

**From:** [Heather Iopu](#)  
**To:** [Roxane Stone](#)  
**Subject:** FW: citizens to be Heard 9/21/21  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 21, 2021 3:41:23 PM

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**From:** Jeff Rubin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 10:44 PM  
**To:** Heather Iopu <hiopu@ci.pinole.ca.us>  
**Subject:** citizens to be Heard 9/21/21

Hello Heather,

Below is my public comment for the 9/21/21 council meeting m. Please enter it into the meeting records.

I will be calling to speak during the meeting.

Thanks...JEFF

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Citizens to be Heard 9/21/21

While the council's decision to deny the renovation of the Faria House is a setback for supporters of the Pinole History Museum, the real damage is self-inflicted.

This council has tarnished its credibility and, by extension, the credibility of the city.

For nearly two decades the city has declared its intent to create a museum in the Faria House. The council raised expectations in the community that this was going to happen. The museum has raised tens of thousands of dollars because the council — several times— led the community to believe this project was going to be a partnership between the city and the museum.

Four of the current council members attended the last museum fundraising dinner in 2019. There were 240 people there. TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY. If that doesn't demonstrate community support for a museum, I don't know what would.

On June 15, the council received public comments from some 70 people supporting a museum in the Faria House. AND STILL YOU VOTED AGAINST IT.

The city paid an architect around \$100,000 for renovation plans and a cost estimate for the Faria House **SPECIFICALLY** for its use as a museum. That's what the contract language says.

Why was that taxpayer money spent if the city did not intend for the Faria House to be the site of a

history museum?

Last year, Councilman Tave headed a council ad hoc committee that negotiated a lease agreement with the museum board — a lease prepared by the city attorney — and then Tave killed the deal by voting against an agreement he himself helped negotiate.

Councilman Tave — you negotiated in bad faith on behalf of the city. Whose interests are you representing?

Broken promises. Bad faith. This is why people no longer trust their government.

The Faria House is not a city asset — it's a liability that's deteriorating a bit more every year. Only by renovating it so it can be used will it become an asset.

I know of no community that does not benefit by having a museum. A museum in the Faria House would be a source of civic pride and encourage downtown development. Now it's just a political issue.

And, that's disgraceful.

JEFF RUBIN

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Jeff Rubin  
President, Pinole History Museum

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[info@pinolehistorymuseum.org](mailto:info@pinolehistorymuseum.org)

September 21, 2021

City of Pinole

Honorable Mayor, Council, staff and Pinole Citizens:

Regarding Agenda Item 8J

I would like to voice my support for the salaries survey conducted by the city and its consultants, which have resulted in Consent Calendar items 8 E,D,F and reflected in Item 8J

It is common knowledge that the City of Pinole has earned the reputation of being non-competitive in terms of employee compensation. That policy has resulted in the loss of qualified and trained employees and in the loss of services the public relies on.

It is encouraging to see that the City Council has recognized this problem.

Addressing this issue begins with the adjustment to salaries and benefits.

I would also add that the public is entitled to have the services of City Hall staff and City Employees

Monday through Friday with Public Works staff also available on weekends.

The four-day week schedule currently in place for City Hall is not an effective and efficient way to accommodate the needs of the citizens of Pinole, vendors and others attempting to conduct business with our City.

This limited access, further hampered by difficulties with the city website has led to frustration on the part of the public, businesses, vendors and developers, resulting in “end-runs” and non-compliant construction resulting in the City of Pinole earning a bad “rep” and the loss of revenue for the City.

Given the suggested changes in benefits and the continuance of the Local Emergency (rightly so) the public should have greater access to City Hall and staff.

We all recognize the need for continued vigilance and Covid precautions.

Both goals can be accomplished.

Access to staff while mitigating the spread of Covid

can be done on a five-day work week just as well as on a four-day work week.

Thank you Council for working towards stability by acting fairly with our staff and never losing sight of the needs of our community.

Sincerely,  
Ivette Ricco

September 21, 2021

City of Pinole

Honorable Mayor, Council, staff, and Pinole  
Citizens:

Regarding Agenda Item 10A

Hear Hear!

Let's light up Old Town Pinole for the Holidays.

I know the Old Town Businesses and Pinole

Residents are eager to have the support of the City  
in this effort.

It's been a tough time for everyone, we need to lift  
the spirits of our community and make Pinole a  
destination.

Please support this effort and make resources  
available to lessen the burden on our business  
community by allocating funds for the lights and  
staff resources and make Pinole Shine Bright.

City Council make this a unanimous vote.

Sincerely,

Ivette Ricco

September 21, 2021

City of Pinole

Honorable Mayor, Council, staff, and Pinole  
Citizens:

Regarding Agenda Item 11B

Yes, of course I support this.

Pinole should never be known as a place that allows  
hatred of anyone or of any kind.

Sincerely,

Ivette Ricco



*September 21, 2021*

*Mayor, Council Members, City Manager, Assistant City Manager and Greg Ramirez:*

*On behalf of AFSCME Local 1, We would like to thank the Council for your time, efforts, and support while we were in negotiations working towards our new MOU. We continue to provide our very best service to this community.*

*It is nice to see that in the midst of tough times – we as a unit continue to hang in there. Overall, Pinole is a great place to work!*

*Sincerely,*

*AFSCME Local 1*

*Thank  
You*