

Gautho, Julia

From: John <jxmuly@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 11, 2025 11:03 AM
To: City Council; Gautho, Julia; Goldstein, Jamie (jgoldstein@ci.capitola.ca.us); Chris Neely Lookout; PK Hattis; Andrew Goldenkrantz; Barry Train dude Scott; Ortiz, Gayle (gayle@gocapitola.com); Westman, Nels (nels@bestwestman.com)
Subject: Special City Council Meeting 1/16/25

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Hello Neighbors

Melinda made clear she has the clarity of self to lead our council in a way unseen in generations. I can't be sad about this suspicion of mine proved true on the quick. If you pick Margaux, Melinda will solve problems I want solved (if she can keep her focus policy inward observing instead of performance outward gazing). Alex was put on council for so few reasons yet one of them was hopes we would be in such a situation minus the resignation/ with the leading state vs hyperlocal power blocs greatly weakened as Thursday night made public. This weakened was beyond my highest hopes and the two groups most opposed to me hyperlocally. Whatever else I am my product is exceptional.

Alex and Melinda. You will go for Margaux but if Gerry and Joe hold strong and vote for Enrique, and no one bends, then it is open applications which obviously would be my choice because what a blast that'll be.

If one of you votes Enrique however, who leads the council is up for grabs, no easy shift in power from Yvette to a bloc or successor.

Enrique is a good human. He is earnest. He is eager. He, like me and you Melinda, is incorruptible in his truth, but like you Gerry wants to get along with everyone all the time. He is Hispanic and this matters in our 20% Hispanic populated city whose voice has traditionally been silenced here for all the wrong reasons. He was more popular in 24 than 22. While Margaux was less popular in 24 than 20/ a clear indictment of the steep decline of our city the last 6 years.

Again. If Margaux is appointed. Congrats to the DCC, the YIMBY big box market rate developers, fossil fuel rail and the folks who love the idea of the trail being sharrows on Capitola and Monterey Aves AND I'm eager to watch you work and work with you every chance you give me Melinda.

I hope you focus on the present crises of housing, economic accessibility and safe/productive streets which solves so many problems in one go. Parking minimums are the silliest thing ever imo. Getting our HQT stop and corridor at the mall restored by AMBAG, that Kristen Brown removed as president in 2022, should be on the agenda in the sooner. Missing middle housing through the gentle density of horizontal multifamily an approach I think could be popular again here as it was for most of our city's history until very recently. And of course the big builds on arterials that pay for services, keep locals housed, and grow our community stronger. Never run into an all affordable build I didn't love.

Gerry and Joe. Good luck guys. Alex and Melinda are much better at Robert's Rules let's call it than you. Vote for Enrique. Maybe you end up with an open application process so many of your supporters are calling for.

Rail on the SC Branch Line is an albatross at the moment. Not forever. Barry is the state NEED director dude runs programs for kids like "the joy of fracking". Pajaro multimodal station is what we will get. It's amazing too. Watsonville will no longer be directed towards serving us. Other stark realities in demographics and future economics already underway easy for the data driven to glean.

Better to advocate for a real Metro bond in 2026 not the bare bones 'we need to survive' one being discussed. Capitola would also greatly benefit from an affordable housing bond like Fred is dreaming about in SC. Our revenue continues to lose spending power. Our unfunded state liabilities and increasing mandates are not within our means. We can't just keep passing regressive sales taxes every 7 years. Growth is the firmament of Capitalism. Not markets. Growth.

Budgets are where our radical solutions lie. Never doubt it. I would have crushed the finance committee. Numbers always been my cookie.

I can not stress enough how much fun this is. I love this place. Our city is for everyone.

Warmly JM