

Carlsbad Free Press

Issue No. 14

"A politician needs the ability to foretell what is going to happen tomorrow, next week, next month, and next year. And to have the ability afterwards to explain why it didn't happen."

Winston Churchill



A Letter To Carlsbad City Planner Don Neu

Dear Mr. Don Neu,

Your interpretation of Carlsbad's vision for future Land Use is woefully incorrect.



Your letter to the California Coastal Commission dated May 5, 2016, states that "through the city's General Plan update process, which involved extensive community outreach and input, the community identified that the preferred future use of the site is visitor commercial and open space."

According to the "[Envision Carlsbad](#)" survey (please see link), Carlsbad residents prefer Open Space, the preservation of natural habitat and a small village atmosphere.

The majority of Carlsbad residents rated their highest priorities as follows;

- Protecting natural habitats in and around Carlsbad (65%)
- Protecting undeveloped areas for hiking and exploring" (62%)
- Maintaining or improving property values within the City" (55%) as high priorities

When asked to identify the number one thing that the City should be focused on to improve the quality of life, the top three response categories among those who provided an opinion were:

- Stop/ limit development
- Increase parks and recreation facilities
- Public safety/ enforcement/ reduce crime



Please pay closer attention to Carlsbad residents and to their priorities for their "home" before misrepresenting these facts to the California Coastal Commission.

Sincerely,

Carlsbad Free Press

A Letter to SANDAG's Board of Directors

Dear SANDAG Board of Directors,

Representatives from SANDAG have been quoted in the press saying opposition to the SANDAG ballot measure was composed of the "extremes."

There are many extremes to be found in San Diego but opposing your tax measure is not one of them.

The [Lilac Hills](#) project is an extreme along with other sprawl projects for which you are directly responsible.

Your appeal to the Supreme Court where you argue the right to deceive the people on Climate Change impacts is an extreme.

Your [working the press](#) to trash "transit first" in 2015 and now promoting transit priority projects to pass ballot measure is an extreme.

The [marketing of democracy](#) is an extreme.

Your claim of a "[balanced plan](#)" is an extreme when every element of your plan is out of balance whether it be roads, transit, housing or the environment.

[Blaming CEQA](#) for your poor planning is an extreme.

Failure to provide transit for the center of the region is an extreme when your own plan calls for the [Urban Area Transit Strategy](#) to meet housing, VMT reduction and climate change goals.

Creating the housing crisis by not building transit for urban core and activating existing zoning is an extreme.

Lying about the feasibility of "[transit first](#)" in the [2015 RTP](#) is an extreme.





So, Illustrious Board, you can see why we welcome your propaganda and your scorn because we will meet them with the dignity of truth and justice.

And in doing so, it will become clear to the public that you yourselves are the greatest obstacle to political progress in our region because you are unable to challenge and overcome your own falsehoods. Instead you cling to them, closing eyes and ears to the truth.

Allow me to leave you with the immortal words of the Father of California transit, former senator Jim Mills: "It is the intent of SANDAG to strangle transit to death."

I can only add: that to do that, you must first "strangle the truth"- the ultimate extreme.

We welcome your propaganda because we will meet it with truth.

Geronimo



Mayors, Council Members and Political Committees

What recourse do politicians have when they don't want their campaign contributions revealed to the public? They start a political action committee.

*A coalition of North County elected officials and community leaders has established the **North County Leadership Council**, an organization dedicated to supporting and **electing strong leaders** for the future while advocating for **issues that matter** to the region as a whole.*

Membership dues are only \$1,000 a year.

Chairman – Jerome Stocks – Former Mayor of Encinitas (R)

Matt Hall – Mayor of Carlsbad (R)

Judy Ritter – Mayor of Vista (R)

Sam Abed – Mayor of Escondido (R)

Steve Vaus – Mayor of Poway (R)

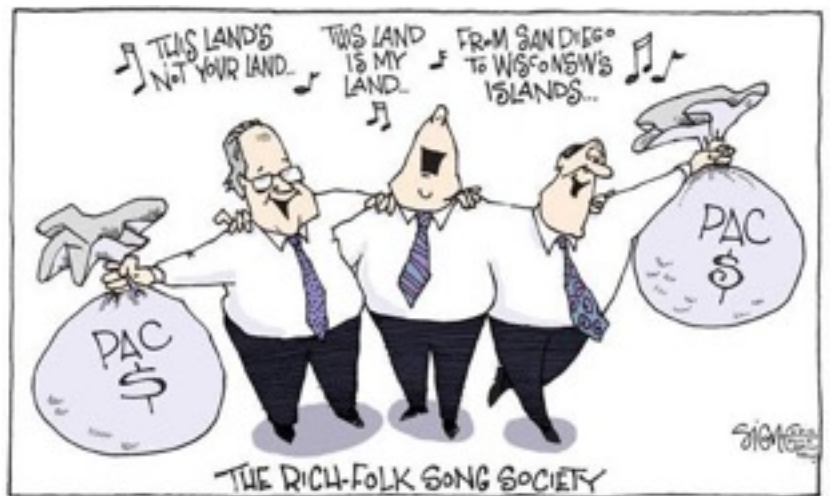
Kristin Gaspar – Mayor of Encinitas (R)

