's collective knowledge as a council member. Please do not hesitate to appoint Susan Westman to replace Council Member Pedersen.

Thank-you,

Mark Ban

321 McCormick Ave

Sent from my iPhone



## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** Kathi Howard <kathi.hotrod@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 27, 2025 2:41 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Choice for new city council appointment

I recommend Susan Wiseman be appointed for the replacement to city council. She brings a knowledge, balance and expertise that can enhance the ground footing of new council's decisions to move forward and expand on future decisions.

Thank you  
Kathi Howard

Resident

**Wyatt, Rosie**

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**From:** capcouncil (null) <capcouncil@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 24, 2025 1:23 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Westman, Nels (nels@bestwestman.com)  
**Subject:** Council Appointed

Council Members,

You have a unique opportunity to accomplish something special for the citizens of Capitola. Instead of making a political appointment. You have a chance to pick a council replacement that is a member of the community and isn't interested in furthering their career beyond the next two years. That is exactly what Capitola needs right now. A place holder. To that end. Susan Westman is the only person applying for that position that will bring the experience needed to keep the continuity of the council together. She doesn't have an agenda or the interest to run in two years. Her history in Capitola is unparalleled. Her previous roles in city government as a City Manager (Belmont) and Community Development Director (Capitola) can only help mentor the other council members to become better at their jobs. We hope you agree that Capitola can absolutely benefit from her appointment.

Thanks for your attention,

Bruce and Dori Arthur

Sent from my iPad

## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** Ron Burke <rburke477@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 24, 2025 3:30 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Council Candidate Endorsement

Hello, Capitola Council members,

Your appointment of Alex Pederson's council seat replacement is one of importance to the near and long-term needs of our city. As a former Planning Commissioner and involved citizen, I am approaching you once again. I surmise that this candidate needs to possess the following qualifications:

- Broad experience in local government
- Tenure with an understanding of our town's history
- Current leadership experience for our fair city
- Understanding of current challenges confronting our community
- Desire to bring parties together to arrive at mutually beneficial solutions
- Demonstrated common sense in decision making

The only candidate I am aware of whom I know of will apply for this vacancy and whom meets this set of base criteria is Susan Westman, thus I respectfully request your earnest consideration of Susan in the role of Council member for the City of Capitola as replacement for Alex Pedersen.

Sincerely,  
Ron Burke

## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** Sheri Siegfried <sherimsiegfried@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 1, 2025 8:09 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Council Member Appointment - Support Letter - June 12th Meeting

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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Dear Council Members,

I would like to formally nominate Susan Westman for the interim appointment to the Council.

I believe Susan would be a great addition to the Capitola City Council. She has the experience and the desire to work for the residents of Capitola to better the community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Sheri

Sheri Siegfried

## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** Tricia Proctor <t.proctor@nhs-inc.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 27, 2025 4:54 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Councilmember Appointment June 12th Meeting Support Letter

Dear Council Members,

I hope this message finds you well. As a long-time resident of Capitola, I would like to formally nominate Susan Westman for the interim appointment to the Council.

I believe Susan would be an excellent addition to the Council, and I am confident that she will serve our community with dedication and integrity. Her experience and commitment to our town make her a strong candidate for this position.

If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to reach out to me.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

*Tricia Proctor*  
*Riverview Dr Capitola Resident*

**Wyatt, Rosie**

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**From:** Richard Novak <r.novak@nhs-inc.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 12:17 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Fwd: Councilmember Appointment June 12th Meeting Support Letter

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Richard Novak <r.novak@nhs-inc.com>  
**Date:** May 28, 2025 at 12:15:36 PM PDT  
**To:** "Councilmember Appointment@ci.capitola.ca.us" <Councilmember Appointment@ci.capitola.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Councilmember Appointment June 12th Meeting Support Letter

Sent from my iPad

**Subject: FW: Councilmember Appointment June 12th Meeting Support Letter**

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**From:** Richard Novak  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 27, 2025 4:54 PM  
**To:** citycouncil@ci.capitola.ca.us  
**Subject:** Councilmember Appointment June 12th Meeting Support Letter

Dear Council Members,

I hope this message finds you well. As a long-time resident of Capitola, I would like to formally nominate Susan Westman for the interim appointment to the Council.

