

City Council Meeting
Public Comments
December 15, 2021

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I'm writing with respect to Item 13 on tonight's agenda and to request that the Escondido Climate Commission, which was adopted and committed to in the Escondido Climate Action Plan, be added to the list of Commissions in the By-Laws.

The creation of a public advisory body was a major request, and commitment, by the city in the development of the plan.

Please see Chapter 4, p. 4-1 states (emphasis added)

Implementing this CAP will involve the City Council, Planning Commission, a full time Sustainability or Climate Coordinator to lead planning and coordination across City departments, the establishment of a new Climate Commission, and coordination with other boards and commissions. The Climate Commission will include representative stakeholders and experts to provide ongoing program support and guidance, identification of potential funding sources, facilitate partnerships, and monitor implementation

Also, the Escondido Community Housing Coalition, a coalition of organizations working on housing issues have also requested a formal advisory body with appointed public members as a means to educate the public and advise the city on important housing issues. Please see request in the letter included <a href="here">here</a>.

Please include these advisory groups in the city's action tonight. In the alternative, please provide a path by which they can be instituted.

Thank you for your consideration,

Laura Hunter, Chair

Sierra Club NCG Conservation Committee

From Url: <a href="https://www.escondido.org/public-comment">https://www.escondido.org/public-comment</a>

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**Council Meeting Date 12/15/2021** 

Agenda # 14

**Subject** Revenue Measure Subcommittee Report

**Position** In Favor

First and Last Name Patricia Borchmann

Are you an Escondido Resident Yes

Comments I am pleased to inform City Council of my strong support of the work undertaken by the Revenue Measure Subcommittee. It is refreshing to observe this is a non-partisan Subcommittee, formed by respected Council members from both parties working together. I appreciate the thorough budget analysis by City staff, which reinforces the urgent need to place the potential sales tax increase on the November 2022 ballot, to allow consideration by Escondido voters, and approval action if Escondido residents and businesses want to solve the structural budget deficit exceeding \$150 million over the next 20 years. I expect the Community Engagement and Education strategy will provide effective fact sharing with the public during the next phase, so in November voters can make an informed choice on the 2022 Ballot Measure, based on facts, and accurate fiscal analysis. I am confident that informed voters will recognize that either voting No on sales tax increase, or doing nothing will not solve the increasing structural budget deficit or reduce the extreme negative impacts when the City cannot continue to provide municipal services and facilities. It is self evident that a modest increase in sales tax is a necessity, and this would bring Escondido's sales tax into conformance with the sales tax rates collected by 9 other cities in San Diego, so it would not be unusual, or careless.

Would you like your comment read out loud? Yes

A form has been submitted, click the link below to view the submission:

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**Council Meeting Date 12/15/2021** 

Agenda #15

**Subject** Council compensation

**Position** In Opposition

First and Last Name Ed Gallo

**Are you an Escondido Resident** Yes

Comments Mayor and Council as was the case in 2019 I am asking you again to not approve an increase in your compensation and please do not mention inflation as a contributing cause for an increase as it really does not affect your lifestyle. Years ago Mayor Pfeiler offered that council compensation should be enough so that a business owner can afford to hire someone part time to compensate for his/her time away. After all, council work is a part time job, Current compensation adequately addresses that concern. An employee can be hired at \$15/hr and work 1400 hours per year, 27 hours a week, 52 weeks a year. However, if you must increase your compensation only add 5% even though we all know that you are legally entitled at least 10%. But most of all I have to comment on the Mayor's compensation which is totally out of wack. This not a reflection on the current Mayor but the compensation for that office is now three times that of a council member and the gap will increase with each raise. My suggestion years ago was to freeze the Mayor's compensation a few cycles then offer only a 2% increase along with the Council 5% but alas I could not get enough support. I think we all agree that increasing ones own salary is a bit distasteful and especially during tight financial times. All that being said I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a healthy prosperous New Year and look forward to days without masks.

Would you like your comment read out loud? Yes

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