Jim Desmond – Mayor of San Marcos (R)

Jerry Kern – Oceanside City Council Member (R)

Mark Muir – Encinitas City Council Member (R)

A PAC, or political action committee, is a type of organization that collects campaign contributions from members and donates those funds to campaign for or against candidates, ballot initiatives or legislation.



An organization becomes a PAC when it receives or spends more than \$2,600 to influence a federal election.



Darrell Issa endorses Donald Trump

Where does Darrel Issa Stand on the Issues?

| On The Issues Vote Quiz ⁽⁸⁰⁾ | | | |
|---|------------------|---|------------------|
| Economic Issues | | Social Issues | |
| Issue | Stance | Issue | Stance |
| Legally require hiring women & minorities | Neutral | Abortion is a woman's unrestricted right | Opposes |
| Expand Obamacare | Strongly Opposes | Comfortable with same-sex marriage | Strongly Opposes |
| Vouchers for school choice | Strongly Favors | Keep God in the public sphere | Strongly Favors |
| Absolute right to gun ownership | Strongly Favors | No "rights" to clean air and water | Favors |
| Higher taxes on the wealthy | Strongly Opposes | Stricter punishment reduces crime | Strongly Opposes |
| Support & expand free trade | Favors | Pathway to citizenship for illegal aliens | Opposes |
| More enforcement of the right to vote | Favors | Maintain U.S. sovereignty from UN | Strongly Favors |
| Prioritize green energy | Strongly Opposes | Expand the military | Strongly Favors |
| Stimulus better than market-led recovery | Opposes | Stay out of Iran | Strongly Opposes |
| Privatize Social Security | Strongly Favors | Never legalize marijuana | Strongly Favors |

FROM
BALLOTPEDIA

Native vs. Non-Native

When humans built the first settlement, they designed and built in the absence of “complete” knowledge. Today, we still toil in ignorance when it comes to debates such as native vs. non-native plant debate. When choosing plants we



must balance calls for native plants, both from scientists and the public, with the constraints of site conditions—soil, hydrology, micro climate, etc.—that bear little resemblance to those that preceded human disturbance. How do we evaluate the performance of native plants with the knowledge that keeping non-native plant species out of the suburbs requires tremendous resources?

The very concept of “native plants” is a human construct we bring to bear on our ecosystem manipulations. A recent review paper co-authored by eighteen scientists takes a strong position against the dominant practice of favoring native plants over non-natives stating that, “it is time for scientists, land managers and policy-makers to ditch this preoccupation with the native–alien dichotomy and embrace more dynamic and pragmatic approaches to the conservation and management of species — approaches better suited to our fast-changing planet.” The [native vs. non-native debate](#) is not unique; scientific consensus is consistent in that it is always elusive.

To navigate through these complexities, we have to turn from quantitative information to qualitative information, acknowledging that it is our human values that determine many of our decisions. Decisions are made based on a wide range of factors including experience, values, power, politics, time, budgets, public opinion, and yes, the so-called facts.



Inadequate Land Use

For years, scientists have known that the aircraft emissions produced from fuel burned during takeoffs and landings can have a serious impact on air quality near major airports.

Aircraft exhaust includes pollutants linked to a variety of health problems. However, researchers know little about the impact of such emissions at general aviation or regional airports, which tend to be located closer to residential neighborhoods than major airports.



Scientists measured a range of air pollutants near a general aviation airport for private planes and corporate jets in Southern California. They found that emissions of so-called ultrafine particles, which are less than 1/500th width of a human hair, were significantly elevated when compared to background pollution levels. Levels of these pollutants were up to 10 times higher at a downwind distance from the airport equal to about one football field and as much as 2.5 times higher at distance equal to about six football fields.

The study suggests that "current land-use practices of reduced buffer areas around local airports may be insufficient."

LILAC HILLS Deception Moves Forward

Click [HERE](#) for KOCT Journalist Roundtable



Through a deceptive citizen's initiative signature gathering campaign (where telling the truth is not a pre-requisite), the Lilac Hills project collected enough signatures to qualify for the November ballot. There is a chance the project could be placed on the July 19 Board Hearing agenda.

A Landfill Along the River?