I believe Susan would be an excellent addition to the Council, and I am confident that she will serve our community with dedication and integrity. Her experience and commitment to our town make her a strong candidate for this position.

If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to reach out to me.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Richard Novak

***Riverview Dr Capitola Resident***

## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** John <jxmuly@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 30, 2025 9:47 AM  
**To:** City Council; Goldstein, Jamie (jgoldstein@ci.capitola.ca.us)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Public Records Request - Closing the Esplanade

Luckily I already had staff do this work for you. (See below).

Close the last little loop where drop off is. 15-20ish spaces including the ones in front of the Brit. Keep a bit of it to create a new drop off point designed smart this time. Change the direction of San Jose to direct traffic towards the city parking lot. Remove the big tree planters those trees are hurting anyway.

Less concrete. Resilient doesn't mean concrete anymore. I got lots more on this.

The way to turn the most valuable land in the county (the lower village) into money is through development (which we won't do) and/or turning it into an economic powerhouse by making it a people friendly place (oh if Kristen hadn't bricked the hotel).

The way to continue to lose money on it is to keep it a parking lot (unviable businesses only surviving bc they pay no rent doesn't help). No one wants to shop in a parking lot. It's not welcoming.

Playground at Monterey has traditionally been opposed by the community there I am surprised Jamie dint tell Melinda.

Stop losing money. You did ok. Listen to Leslie and me. The UL is terrifying in its continuing rapid upward trend. Pensions bill and infrastructure bill and for us the no growth bill and fixed income/vacant home/beach town with our demo bill all gonna demand payment next decade.

Sue Westman. Hands down the best choice to replace Alex. Sue is great. 100% has my support.

Warmly JM

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Moss, Julia" <jmoss@ci.capitola.ca.us>  
**Date:** June 14, 2023 at 10:51:10 AM PDT  
**To:** Strong Towns <strongtownsantacruz@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** "Westly, Austin" <awestly@ci.capitola.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Public Records Request - Closing the Esplanade

Good Morning,

The City is in receipt of your Public Records Act request.

Government Code § 7922.535 provides that the City has up to 10 days after receipt of your request to determine whether the City has records that are responsive to your request, determine whether any of the responsive records are exempt from disclosure, and notify you in writing of the City's determinations and reasons for those determinations.



We will provide you with the City's determination within 10 days. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Respectfully,

**Julia Moss**  
City Clerk - City of Capitola  
831.475.7300 x228

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**From:** Strong Towns <strongtownsantacruz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 12, 2023 11:43 AM  
**To:** Moss, Julia <jmoss@ci.capitola.ca.us>; Goldstein, Jamie (jgoldstein@ci.capitola.ca.us) <jgoldstein@ci.capitola.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Public Records Request - Closing the Esplanade

Hello Julia,

I am requesting access to records in possession or control of the City of Capitola for the purposes of inspection and copying pursuant to the California Public Records Act, California Government Code § 7920.000 et seq. ("CPRA"), and Article I, § 3(b) of the California Constitution. The specific records I seek to inspect and copy are listed below. As used herein, "Record" includes "Public Records" and "Writings" as those terms are defined at Government Code § 7920.530 & 7920.545. I request access to inspect/copies of records covering the period 1985-June 1, 2023 that pertain to:

**-removing parking from all or a portion of the Capitola Esplanade (defined as the area between Stockton Ave and the intersection of Monterrey Ave and Capitola Ave, including San Jose Ave from the Esplanade to Capitola Ave, in the City of Capitola) permanently and reclaiming that land for public use**

**-actions taken by city council members advocating for or against closing all or a portion of the Capitola Esplanade permanently to motor vehicles**

**-correspondence with the Coastal Commission relating to removing parking from the Capitola Esplanade**

**-environmental reports/documents on pollution, air quality, environmental damage to the local ecosystem from motor vehicles parking/using the Capitola Esplanade**

**-statistics on pedestrian and roller (bikes, skateboards, scooters, strollers) injuries/accidents that involve motor vehicles in the Capitola Esplanade Area**

If you contend that any portion of the records requested is exempt from disclosure by express provisions of law, Government Code § 7922.525(b) requires segregation and redaction of that material in order that the remainder of the records may be released. If you contend that any express provision of law exists to exempt from disclosure all or a portion of the records I have requested, Government Code § 7922.535 requires that you notify me of the reasons for the determination not later than 10 days from your receipt of this request. Government Code § 7922.540 requires that any response to this request that includes a determination that the

request is denied, in whole or in part, must be in writing and include the name and title of the person(s) responsible for the City's response.

