
From: Roy Villa <r4villa@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2019 9:55 AM
To: City Council Internet EMAIL Group
Cc: Jeffrie Madland
Subject: Wednesday council meeting -Chamber Service agreement

Dear City Council,

As a former 13 year member of the Camarillo Chamber of Commerce, I feel that the \$70,000 Chamber professional services agreement is both an unwise and wasteful use of taxpayer money.

The staff report states, the Chamber has over 500 chamber members employing 20,000 people(or 40 employees per member company) in the Camarillo area. However, City records reveal the city has approximately 4,700 licensed businesses. So, the Camarillo Chamber effectively represents, only, 10.5% of the existing Camarillo business community. This low percentage should raise these questions:

Is the chamber “really” effective in representing Camarillo business community?????

Why is the chamber of commerce unable to garner a greater number of businesses?????

Why are taxpayers funding this apparent “weak representative” effort by the chamber?????

The staff report, states the “chamber holds activities that represent the interest of business to government community”. How can the chamber represent business interests, when they only represent 10.5% of the business community?????

More importantly why should taxpayers pay for a “**typical**” chamber function that is purely a business chamber responsibility?????

(The chamber already benefits, financially from a favorable lease on the office building at Dizdar Park. Plus, the chamber annually receives thousands of dollars of taxpayer paid sponsorships.)

The staff report further states, “the chamber promotes the community to tourists, who visit and to businesses looking to relocate”. Why should taxpayers fund this tourist effort by the chamber, when the city already has the Camarillo Hotel & Tourism Association??????

The staff report further states, the chamber provides “marketing and networking opportunities” to its members. Again, isn’t this a “**typical**” chamber function, that should be fully funded by the chamber’s 500 members?????. Why are the taxpayers funding this chamber function????????

The chamber has not provided to the city staff any **hard or convincing evidence**, that taxpayer’s have benefited from this annual \$70,000 service agreement that has existed for 4+ years.

The city council has approved an Economic Development Strategic Plan that goes into effect July 1, 2019 with the hiring of a new Economic Director. This plan eliminates the necessity of renewing chamber’s service agreement pass the July 1st date.

I strongly encourage the council to NOT renew this unsupported and wasteful service agreement with the chamber.

Roy Villa



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From: jeffmcvicker@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2019 4:37 PM
To: City Council Internet EMAIL Group
Subject: City's Chamber of Commerce Contract - 5/8/2019 City Council meeting -City Manager-IX A.
Attachments: IMG_0698.jpg; ATT00001.txt; IMG_1239.jpg; ATT00002.txt; IMG_1240.jpg; ATT00003.txt; IMG_1255.JPG

Dear Councilmembers:

The Chamber Contract should not be renewed. Based on the lack of job creation as per the City's own report last September, it's clear the Chamber has been ineffective in Economic Development. Camarillo's performance was the worst compared to the four largest cities in the County and the County as a whole, along with all of California. Not even close.

A City contract with the Chamber is rife with conflicts of interest between itself and the Chamber, but it also has potential conflicts with individual Chamber Board members too.

When the Chamber puts on an event for natural gas production, as shown below, is that the City's position too? How does that fit with the City's CPA position to use 100% non-carbon-based renewables as soon as possible? I have no issue with any position the Chamber wants to take on an issue, as long as me, a taxpayer, is NOT helping to subsidize its positions. The contract with Chamber is so vague, who knows what we are paying for at the Chamber.

The Chamber Board also has a number of people on it that are currently involved in negotiations with the City, such as the General Manager of PVRPD and the Treasurer of the CRF that is also on the CRF Ad Hoc Committee. If and when the Chamber takes a position on these issues, are they doing so on behalf of their Board, or the City, because of the Contract the Chamber has with the City?

It's not whether there IS a conflict of interest, but whether there is a potential appearance for a conflict of interest. When the Chamber was supporting the Oakmont project, was it doing so on behalf of Oakmont, or on behalf of the Council as part of its City Contract? Who knows.

The Chamber should represent its members. So why has the Chamber been silent on the Council's voting rights safe harbor screw-up? The Council's Voting Rights Act incompetence is going to cost us taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars, if not millions. What were they thinking? No reasonable business person would think the Council's performance has been good in any way on this topic. Yet the Chamber remains silent. Why? Is it because silence is part of why the City pays the Chamber? The Council might say no. The Chamber might say no, but the Chamber's silence says otherwise and everything to me.

One other thing about the Chamber. It doesn't seem to represent Camarillo business. Many of its Board members are Government representatives or businesses that are outside of Camarillo. They have many

functions in Oxnard as noted below. They also have businesses and non-profits from outside the City on its Board, while about 90% of the licensed businesses in town aren't Chamber members. Lori had her business in town for 15-plus years. We could never see any value in Chamber membership.

