

Diane Howard, Mayor
Giselle Hale, Vice Mayor
Alicia C. Aguirre, Council Member
Lisette Espinoza-Garnica,
Council Member
Jeff Gee, Council Member
Diana Reddy, Council Member
Michael A. Smith, Council Member



TELECONFERENCE MEETING
BROADCAST LIVE VIA
CITY WEBSITE:
www.redwoodcity.org
LOCAL CHANNEL 26
COMCAST CHANNEL 27
AT&T U-VERSE CHANNEL 99

**CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
CLOSED SESSION
Monday, September 20, 2021
5:00 PM**

TELECONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

**COUNCIL MEMBERS AGUIRRE, ESPINOZA-GARNICA, GEE, REDDY AND SMITH,
VICE MAYOR HALE AND MAYOR HOWARD WILL PARTICIPATE BY TELECONFERENCE
PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-08-21**

The public comment portion of the meeting will be broadcast live to Redwood City residents on Astound Broadband cable Channel 26 and Comcast cable Channel 27, AT&T U-verse Channel 99 and streamed live via the City's website at www.redwoodcity.org

ATTENTION: Members of the public may submit written public comment to the City Council at council@redwoodcity.org. Please indicate the corresponding agenda item # in the subject line of your email. All comments submitted by 4:00 p.m. will be read into the record by the City Clerk during the public comment portion of the meeting. All comments received will be made part of the meeting record.

AGENDA MATERIALS:

City Council agenda materials that are released *less than* 72 hours prior to the meeting are available to the public via the City's website at www.redwoodcity.org.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:

The City Council will provide materials in appropriate alternative formats to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please send a written request to Pamela Aguilar, City Clerk, at 1017 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, CA 94063 or e-mail address paguilar@redwoodcity.org including your name, address, phone number and brief description of the requested materials and preferred alternative format or auxiliary aid or service at least 24 hours before the meeting.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
4. **CLOSED SESSION**

4.A. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION [Gov't. Code §54957]

Titles: City Manager and City Attorney

Closed session regarding a public employee performance evaluation pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 54957:

Gov't Code § 54957(b)(1) "...this chapter shall not be construed to prevent the legislative body of a local agency from holding closed sessions during a regular or special meeting to consider the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, discipline, or dismissal of a public employee or to hear complaints or charges brought against the employee by another person or employee unless the employee requests a public session."

5. **ADJOURNMENT**



**MEMORANDUM FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY
CONCERNING A CLOSED SESSION
BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY**

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
FROM: Veronica Ramirez, City Attorney
SUBJECT: PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION [Gov't. Code §54957]


Titles: City Manager and City Attorney

Closed session regarding a public employee performance evaluation pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 54957:

Gov't Code § 54957(b)(1) "...this chapter shall not be construed to prevent the legislative body of a local agency from holding closed sessions during a regular or special meeting to consider the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, discipline, or dismissal of a public employee or to hear complaints or charges brought against the employee by another person or employee unless the employee requests a public session."

A closed session will be held on **September 20, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.** for the purposes of 1) evaluating the performance of two public employees.

Dated: September 15, 2021



Veronica Ramirez, City Attorney

To the Redwood City Council

In regards to City Staff performance reviews

There is a clear pattern of underperforming on projects benefiting residents and typical quality-of-life projects within Redwood City. The City Manager and her transportation team show questionable ethics, whenever it comes to Redwood City's "Equity Focus Areas" and the county's "Community of Concerns". There is also a lack of professionalism within the transportation department, even the easiest projects are always delayed (101 Underpass, Red Morton Traffic Calming, Jefferson Ave crossing, putting plans into action) or done just wrong (Hopkins Ave., Vera Bike Boulevard, Roosevelt Bike Boulevard, Middlefield Rd. through downtown).

