

Joel Pablo

From: Austin Thomas [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 3:11 PM
To: Joel Pablo; Lydia Romero; Jennifer Mendoza; Alysson Snow; George Gastil; Racquel Vasquez; Liana Lebaron
Subject: Public record of 8040 Drexel Ct retaining wall

Good evening, City Council members,

I formally request this email be included as part of the public record for tonight's city council meeting.

My name is Austin Thomas and I reside at 8040 Drexel Ct in the city of Lemon Grove. I reside here with my wife and 2 small children. Our backyard used to be a place where we spent countless hours with our children playing on the swing set or jumping on the trampoline.

On January 22nd, 2024, when the detrimental rain hit San Diego, it changed our lives. A large sinkhole has formed in our backyard and has caused a large retaining wall to fail that divides our residence from those of 8023 and 8029 Blossom Lane. This sinkhole has consumed half of our backyard and possess as a serious safety concern for the foundation of our house. Cracks have begun forming in the wall and is on the brink of collapsing. Our property sits on a slope, as there is a large 20-foot drop where the retaining wall separates me, 8023 and 8029 Blossom Lane reside. We fear the rain now as we worry this sinkhole will creep into the foundation of our home as it is only approximately 10 feet away from it.

After this occurred, I consulted with EG construction company. I have been in contact with their representative that followed up at our residence. They immediately looked at the wall and knew it needed to be replaced as the wall was installed in slabs and are protruding outward and is now bowing. Their engineer came out and assessed the wall and confirmed the wall needs replaced immediately to mitigate the hazard of the properties. He proposed the wall be demolished as quickly as possible to prevent a complete collapse of the wall and slope the hill for the time being. The engineer provided us with an approximate 6 month to a year timeline to completely fix the wall as well as an estimate of \$400,000 to \$500,000 dollars.

I have had city employees Mike Fellows and Ed Walt come out to our residence two times to assess the wall. They stated there was nothing they could do to assist us besides the city has waived all permitting fees for houses affected by the floods. I have contacted Council Members to help with this issue as we do not have the resources and funding to fix this ourselves and is a very serious safety concern for our community. I heard back from two Council members George Gastil that thanked me for making him aware of the issue and will send city engineers out to assess the wall. I also spoke with Councilmember Liana Lebaron who met me at my property and looked at the damage firsthand.

Through our discovery we located a culvert that is public infrastructure that sits directly along the wall on the Blossom Lane residences. The culvert runs from the top of the hill all the way to the bottom that runs down the street into a storm drain. This culvert was overrun with large rocks, vegetation and people who were using the culvert as part of their backyard. The culvert is what lets water drain form between the properties on Drexel Ct and Blossom Lane.

Our wall directly affects my family at 8040 Drexel Ct, 8052 Drexel Ct, 8023, 8029, and 8035 Blossom Lane. We are requesting the city's assistance before this wall completely fails and causes severe devastation for my family and neighbors.

Respectfully,

Austin Thomas and family

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~ (S)

Calling for Sustained Ceasefire in Gaza, Humanitarian Aid, and Condemning Anti-Palestinian, Islamophobic, and Antisemitic Rhetoric and Attacks Resolution.

WHEREAS, All human life is precious and the targeting of civilians is a violation of international humanitarian law; and

WHEREAS, Between October 7 and February 20, 2024, armed violence has claimed the lives of at least 29,000 Palestinians and 1,140 Israelis, and wounded at least 73,000 Palestinians and 8,730 Israelis; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 1,900,000 Palestinians have been displaced in Gaza since October 7, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Hundreds of thousands of lives are at imminent risk in Gaza without a sustained ceasefire and without massive humanitarian relief; and

WHEREAS, All the Israeli and Palestinian hostages must be released immediately; and

WHEREAS, On October 26, 2023, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for an "immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce" and various other respected international humanitarian organizations have similarly called for a sustained ceasefire; and

WHEREAS, A growing number of cities around the country have called for a ceasefire; and

WHEREAS, A growing number of labor unions have called for a ceasefire; and

WHEREAS, Many people in Lemon Grove and San Diego County have deep connections to the region, including family, friends, and loved ones there; and

WHEREAS, Israel's sustained and devastating military assault on Gaza since October 7th has caused San Diego County Palestinian, Arab, Muslim and other people to experience, and continue to experience, shock, trauma, grief, and fear, compounded by rising anti-Palestinian racism and Islamophobia in our nation and our city; and

WHEREAS, Since October 7, 2023, San Diego County, Jewish people and others have experienced, and continue to experience, shock, trauma, grief, and fear, compounded by rising antisemitism in our nation and our city; and

WHEREAS, Anti-Palestinian, antisemitic, Islamophobic, and xenophobic rhetoric and attacks are on the rise across the nation and in Lemon Grove; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Lemon Grove City Council calls for a immediate and permanent ceasefire, and provision of life-saving humanitarian aid in Gaza; and urges the Biden Administration and Congress to call for a ceasefire, humanitarian aid; and unequivocally condemns antisemitic, anti-Palestinian, Islamophobic, and all xenophobic rhetoric and attacks.

Received at City
Council Meeting on
February 20, 2024. ⊕
distributed to City Attorney,
City Manager ⊕ Council.

City Council
February 20, 2024
General Public Comment

From: Barbara Gordon <barbaragordon1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 12:36 PM
To: Racquel Vasquez <rvasquez@lemongrove.ca.gov>; George Gastil <ggastil@lemongrove.ca.gov>; Alysson Snow <asnow@lemongrove.ca.gov>; Jennifer Mendoza <jmendoza@lemongrove.ca.gov>; lianalebaron@gmail.com <lianalebaron@gmail.com>
Cc: Joel Pablo <jpablo@lemongrove.ca.gov>
Subject: Public Comment

Dear City Council Members,

I'm a public health educator. Marijuana businesses are detrimental to public health, safety, and welfare. The high level of THC products with their intoxicating effect are being sold without any required health and safety or protections for the consumer.

According to the CDC the use of marijuana, especially high-potency marijuana, is a risk factor for psychosis and mental health disorders such as schizophrenia. Most consumers assume these products are regulated and safe. These products, however, are not under any oversight for safety.

Marijuana use accounts for 10% of all drug-related ER visits in the United States, according to the review published recently in the [New England Journal of Medicine](#). San Diego Emergency doctor Lev states she sees at least 40 psychotic episodes due to marijuana use every day in the emergency room.

The Lancet journal reports just one cannabis induced psychotic episode increases a person's chance of developing bipolar disorder or schizophrenia by an average of 47%.

Marijuana is not harmless, regardless of what any company or state or local government would like you to believe. I urge you to not ignore the risk factors, such as the perceived acceptability.

Thank you,

Barbara Gordon