Government Code § 7922.500 prohibits the use of the 10-day period, or any provisions of the CPRA or any other law, "to delay access for purposes of inspecting public records."

In responding to this request, please keep in mind that Article 1, § 3(b)(2) of the California Constitution expressly requires you to broadly construe all provisions that further the public's right of access, and to apply any limitations on access as narrowly as possible.

If I can provide any clarification that will help expedite your attention to my request, please contact me at [strongtownsantacruz@gmail.com](mailto:strongtownsantacruz@gmail.com) pursuant to Government Code § 7922.600. I ask that you notify me of any duplication costs exceeding \$50 before you duplicate the records so that I may decide which records I want copied. If the records can be sent digitally that is preferred.

Thank you for your timely attention to this matter.

Warmly,  
John Mulry

## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** John <jxmuly@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 27, 2025 1:15 PM  
**To:** Vazquez, Guillermo (gvazquez@ci.capitola.ca.us); City Council; Goldstein, Jamie (jgoldstein@ci.capitola.ca.us)  
**Subject:** Re: Capitola City Council Vacancy - Application Opportunity

Please do not include my application in this new round. I recommend the city choose Susan Westman. She seems the obvious choice supported by all 4 councillors. Enrique is still my first choice. Represents the demos we need more representation from. Parents, families, union employees, brown and black folks, still a homeowner below 41st which is always our preferred.

No one who wasn't interested the first time should be considered this time imo. I could explain why but meh.

How does the car show website still function so poorly and isn't updated in all the places it should be? 3 bloody years. Come on.

Warmly JM

On May 27, 2025, at 12:44 PM, Vazquez, Guillermo (gvazquez@ci.capitola.ca.us) <gvazquez@ci.capitola.ca.us> wrote:

Good morning,

Following Vice Mayor Alexander Pedersen's resignation on May 8th, the City Council voted to fill the resulting vacancy by appointment. The Council will review applications at their regular meeting on **June 12th at 6:00 PM**.

We've received an application from you for the previous City Council vacancy in January. If you'd like us to include it for consideration for this current opening, please reply to this email by **June 3rd at 5:00 PM** and confirm the following:

1. **Yes, I want my previous application included.** (If you prefer to submit a new application, you can do so here: <https://portal.laserfiche.com/p0099/forms/citycouncil>)
2. **I will be able to attend the meeting on June 12th.**
3. (Optional) **I have attached proof of Capitola residency** (e.g., deed, lease, a utility bill).

Applications will be accepted from the public from **May 27 - June 3 at 5:00 PM**. Applications will be reviewed at the regular City Council meeting on **June 12th at 6:00 PM**. Applicants must be in attendance on June 12<sup>th</sup> to be appointed and sworn in, the appointed applicant will assume their position at this meeting.

We look forward to hearing from you! Please feel free to reach out with any questions.



**Guillermo Vazquez**

*Detective/Fleet Manager*

Phone: 831-475-4242 x260

Email : [gvazquez@ci.capitola.ca.us](mailto:gvazquez@ci.capitola.ca.us)

Address: 422 Capitola Avenue

Website: [www.cityofcapitola.org](http://www.cityofcapitola.org)

Instagram: [Capitola Police Department](#)

Facebook: [Capitola Police Department](#)

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Any opinions, conclusions, or information in this message that are not related to our official business should not be considered endorsed by the sender.

## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** Rosemary Brogan <robrogan1946@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 1:30 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Recommendation for Susan Westman for City Council

I have live in Capitola for 53 years and love our city. I also taught history for 49 years at Cabrillo. Susan is everything I would want in someone to take care of our city. She is a great neighbor and is always willing to lend a helping hand. She also embodies the attributes of a strong leader. She is knowledgeable and a hard worker. Susan knows the history of many of the questions the city faces today and will bring valuable insights into the discussions. She also knows how to bring various viewpoints together to problem solve and move toward consensus. I admire Susan's integrity and I strongly recommend her for your consideration and her appointment.

## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** John <jxmuly@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 1, 2025 8:26 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Saw on Reddit

The investigation of Councillor Orbach is now stalking not sexual harassment. Why isn't the city addressing this even just to deny it?

Happy Pride fun fact, I worked on equal marriage all over the state, trained and ran EQCA's canvass pretty much statewide post prop 8, our SC pride org is frowned upon for you guessed it, gerontocracy.

Let's appoint someone alive before JFK was assassinated to city council still my advice.

Fly the Pride Flag. Might be the last year we do it I'm guessing. JM

## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** Linda Segal <lsegal@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 26, 2025 4:46 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Selection of new council person

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Capitola City Council Members:

Thank you for your service to our wonderful community! Now that a new member is necessary, I urge you to support and select Susan Westman. Her experience in city government, reputation, and commitment to the City of Capitola, make her the perfect choice to complement the current council.

Alternatively, Enrique Dolmo, who I have spoken with at Jade Park as he prepares to coach our local kids, also has the heart for Capitola that it takes to represent us, your constituents. He doesn't possess the credentials that Susan has, but given that she she wasn't running in past elections, I have voted for him twice.

Please keep the values of your constituents and the future of this historic, unique community in mind as you fill this very important position.

Respectfully,  
Linda Segal  
Capitola resident

**Wyatt, Rosie**

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**From:** KELLY SPENCER <kellyspencer@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 27, 2025 9:07 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Susan Westman - interim appointment to the Council.

**Dear Council,**

**I strongly recommend Susan Westman for the vacant council seat with the City of Capitola. She is a bright, experienced, no nonsense leader!**

**She would bring a wealth of experience and knowledge that would be of great value to the council and citizens of Capitola.**

**Regards,**

**Kelly Spencer  
Gilroy Street  
Capitola**



## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** Lynne DeSpelder <lydespel@cabrillo.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 25, 2025 4:49 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Lynne Ann DeSpelder; Albert Lee Strickland  
**Subject:** Susan Westman for city council seat

Please appoint Susan Westman to the vacant council seat. Thanks, Lynne and Al Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** Niels Kisling, AKA Captain Niels <nkisling@pacbell.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 24, 2025 9:54 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Susan Westman

Dear Council-

There is no one more qualified to complete Pederson's term than Susan Westman. The citizens of Capitola are lucky that she wants to take on this task.

Enough said.

Respectfully-

Niels  
1820 Wharf Road

Niels Kisling

It's my job.

**Wyatt, Rosie**

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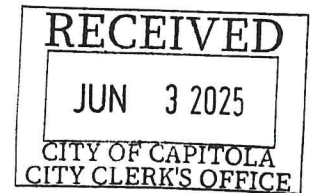
**From:** dreymerbizvideo2 <dreymerbizvideo2@juno.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 24, 2025 11:52 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Vacant seat

I support Susan Westman for the open seat on council.

Diane Reymer

Sent from my Galaxy Tab A

June, 2025



Dear Capitola City Council,

As you each know, being a City Council Member is a position of dedication and responsibility to the city of Capitola's community.

Representing Capitola is an act of service, and to each of you, **Thank-You** for your **Service**.

Having two Council Members vacate, their seats, one to seek employment, another due to the requirement of residency for Capitola City Council members, two Council members quitting their seats shortly after of the November 2024 election process is shocking.

That we will have four new council members that we could have voted for and now we are abiding by council appointments is disappointing.

Yet, maybe this is a wonderful opportunity for Capitola.

To support the City Council's process of receiving applications, I am offering my suggestion, of Susan Westman as she is willing to serve Capitola to fill the vacated city council seat by Alexander Pedersen.