It's time for the City to get a professional economic development director that isn't encumbered by all these conflicts and leave the Chamber to represent it's members and stand on its own two feet without vague government subsidies.

Do not extend the Chamber contract.

Sincerely,

Jeff McVicker

TABLE 3-1. DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMARY

Place	Population (2014)	Population Growth (2005-2014)	Total Jobs	Jobs Growth (2005-2014)	Jobs/Population	Median HH Income	Per Capita Income	Labor Force Participation Rate ¹
California	38,567,450	2,698,286	15,614,666	10.0%	0.40	\$61,489	\$29,906	63.8%
Ventura County	846,705	50,743	303,594	1.4%	0.36	\$77,335	\$33,308	67.2%
San Jose	68,424	6,909	31,895	-8.2%	0.47	\$87,120	\$39,689	64.9%
Oxnard	202,955	16,961	58,943	8.4%	0.29	\$62,349	\$20,651	69.0%
San Francisco	126,862	7,901	36,034	-4.4%	0.28	\$89,595	\$37,279	70.0%
Thousand Oaks	131,558	7,389	69,619	0.6%	0.48	\$99,115	\$46,231	66.5%
Ventura	107,980	4,606	52,750	-0.9%	0.49	\$66,485	\$33,180	65.6%

← Tonight is our YPG mixer! Can't wait...



Camarillo Chamber of Commerce

...

April 9 at 10:50 AM

Tonight is our YPG mixer! Can't wait to see you there



YPG MIXER

Join us at

DCH Lexus of Oxnard

Ages 21-40 | Members Free | Non-Members \$10

TUE, APR 9

YPG Mixer

DCH Lexus of Oxnard

Shared to Camarillo Network

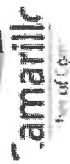
INTERESTED

← Join us tomorrow for our monthly B...



Camarillo Chamber of Commerce

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February 7 at 5:16 PM ·

Join us tomorrow for our monthly Business@Breakfast
at the Las Posas Country Club

Camarillo Chamber of Commerce



BUSINESS@ BREAKFAST

February 8, 2019 at 8:00am

Las Posas Country Club

Topic: Gas & Oil Production
in Ventura County Natural Gas
Role in a Renewable Future

[Register Here](#)

Chamber Members: \$25 | Non-Members: \$35



Speakers

Maria M. Ventura
& Darren Williams



Camarillo
Chamber of Commerce

Promoting & Enhancing a Positive Environment for Business & Community

June 16, 2017

Dear Council Members:

The Camarillo Chamber of Commerce would like to again support the approval of the "Oakmont of Camarillo" Senior Living Project. The arguments that were brought by the opponents to the project just do not give justification in our opinion to deny this project. Some of the major objections were as follows:

Loss of Property Values: The homeowners property values would go down. We checked with several local real estate professionals and this has not been the case of any of the other home prices in Camarillo that are located next to Senior Assisted Living facilities.

Traffic: It was pointed out by City staff that any other approved use for this property would generate more traffic than the proposed use by an assisted living facility.

Parking: The facility would not have sufficient parking, with having 85 residents and only 55 parking spaces. The reality is that only a handful of tenants would still use a car, after all this is an assisted living facility not a over 55 adult apartments. If you tour the other existing facilities in Camarillo there is ample parking for residents, staff, and visitors at all the other like facilities.

Safety of Children: There are no claims to substantiate that there would be any safety issues, quite the contrary the Assisted Living facility could cause very meaningful life learning experience for the students at the local school. We checked with the school district and they have no problem with a school being next to an Assisted Living Community, as there are several that are adjacent to schools already.

Noise: There was an argument that the seniors would be outside very early in the morning and disrupting the neighbors. This claim was refuted by Oakmont that their programs for seniors don't start before 8:30 am, way after the start of the existing school. If there was a church or apartments located on this property the noise level would be significantly higher.

Alternate Approved Uses: It was implied that most of the people believed that it was going to be a church at that location. That use would cause more traffic and noise on a daily bases, the church would probably have a day school which would cause far more disruption, traffic and noise than an assisted living facility.

In conclusion, the project is a permitted use under the City's General Plan, there is no need for a zone change, the applicants have complied with all the conditions that the Planning Dept. imposed. When the residents bought their homes in Village at the Park this land was going to be developed and this was one of the approved uses, nothing has changed.

The question is, on what legal ground can the council deny this project?

We urge the Council to approve the project and deny the appeal. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary Cushing
President/CEO

RED FOLDER - CC I - ATTACHMENT 8 (CONTINUED) 437