

Schroader, Kathy



From Orjiako, Oliver
Sent Friday, September 11, 2015 8 48 AM
To Euler, Gordon, Alvarez, Jose
Cc Schroader, Kathy
Subject FW Open Public Forum - Public testimony For the Public Record

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FYI, and Kathy for the comp plan index record Thank you

Oliver

From Carol Levanen [<mailto:cnldental@yahoo.com>]
Sent Friday, September 11, 2015 1 03 AM
To Stewart, Jeanne, Mielke, Tom, Madore, David, Orjiako, Oliver
Subject Open Public Forum - Public testimony For the Public Record

Dear Councilors

For the record I would like to voice concern over Attorney Christine Cook trying to stop me from giving testimony at the Joint Clark County Planning Commission/Clark County Councilor hearing scheduled on September 10 2015 As I approached the microphone and began to speak she interrupted me to say that I gave testimony last week and I was allowed only one chance to give testimony claiming Councilor Madore set that rule at the last hearing I said I was representing an organization (which represents approximately 6 000 members and supporters) and she countered it was Clark County Citizens United and I spoke last week or similar comments I told her the information I was giving was different than last week but she continued to counter To make matters worse Councilor Stewart sided with Ms Cook and said it wasn't fair that I should speak again when there were others who might have wanted to speak but didn't think they could I then said legally she could not stop me from speaking I proceeded with testimony but by then some of my 3 minutes of time had been used and I was unable to give my whole testimony verbally This exchange from county staff and councilor was degrading and embarrassing to me It made me look as if I was trying to be treated differently than other citizens which certainly wasn't the case This all happened in a public forum with an audience I understood from the last hearing of September 3, 2015 that there were two opportunities to speak to that forum Since I do not generally attend the Planning Commission hearings I wanted to take advantage of having two opportunities to state different positions and comments within the combined 6 minutes of allowed testimony

I went back to listen to exactly what was said on September 3 2015 by Councilor Madore as I understood it differently than Ms Cook The following is verbatim quotations

"The purpose of this evening is to make sure that we receive testimony from you It's our tum to hear from you There are two opportunities for citizens to make sure you have been heard This is one of two meetings September 3 If you testify here, you have an opportunity to speak for three minutes " "There will be another opportunity September 10 at the same time same location here at 6 00P M as well If you testify tonight the idea is that you have been heard It's not an election What we're doing is making sure that each issue each point, each insight that you can offer us will be heard There are two opportunities for verbal testimony "

Clearly Councilor Madore did not limit testimony to only one night Certainly the Councilors would want to hear all of the testimony presented by the public regarding the Draft SEIS in as many forums as possible to get the whole picture I understood the purpose for the joint meeting was so that people didn't have to repeat their testimony twice to commissioners and councilors and have to attend two meetings as well Regardless it was not appropriate for Ms Cook to attempt to censure my testimony in an open public forum This speaks to the open public process requirements of the Growth Management Act as it regards public input and outreach As a county attorney representing the councilors Ms Cook should have known better Perhaps a public apology is in order

Sincerely

Carol Levanen Ex Secretary
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