

Shilling, Mona

COMMUNICATION RELATED TO
CLOSED SESSION – CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR

From: Mike Robbins [mikerobbins2@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:29 PM
To: Domann, Cathy; Shilling, Mona; Mortesen, Cindy; Jacobson, Carl (Council Member); Busch, Eric (Mayor); Fisher, Bill; Fuentes, Suzanne (Council Member); Brann, Don (Council Member)
Cc: Mike Robbins
Subject: My public communication for the February 21, 2012 Regular Meeting of the El Segundo City Council

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From: Mike Robbins (mikerobbins2@yahoo.com)
To: CDomann@ElSegundo.org; MShilling@ElSegundo.org;
 CMortesen@ElSegundo.org; EBusch@ElSegundo.org;
 BFisher@ElSegundo.org; CJacobson@ElSegundo.org;
 DBrann@ElSegundo.org; SFuentes@ElSegundo.org;

To:

Mayor Eric Busch
 Mayor Pro Temp Bill Fisher
 City Council members Carl Jacobson, Don Brann, and Suzanne Fuentes

City Clerk Cindy Mortesen

From:

Michael D. Robbins
 28-year resident and former city councilman

This is my written testimony and public communication for the February 21, 2012 Special Meeting of the El Segundo City Council

Please distribute this testimony and public communication to the mayor and all other El Segundo City Council members, and post it in the City Council meeting agenda section of the City web site, elsegundo.org, as is customary. Thank you.

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council:

I urge you to stop all activities to related to the sale or lease of City-owned property, including the City-owned parking lot at the northeast corner of Main Street and Grand Avenue, adjacent to Fire Station number one on its south side, to cease and desist from the sale or lease for commercial or non-governmental purposes of City-owned property in the Civic Center City Block bounded by Main Street, Grand Ave., Standard St., and Holly Ave.

There has been a serious lack of transparency in city government under Mayor Eric Busch, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Fisher, and former City Manager Doug Willmore, during the City employee union contract negotiations, the efforts to sell or lease property in the Civic Center city block for private commercial development and use, and in the effort to

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force Chevron to pay the city an extra ten million dollars per year.

Lack of transparency implies lack of credibility. This lack of transparency is continuing and must be corrected.

The efforts to sell or lease City-owned property in the Civic Center city block for private commercial development and use must be stopped and explained to the public.

The City Manager has been negotiating in secret, apparently at City Council direction in closed session, with private interests to sell or lease out the City-owned parking lot adjacent on the south side of Fire Station #1, on the northeast corner of Main St. and Grand Ave., for private commercial development and use. All the City-owned land in the Civic Center city block, bounded by Main St., Holly Ave., Standard St., and Grand Ave., should remain under City ownership and control, and preserved for City use.

There is no way to predict the future needs of the City, and the City has been and may still be leasing office space outside the Civic Center city block. Why sell or commit to long term leases of City-owned property, only for the City to lease "off-campus" privately owned property to satisfy its office space and other needs?

It is my understanding that Eric Busch and Bill Fisher are pushing this idea. I wonder if some "lucky" real estate investor will get a special deal? Do you remember the Grand Ave. parking structure deal, and the Air Force Base deal, under Mike Gordon?

On another subject, I would like to thank the three members of the City Council who did the right thing and voted to dismiss City Manager Doug Willmore. What took you so long? He cost the city's taxpayers millions of dollars in excessive and unsustainable city employee union compensation and pension contributions, especially for the firefighter and police unions, through his poor contract negotiation results. And his lack of transparency in city government created other problems as well.

That concludes my written testimony and public communications for the February 7, 2012 Regular Meeting of the El Segundo City Council.

Michael D. Robbins

28-year El Segundo resident and
former El Segundo city councilman

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[END OF CORRESPONDENCE]