

Comment on Closed Session Item "CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS" 5-23-2024

City Council,

We urge you to reconsider the current approach on how you are being guided to address labor negotiations. The disproportionate response to the salary compensation study is already causing significant waves that could have lasting detrimental effects on all departments. The risk of losing essential staff, coupled with the high costs of replacing them, will far exceed the short-term expenses required to rectify the situation.

Moreover, the unplanned proposal to allocate immediate funds and creation of a new department from the non-essential services division is not only "bad timing" but fundamentally flawed. The prolonged lack of investment in city staff coincides with the tenure of the current non-resident City Manager. It is worth re-evaluating the decision that permitted the City Manager to live outside the city.

This arrangement allows the City Manager to distance themselves from the consequences of their decisions. Consider how your choices might differ if you did not live in the city, did not interact with fellow residents daily, and did not witness firsthand the impact of your policies as you move through the community.

2690

ORDINANCE NO. 990

2.08.010 Office created.

The office of the city manager of the city is created and established. The city manager shall be appointed by the city council wholly on the basis of his or her administrative and executive ability and qualifications and shall hold office for and during the pleasure of the city council. (Ord. 308 § 1, 1968)

2.08.020 Residence.

Residence in the city at the time of appointment of a city manager shall not be required as a condition of the appointment, but within one hundred eighty days thereafter the city manager must become a resident of the city, County of Santa Cruz, unless the city council approves his or her residence outside the city. (Ord. 308 § 2, 1968)

