

CITY OF VENTURA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Supplemental Information Packet

**Public Communications Received by 4 p.m.
May 3, 2021**

Meeting of May 3, 2021

Supplemental Information:

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available in the City Clerk's Office, 501 Poli Street, Room 204, Ventura, during normal business hours as well as on the City's Website – www.cityofventura.ca.gov
<https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/1236/City-Council-Public-Hearing-NoticesSuppl>

AGENDA ITEM CS4

- 1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION**

**NAME OF CASE: SANTA BARBARA
CHANNELKEEPER V. STATE WATER RESOURCES
CONTROL BOARD AND CITY OF SAN
BUENAVENTURA**

Tracy Oehler

From: Tiernan Dolan
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 11:06 AM
To: City Clerk
Subject: -EXT- Public Comment-Channelkeeper Lawsuit, Closed Session May 3, 2021

Esteemed Council Members,

Find below my comments for your consideration prior to entering closed session on the Channelkeeper lawsuit:

I've listened to a couple of briefings by the City's lawyers about the Channelkeeper lawsuit. They portray the process as a though they're on a committee with fellow problem solvers who just want to do what is right. These same lawyers from a firm in Sacramento also claim that a beneficent settlement (a Physical Settlement) is right around the corner and will please everyone. The Sacramento lawyers claim in their reports that the lawsuit and any proposed settlement will have literally no impact on existing water users. These claims are not credible and should not be treated as credible.

These lawyers seem to forget that at their urging, the City has sued over 12,000 individuals who reside in Ventura and the Ojai Valley and brought them into the Channelkeeper lawsuit as co-defendants. There are no plans to release these thousands of homeowners from the lawsuit.

As a homeowner in Ojai who was served in that suit, I am concerned that the City did little to nothing prior to spending millions of dollars in serving homeowners who will contribute literally nothing, good or bad, to the resolution of the lawsuit. The indiscriminate use of the court system to serve homeowners such as myself reeks of waste, fraud and abuse. I have yet to hear a sensical and credible explanation as to why the City sued its own residents.

That said, here are some questions I hope the City Council is able to get answered:

How much has the City of San Buenaventura spent to serve the residents of Ventura who are overlying land owners per California Code of Civil Procedure, Section 836? How much was spent to serve overlying land owners who are not residents of Ventura?

Ventura Municipal Code Section Sec. 22.180.010. requires some landowners to transfer their water rights to the City upon recording their parcel. How many such landowners who have transferred their water rights to the City have been served in this suit?

What investigative work was done to determine if any of these defendant homeowners had previously transferred their water rights to the City?

How do you intend to recoup the cost of suing over 12,000 individuals? Who is paying this bill?

Your summary of the physical solution says that it "does not determine water rights, priority or water allocations. It has no impact and imposes no changes on existing water users." If that is true, why was any of the money referenced above spent?

Tiernan Dolan

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AGENDA ITEM 13A

**TRANSMITTAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2021-22
PROPOSED OPERATING AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
BUDGET AND CONSIDERATION OF INVESTMENT PLAN
FOR ONE-TIME FUNDING**

Antoinette Mann

From: Gregg Mansfield
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 11:47 AM
To: srubalcava@cityofventura.net; Council; Alex McIntyre
Cc: Eric Berg; kflock@sbcglobal.net; Dan Long
Subject: -EXT- Inclusionary Housing
Attachments: Inclusionary_rev.pdf

To Mayor Rubalcava, Deputy Mayor Schroeder, and City Council Members:

On behalf of the Midtown Ventura Community Council, please accept this letter regarding the Board's support for inclusionary housing, as a lack of affordable housing is a major issue in the City of Ventura.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by email or cell at 805-276-5135.

Regards,

Gregg Mansfield, Chair
Midtown Ventura Community Council

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MIDTOWN VENTURA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Our Mission - Preservation, enhancement, and revitalization of Midtown

P O BOX 1041, VENTURA, CA 93002 - www.midtownventura.org

April 22, 2021

Sofia Rubalcava, Mayor, and City Council Members
City of San Buenaventura
501 Poli Street
Ventura, CA 93001
Via email srubalcava@cityofventura.ca.gov

Re: Inclusionary Housing

Dear Mayor Rubalcava and City Council Members:

Residents of Midtown Ventura have identified the lack of affordable housing as a major issue in our community.