Developer
Todd A. Mikles

The proposed Gregory Canyon landfill – 30 million tons of garbage – would be located in northern San Diego County three miles east of Interstate 15 along State Route 76 on the western slope of Gregory Mountain and along the San Luis Rey River.

For more info, visit savegregorycanyon.org

Tri-City's Fired CEO Cleared Again of Wrongdoing Hospital Attorneys Go 0 for 3 - By [Richard Riehl](#)

When Tri-City Medical Center fired Larry Anderson three years ago they wanted to save the \$650,000 in severance pay his contract required if they fired him without cause. They chose to rely on an anonymous telephone call, followed by a secret internal investigation conducted by hospital attorneys, to come up with a list of fourteen reasons to fire him for cause. He was accused of one or more of the following offenses: committing a felony, an illegal act involving moral turpitude, a willful and dishonest act, or a breach of duties and obligations.



Without telling him in advance what the charges were, the hospital offered Anderson thirty minutes to defend himself at a hastily arranged board meeting. When he refused to attend the board voted to fire him.

After Anderson was denied unemployment insurance he lodged a complaint with the California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board. The hospital's attorney was unable to provide sufficient evidence to support any of the four charges identified by the hospital as the most heinous, so Tri-City was ordered to begin paying into his benefits.

The charge that Anderson had "*improperly used district funds/resources to investigate Matt Hall, Mayor of Carlsbad,*" struck me as an example of how the hospital's governing board has been mired in local politics. Anderson hired Farrah Douglas, a member of the Carlsbad City Council at the time, to be executive director of the hospital's Foundation Board. Mayor Matt Hall allegedly told her she'd have to resign from the Council because her job there would create a conflict of interest. The hospital's attorney pointed out she didn't have to resign, just recuse herself from votes posing a possible conflict of interest. There was no evidence Anderson used district resources for anything other than a legal opinion. But it does raise the question of why Mayor Hall *really* wanted Douglas off the council.

In July 2014 Anderson filed suit in San Diego Superior Court in a complaint against attorney Larry Patterson, the hospital lawyer who conducted the secret investigation of the CEO. Two years later the jury held Patterson accountable to Anderson for \$1.3 million in damages.

If Tri-City had fired its CEO because he couldn't get along with the board, (a collection of elected officials whose membership changes every two years), or because he wasn't an effective administrator, or simply because they didn't like him, they could have done so for \$650,000. But the board chose instead to trump up charges stemming from an anonymous phone call.

Three court rulings have now made it clear that whatever shortcomings Larry Anderson had in the eyes of his employer did not rise to the level of a felony, an illegal act of moral turpitude, or a breach of his duties.

This year Tri-City fired Anderson's replacement, Tim Moran, after less than two years in the position and shortly after the San Diego Business Journal named him the Most Admired CEO of 2016. The hospital couldn't drum up even bogus reasons to can their new CEO this time around. They fired him without cause, rewarding him with \$600,000 in severance pay, plus a year of medical and dental insurance. Unlike Anderson, he went quietly.



Before Moran's executive office chair had cooled, it was filled by Steven Dietlin, the hospital's chief financial officer, the hospital's third CEO in five years, raising the question of whether local politics, rather than job performance, is responsible for the hospital's CEO revolving door. Dietlin would be well-advised not to get too comfortable in his chair.

Two years ago, at the same time Anderson filed his malpractice lawsuit against Patterson, Tri City filed suit against the Medical Acquisition Company (MAC), the firm with whom Anderson had negotiated the hospital's purchase of a new building to be built on Tri-City's campus. The Medical Office Building (MOB) was built but remained vacant for two years, while the hospital took possession of it under eminent domain, depositing \$5 million as its estimated amount of compensation to its owner, Charles Perez, President of MAC.

Tri-City wanted the deal it had signed with Perez to be nullified, claiming Anderson and Board Chair Rosemarie Reno had illegal conflicts of interest when it was signed. The judge threw out the claim against Reno. The jury found Anderson had no financial or personal conflict of interest either.

Judge Earl H. Maus's June 23 ruling in favor of Medical Acquisition Company, Inc. awarded the firm damages amounting to \$20 million. The hospital was credited with the \$5 million already deposited by the hospital in their eminent domain claim.

Not only did Tri-City fail to make its case against its former CEO, the ruling's financial damages do not reflect the costs of two years of litigation. Anderson estimates the amount owed Perez in attorneys' fees, as well as the hospital's two-year loss of projected revenue from rent and patient services fees adds up to at least \$10 million.

Three years ago Tri-City could have purchased a new medical office building for \$16.3 million. The hospital's failed lawsuit has raised that price to more than \$30 million.

The only benefactors of the hospital's latest financial debacle seem to be Anderson and attorneys who get paid whether they win or lose. Maybe it's time for Tri-City to fire its General Counsel, Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP.



Richard Riehl
The Riehl World