I would like to offer insights as to why I am in support of Susan Westman becoming the next Capitola City Council Member.

Susan Westman has an impressive history of working with the city of Capitola's long term and short term projects, topics, and concerns through her deep respect for each of the positions Susan Westman has held in Capitola.

Susan Westman considers the long term ramifications and implications of all decisions with a solid foundation of understanding the consequences.

She has a rare ability to evaluate a topic from every angle.

Susan Westman brings forth important facts on any given topic with precision, clarity and ability to communicate complicated information.

I find Susan Westman to be fair in her assessments and judgements and because of these qualities have come to develop trust in Susan Westman.

I am sending this email as an urgent request that you appoint Susan Westman to Capitola's City Council.

Susan's presence on the Council would be a presence of unity, bringing her well rounded diverse range of abilities and qualities to the service of Capitola's community.

Susan Westman qualifies and is an excellent match for Capitola's City Council.

Appointing Susan Westman to the City Council would advance steps to achieve sustainability into the future of unique Capitola.

There might be numerous applications submitted for this city council to review, it is impossible to not consider that Susan Westman would be the most suited and absolutely the best fit at this time.

City Council Members,

Mayor Joe Clark,

Council Member Margaux Morgan

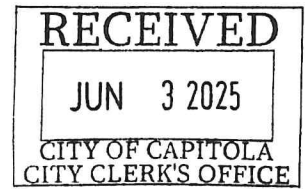
Council Member Melinda Orbach

Council Member Gerry Jensen

I urge each of you to not hesitate and vote to appoint Susan Westman to fulfill this vacancy on the Capitola City Council.

Sincerely,  
Cheryl Ban

May 26, 2025



Dear Capitola City Council,

As the city is now facing the second city Council Member to quit, it is an opportunity for the council to appoint a new member with decades of experience. We are more than fortunate to have Susan Westman step up. There is no other candidate that can even come close to Susan Westman's Capitola experience, city knowledge and management skills. It is an honor for Capitola to have this opportunity to appoint Susan Westman to the Capitola City Council. I have to agree with Council Member Orbach.

We need somebody ready to hit the ground running.

If you cataloged Susan Westman's positions and appointments it would be easy to see no one else even comes close to what the council would gain by having Susan Westman's collective knowledge as a council member. Please do not hesitate to appoint Susan Westman to replace Council Member Pedersen.

Thank-you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Ban". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mark Ban  
321 McCormick Ave

## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** Jessie Mudgett <jessimudgett@att.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 5, 2025 9:30 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Council Member Appointment

As long time citizens of Capitola (50+ years), we are writing to encourage your vote for Susan Westman to fill Alexander Pedersen's vacant position.

Susan has lived in the community for decades and served as Planning Director, City Manager and, most recently, as a Planning Commissioner for Capitola. You can't ask for much more experience than that. She would come to the council without the need of a "learning curve" and be informed and ready to finish out the second half of the June 12 council meeting. Susan's work history and community service show her strong support for Capitola.

Butch and Jessie Mudgett

**Wyatt, Rosie**

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**From:** Gayle Ortiz <gayle@gocapitola.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 6, 2025 10:26 AM  
**To:** City Council; Westman, Susan (Susan@bestwestman.com); Westman, Nels (nels@bestwestman.com)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for Susan Westman

June 6, 2025

Dear Capitola City Council Members,

I strongly encourage a vote for Susan Westman as an interim city council person.

As it stands now, this council has almost no public policy knowledge, which isn't a criticism, just a fact. What we need is someone who has the combination of life experiences to step in and help this council make policy decisions and sort through the staff reports.

Susan is the right choice because:

- She has lived in Capitola for 45 years,
- Since 1981 she has served as the city's Associate Planner; Planning and Community Development Director and City Manager.
- She has served several other communities in the Bay Area as an interim city manager and city manager.
- She has been a Capitola Planning Commissioner off and on since 2016.

This longstanding commitment and service to Capitola is unparalleled in other current applicants.

In the event of a tie, a special election should be held. A split vote at the council level clearly signals a deep division in community perspectives—one that deserves resolution through a public vote.

Thank you,

Gayle Ortiz