

Opinion

Letters

What's Next, Senior Communes?

I am not sure how many of you have seen the interview of Mayor Delgado on "Your Town" on AMP channel 25 but if you are a senior you need to watch. It was bad enough when he suggested that there was no need for all the cities on the Peninsula and that they should all be merged into one. His view, no one cares about city government as long as they have a safe place to live, good schools, and can enjoy the community in which they live.

But in the same interview he said that perhaps the days of seniors living independently in their own residents is not practical and perhaps we need to ban together to share our space. I for one have worked long and hard to enjoy my home, my independence, and my privacy. Mayor Delgado's opinion on such matters is well beyond the scope of his office.

So, Mr. Mayor, when you give up your two cars, your single family residence in which you live alone, your self reliance, and, as some of your followers like to say, "lead by example" please do not demean, underestimate, and insult the seniors of this community with your version of my future. I earned what I have and am well capable of making my own decisions and living independently. I also think after all these years I am capable of making the right choices for the life

style and core values to which I subscribe.

Patti Bradshaw, Marina

Go Large, Mr. Mayor

During an interview on "Your Town" on April 5, 2010 Mayor Delgado discussed his view of the future and the creation of a regional city verse the City in which we all live. I was so astounded by what I heard I had to watch it twice because I thought he was elected to be the Mayor of Marina. Apparently not. Some where along the line he has lost all perspective of his role, his authority, the essential priorities, and worst of all who he represents and why.

However, if the mayor wishes to go down this nonsensical path why not go all the way. Instead of continuing to push for annexation of the east campus of CSUMB (which is neither important, urgent, or affordable in the foreseeable future), or consolidation of our fire department with other cities (opposed by the citizens 3 years ago), or the pursuit of light rail to nowhere (Marina has always been on record favoring bus rapid transit until you voted for light rail during the TAMC review) let's do it right and cut out the middleman. I propose we annex Monterey. If that is too much for you let's just start with Seaside. Our new town could be called "See Marina".

However in keeping with your views perhaps our new city could be called "Monterey Bay City By The Sea, Americas Last Hometown" Even in that title I do not see the City of Marina's name mentioned anywhere. Mr. Mayor you have forgotten what you were elected for, who you represent, and apparently any sense of reality. Tie that to your record of achievement and that pretty much says it all. Fortunately citizens of our City of Marina, November is right around the bend.

J. Michael Masterson

Cuts, Consultants, and Confusion

Tuesday, April 20, 2010 the proponents of cuts to the City's budget finally have the opportunity to go on the record with their specific proposals. So what will you cut? How does that cut effect the General Fund? What will our Mayor and Mr. O'Connell finally put on the record as to their proposals?

So far, what we have heard is a hodgepodge of misleading and confusing statements about where there are opportunities to cut with the recurring theme of those dreaded consultants and consulting services. Of course, aside from the fact that they perform essential work for the City (some of which is required by law), supplement a depleted staff, are only paid when their services are requested, and bring expertise to

the table which the City Administration lacks they really do not do much. The money they have brought into the City through grants and other sources seems to have escaped the prevailing opinion and has been conveniently omitted from the record by two members of the Council, our Mayor and, Mr. O'Connell.

As to the potential savings we might achieve as suggested by some of these same folks by eliminating professional publications, travel, and training even then you need to be specific. Some training is mandatory by law (OSHA/CAL-OSHA), some training is required for staff to obtain or retain required certifications, and some is necessary simply for folks to keep up with the latest trends and technology. We can quibble about travel but there is a danger when the City is not represented at planning sessions and other networking opportunities.

Meantime the land transfer necessary in order for SVMH to start work on their medical complex may not be completed. That would provide \$1.2 million dollars to the City which we very much need (oops I forgot that is revenue, why worry about that).

*Dan Amadeo
Marina*

Marina Point of View

By
Gary Wilmot



searched and thrown in jail if you were a parolee or had anything illegal on your person. The days when the Marina Police Department would make regular probation roundups to make sure that the parolees living in Marina where obeying all of the rules. Well those days are gone. The serious understaffing in our Police department is starting to have a negative impact on our city. They no longer have the manpower needed to do proactive policing,

and the volume of incidents has increased and due to the understaffing and the police department is simply reacting to crime instead of proactively preventing it.

The understaffing in all of the departments, but particularly in the police department, is starting to have serious health, safety, and morale problems. This has a direct impact on the ability, even the willingness, to continue giving 110%; all while Mayor Bruce Delgado ponders on whether we have looked under every rock for all possible cuts and Councilman Frank O'Connell simply refuses to even consider a sales tax increase. The safety of our families is at risk. The three ladies, being attacked and robbed at gun point in the

middle of our city this weekend is something new for Marina. It is not something we are used to and I for one am not willing to get used to it. This Tuesday there should be a vote to put a Sales tax increase on the ballot. Please watch closely. If Mayor Delgado and Councilmember O'Connell are not 100% behind this matter, then they should be removed from office because they are not interested in keeping you and your family safe and that is job #1 for any Mayor or Councilmember. If they are not willing to work to keep us safe, then we need to work to get them out in November.

Thank You for reading the whole article.
Gary

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Write

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