As an example, in a recent study (Housing Crisis 805), CAUSE identified that 46% of Venturans are renters and 55% of them are cost burdened. This means that they are paying more than 30% of their income for rent. The Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura provides rental assistance to about 1,500 households through its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program; families using this program pay 30% of income for rent and the balance is paid by Section 8. The waiting list for the program is closed and there is a ten year wait.

The City should do what it can to address this issue at a local level. One way is to improve the City's inclusionary requirements. Currently, such requirements only apply to rental housing in the downtown area. We urge the City to move forward to address this issue by providing for an inclusionary requirement for rental housing throughout Ventura. This requirement should be that at least 15% of new housing is affordable to low income households (80% of Area Median Income-AMI). For a two-bedroom apartment, this would mean a rent of \$2,034 a month.

We urge you to move this forward as soon as possible. Please contact me if you have any questions at (805) 276-5135 or email at greggmansfield@gmail.com.

Sincerely,


Gregg Mansfield, Chair

C: City Council Members via email
Peter Gilli, Community Development Director via email pgilli@cityofventura.ca.gov

Tracy Oehler

From:
Sent: Saturday, May 1, 2021 11:05 AM
To: Sofia Rubalcava; Joe Schroeder; Lorrie Brown; Jim Friedman; Doug Halter; Mike Johnson; Jeannette Sanchez-Palacios
Cc: City Clerk
Subject: -EXT- Comment Agenda Item 13A. MONDAY, MAY 3, 2021

Dear Mayor Rubalcava, Deputy Mayor Schroeder, and Ventura City Council members Brown, Friedman, Halter, Johnson, Sanchez-Palacios,

I am writing to register with you my objection that use of one-time monies in “Fiscal Year 2021-22 Proposed Operating and Capital Improvement Budget and Consideration of Investment Plan for One-Time Funding” are not being properly and adequately allocated to this year’s budget in support of Broadband Infrastructure development and nor supplementing any resolution to the ongoing Digital Divide we are experiencing here in the City of Ventura.

Further, staff’s recommendation of one time use of funds is incongruous with the stipulations within the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, and as disclosed in staff report, **to be used “...4. To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.”**, and notably there is not any allocation included in staff’s recommendation for funds to be used for Broadband.

Instead of using monies to invest in Broadband Infrastructure, staff’s recommendation is mainly to use of one-time monies to generally prop up the General Fund and squander the one-time money internally with supporting the internal organization of the City government.

In the interest of maintaining public trust investing in Broadband will help solve a critical infrastructure issue within the City of Ventura and be congruent with the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 . Therefore, I urge Council to allocate \$5mm of one-time monies toward investment of Broadband Infrastructure with the intent to create a long term sustainable digitally connected economy and in the near-term help shrink the Digital Divide which we are experiencing here in the City of Ventura.

Use of monies in this regard is not only stipulated in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and in my opinion, but also the right thing to do.

I submit the following links for your reference to help make clear the Broadband issue based on needs, necessity, residual benefits, and including ROI as previously disclosed by the City of Ventura’s Magellan Study.

Reference: Previous Ventura City Council reports, Magellan Advisors

1. <https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12983/Item-08>
2. <https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/17110/Item-13A>

Other references:

3. [Why Broadband Matters | Strategic Networks Group, Inc. \(sngroup.com\)](#)
4. [New Dimensions to the Digital Divide | Strategic Networks Group, Inc. \(sngroup.com\)](#)
5. [Smart Community | Strategic Networks Group, Inc. \(sngroup.com\)](#)
6. [Broadband Support for State and Local Govts Under ARPA \(natlawreview.com\)](#)
7. [Local Government COVID-19 Digital Inclusion Response | National Digital Inclusion Alliance](#)
8. <https://www.nlc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Senate-Changes-to-State-and-Local-Provisions.pdf>

[9. Can Rescue Funds Give America the Broadband It Really Wants? \(governing.com\)](#)

[10. League of California Cities - Cal Cities supports broadband measures that seek to close the digital divide \(cacities.org\)](#)

Respectfully submitted,

George Amandola
Resident Council District 1

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