Here are just a few projects where the City Manager and her staff showed highly questionable ethics and equity behavior. It also shows a clear lack of focus towards what's important and what isn't:

- **Hopkins Ave:** \$4M for a landscaping project and missing self-declared goal of "Traffic Calming"
- Comparing project costs for **Hopkins Ave** (where most of our council members live) vs. **Roosevelt Ave** vs **Redwood Ave** => clear Ethics and Equity violation
- **Hopkins Ave:** using 'Community of Concerns' as excuse to get \$1.2M grant
- **Roosevelt Bike Boulevard:** \$1M project and taking bicycle grants and NOT build any bike facilities for low-income school kids
- **Vera Bike Boulevard:** \$500k project and taking bicycle grants and NOT build any bike facilities for low-income school kids
- **Vera Bike Boulevard:** choosing 'Private Excess Vehicle Storage' over safety for children of 'Equity Focus Areas' and 'Communities of Concern' => clear Ethics and Equity violation and highly unprofessional
- **Vera Bike Boulevard:** has no integration with Transit Oriented Developments along ECR
- **RWC Bike Plans:** \$500K to Fehr&Peers for RWCmoves
- Neglecting **RWCMoves** outreach feedback and not doing any bike projects from the RWCMoves project list
- 4 years in, **missing all self-set goals set in RWCMoves** by a lot
- Wasting another \$140k to Fehr&Peers for another Active Transportation Plan called "**Bike&Walk&Thrive**"
- Neglecting "**Bike&Walk&Thrive**" outreach feedback and doing only a few Pedestrian ADA projects, which the city is required by law anyways
- Never finishing **Peninsula Bikeway East** (Middlefield), **Peninsula Bikeway West** (ADLP), **Interim Peninsula Bikeway** or **SF Bay Trail**, despite those projects being in plans for 10,20, even 40 years
- **RWC Slow Streets** missed the City Manager's and Council's own goals on Equity focus by a lot and early on.

- **Cheating** to get the "SVBC - Bicycle Project of the Year" Award anyways
- **Cheating** to get the Cycling City Bronze Award (overreporting bicycle infrastructure)
- **Cheating** on the Climate Action Plan (using Peninsula Green Energy to greenwash electricity carbon)
- Having no Transportation action within City's Climate Action Plan (no goal set for bike network miles)
- **Docktown**: using Education Revenue Augmentation Funds (ERAF) to close down Affordable Housing
- **Maple Street Homeless Shelter**: using questionable tactics to demolish a much need homeless shelter to benefit a development of luxury townhomes.
- building more useless streets, when city can't even repair the already available infrastructure (**Blomquist Bridge**)
- Sitting over 10 years on plans for creating a **Waterfront Park** and never following through
- Needing 12 years to start on a **Senior Center** and still no **traffic calming** around Red Morton Park
- constant delays on projects along Jefferson Ave due to project mismanagement
- **Over 20 Schools in Redwood City and "Sphere of Influence" have no bike lanes and again the city currently has not even one bike lane project in the works for these kids and schools.**

City Manager and Staff have missed many of their self-declared, self-advertised goals adopted by the City Council. But the biggest is always missing completely on the city's Strategy "Transportation, Children and Youth"!

Best regards,
Gerd Stieler

PS.: Intentionally or unintentionally, '**underserving**' is always done by leadership.

From: [Johanna Rasmussen](#)
To: [CLK-Pamela Aguilar](#); [CLK-Yessika Dominguez](#)
Cc: [Contact-Farm Hill](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Special Closed Session Meeting Today at 5pm City Manager/City Attorney Evaluations
Date: Monday, September 20, 2021 3:53:45 PM
Attachments: [PastedGraphic-22.tiff](#)

Good Afternoon,

On behalf of the residents of the Farm Hill Neighborhood, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment on this important issue.

As we know, the annual performance evaluation and corresponding pay raises our City Manager and City Attorney and have historically garnered the widespread interest of both our residents and local news media outlets.

While this issue is followed very closely by many, as it stands today, residents have no real opportunity to weigh in on this evaluation process.

While we acknowledge that our seven elected representatives will go into this Special Closed Session Meeting in a few moments, we are unaware of any efforts that have been made to solicit feedback from constituents before going into this meeting.

The City Manager and City Attorney receive substantial raises each year. Raises that often amount to tens of thousands of dollars.

We are formally asking for more transparency around the annual evaluation process.

Good, bad, or indifferent, we would like to be informed about the quality of the work that is performing on our behalf and the opportunity to express our appreciation, feedback, and/ or concerns.

Thank you,



Johanna Rasmussen
Chairwoman Farm Hill Neighborhood
Telephone [REDACTED]
Cell Text [REDACTED]
www.farmhillneighborhood.com