

Ann Arbor City Council Regular Session: July 15, 2019
Email Redactions List Pursuant to Council Resolution R-09-386

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	<u>Sent Time</u>	<u>Received Time</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>Redactions</u>	<u>Reason for Redaction</u>
2	9:39 PM		Anne Bannister, Jeff Hayner, Christopher Taylor	Mehmet Uras		Email address, address	Privacy
3	9:54 PM		Elizabeth Nelson	Dana Elliott		Email address	Privacy
4	10:30 PM		Jane Lumm, Kathy Griswold	Brad Pritts	Jack Eaton	Email address	Privacy
5	10:56 PM		Elizabeth Nelson	Jane Lumm	City Council, Craig Hupy, Howard Lazarus		
6	11:40 PM		Chip Smith	Lynn Borset	Ali Ramlawi	Email address	Privacy

Journal Archive

From: Mehmet Uras [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2019 9:39 PM
To: CityClerk
Cc: Bannister, Anne; Hayner@a2gov.org; Taylor, Christopher (Mayor)
Subject: Objection to Dhu Varren sidewalk assesment

Dear Ms Beaudry,

I attended the initial part of the City Council meeting today on July 15, 2019. I was the first one who commented on Resolution No: 4 Dhu Varren Sidewalk Improvements Project. I disagree with the current special assessment. I object the current special assessment which does not take into account the number of houses and/or number of people who would use the said sidewalk in different communities. Current assessment suggest that taxpayers who has properties on east side of Dhu Varren are subsidizing taxpayers who has properties on west side of the Dhu Varren, who would use the entire sidewalk most. I believe that is unfair. I believe every taxpayer who uses the sidewalk should be assessed equally and pay equally.

Respectfully,

Mehmet Uras
[REDACTED]

Journal Archive

From: Dana Elliott [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2019 9:54 PM
To: Nelson, Elizabeth
Subject: Partisan elections

Hello Council Member Nelson,

You said just now at the city council meeting that nobody has asked you to keep partisan elections. Allow me to be the first.

Actually, non-partisan elections for city government are probably fine. But it's disingenuous for somebody to say that they are worried about voter participation and then putting this on the 2019 ballot rather than the 2020 ballot. Wouldn't it disenfranchise voters to put this on the 2019 ballot as much, if not more, than it does to have primaries in August?

Thank you,
Dana Elliott, resident of Ward 4

Journal Archive

From: Brad Pritts [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2019 10:30 PM
To: Lumm, Jane; Griswold, Kathy
Cc: Eaton, Jack
Subject: Nonpartisan ballot proposal

I remain intrigued by this issue.

Tactical question: Do you think it would help matters if I, and other citizens, wrote Taylor and cc:ed other council members with the question,

WHY DON'T YOU TRUST THE VOTERS?

In my mind the mayor's veto clearly signals that he doesn't trust the public with this decision, and therefore uses his positional power to stop the question.

I won't ask him to support the measure... but rather allow the voters to speak.

Let me know your thoughts. Would this make a difference? (Probably not, but what the h*ll);
Would it hurt? Maybe - that's the more important question.

Regards,

Brad

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Brad Pritts
[REDACTED]

Journal Archive

From: Lumm, Jane
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2019 10:56 PM
To: Nelson, Elizabeth
Cc: CityCouncil; Hupy, Craig; Lazarus, Howard
Subject: New Sidewalks FAQ

A helpful FAQ re: the process:

<https://www.a2gov.org/departments/engineering/Pages/New-Sidewalks-FAQ.aspx>

Sent from my iPhone

Journal Archive

From: Borset, Lynn
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2019 11:40 PM
To: Smith, Chip
Cc: Ramlawi, Ali
Subject: Disappointed Re: 7/15/19 Non-Partisan Election Resolution, DC-3 (19-1349)

Hi Chip,

I'm disappointed in your vote tonight to uphold the Mayor's veto.

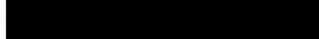
Mostly, I'm disappointed in the rationale you provided. You are worthy of more cogent arguments than "no one reached out to you," the "effort was lazy and inept grandstanding," and it was an effort to "sneak something through in a low turn-out election."

The election turn-out data (9%, 10%, 21%) you quoted is questionable. Based on data I've collected, here is the Ward 5 turn-out for the past seven November elections: Nov. 2018 - 61.6%, Nov. 2017 - 27.1%, Nov. 2016 - 65.4%, Nov. 2015 - 11.3%, Nov. 2014 - 56.6%, Nov. 2013 - 19.3%, Nov. 2012 - 79.7%.

Granted Ward 5 tends to have better turn-out than the City overall, but not to the extent of double-digit percentages.

I will leave it at that.

Lynn Borset

On Sun, Jul 14, 2019 at 10:01 PM Lynn Borset  wrote:

Hello Chip,

I am writing to encourage you to vote yes to Override the Mayor's veto of the Non-Partisan City Elections Resolution.

In your comments on this issue at the 7/1/19 Council Meeting, you said you support non-partisan local elections, you just wanted to delay putting the question on the ballot until the Nov. 2020 election. Your rationale was greater voter turn-out in 2020.

Higher voter turn-out is an important value. There is also value in putting important issues on shorter ballots to allow citizens to carefully evaluate and make their decisions.

The Mayor's explanation of his veto showed a clear partisan bias. A bias that, in my mind, is based on extremes rather than a balanced view of the political parties.

The Mayor also explained we have a representative democracy, so not every question should go to the voters. Yet, the manner in which voters select their elected representatives is fundamental to our democracy, thus citizens should have the right to participate in this decision.

I urge you to vote your values, vote yes to Override the Mayor's veto.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Lynn Borset

Ward 5

cc: CM Ramlawi

