

**From:** Karen Moore <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2023 2:08 PM  
**To:** Public Comment <publiccomment@cityoftracy.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Awards For The Organics Grant Program Cycle 7

Get the funds in cycle 8 when they are available. Or keep increasing our disposal rates. You decide!

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Greenhouse Gas Reduction Programs <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 19, 2023 at 9:06 AM  
**Subject:** Awards For The Organics Grant Program Cycle 7  
**To:** <[REDACTED]>

The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) has approved 23 grant awards for the seventh cycle of the Organics Grant Program. The FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 Budget Acts allocate \$150,000,000 from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction and General Funds to award this grant program cycle. The Request for Approval has been posted to our Public Notice webpage at <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/PublicNotices/Details/5247>. The awards will be presented today at the December 19, 2023 CalRecycle Public Meeting. Please visit <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/PublicNotices/Details/5277>.

For more information go to Climate Change: Proposed Greenhouse Gas Reduction Grant and Loan Programs at <https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Climate/GrantsLoans/>. To unsubscribe from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Programs Listserv, please go to CalRecycle Listservs at <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/Listservs/>.

~

Serial Number: WLIDKVZE  
Sent On: 12/19/2023 9:00 AM

~

**Good Evening Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, City Council Members, City Staff and those who are in attendance in Chambers and at home.**

**On behalf of Citizens and Friends for Safer Illuminating Pedestrian Crosswalks throughout the city of Tracy, I want to congratulate the City of Tracy and its dedicated Engineering Staff being awarded the 2023 SS4A (Safe Streets for All) grant on December 13<sup>th</sup>, which resulted in 3.7 million federal dollars dedicated for safer improvements within the City of Tracy.**

**Even though the materials for ILLUMINATION CROSSWALKS were not submitted for in the ten projects requested in the 2023 SS4A grant application. The City Engineering Administrator informed me that the enhancement system we requested was removed from the grant application because “it may not always yield a positive outcome, in fact it could have the opposite effect.” So forgive me for not agreeing with the City’s Engineering Department assessment since over 75% of pedestrian fatalities occur within crosswalks during night or with low visibility. (If time permits or if it is allowed my short video clip on illuminated crosswalks will illustrate this point from approximately 300 feet away) Otherwise I will send this video clip to City Council and Staff via email attachment.**

**It is our hope that the \$60,000.00 funding for further studies to address the pedestrian crosswalks needs throughout the City of Tracy will be identified and expedited before the 2024 SS4A Grant deadline of July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Further delays will only increase the probability of more pedestrian’s deaths or injuries before any improvements are made. It is our hope that the City will apply for the 2024 SS4A grant in asking for illumination materials before the July 10<sup>th</sup> 2024 deadline without delay.**

**I am determined to see this great cause to its completion. Our family and this community will not rest until this is done.**

**Thank You**

# \$750,000 of Wasted Taxpayer Dollars

Tracy City Council approved spending **\$750,000 of taxpayer dollars** to **start over** with the Aquatic Center design, when it already has the Community Design Plans ready to implement now. This unnecessary action will **delay** the Aquatic Center by years. The city council is putting **politics** above the needs of the residents. This **waste of time** and **taxpayer money** should be stopped, and council needs to vote to implement the Community Design Plans.

Our group, with the support of the city, has worked with Surland Companies since 2005 to generate the Community Design Plans.

## We Need Your Help!

Scan the QR code to learn more about Our Design Plans and then Sign Our Petition.



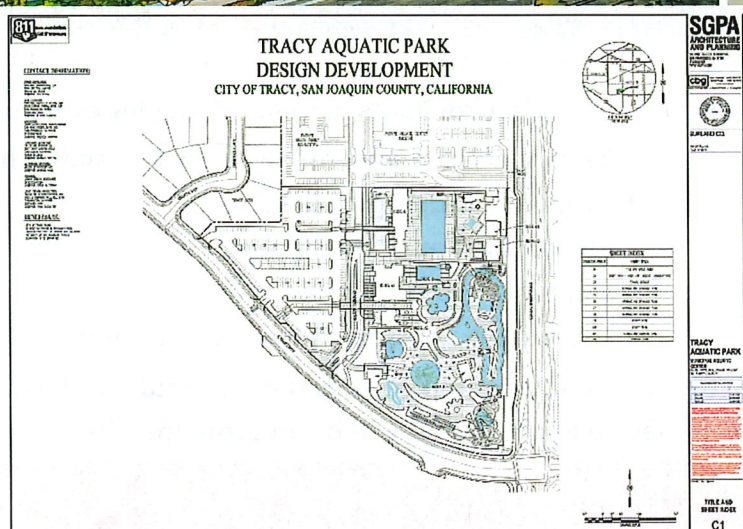
*"For All Generations to Enjoy for Generations to Come"*



The current Design Plans are **community driven** and **inspired**.

If implemented now, construction for the Aquatic Center could start in 2024.

[www.TracyAquaticCenter.com](http://www.TracyAquaticCenter.com)



Tracy Concerned Citizens  
for an Aquatic Center  
793 S Tracy Blvd #148  
Tracy, CA 95376  
[www.tracyaquaticcenter.com](http://www.tracyaquaticcenter.com)

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
SACRAMENTO, CA  
PERMIT NO. 837

 **TRACY**  
aquatic  
park

*"For All Generations to Enjoy for Generations to Come"*



The Community's Design Plans has something for every one, regardless of age or ability, including:

- A 25-yard activity pool for swim classes and swim lessons.
- A 50-meter competitive pool.
- A toddler pool and leisure pool.
- A lazy river and thrill rides.
- A community banquet hall and retail shops.

The water amenities, coupled with the food and retail, will serve all the people of Tracy. The multi-phased design and buildout will be an economic driver for the city.

**The time to implement the Community's Design Plans for the Aquatic Center is now!  
Learn more and get involved by visiting - [www.TracyAquaticCenter.com](http://www.TracyAquaticCenter.com).**

Public Comment  
Items 3.C and 3.D

**From:** Karen Moore <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2023 7:12 PM  
**To:** Public Comment <publiccomment@cityoftracy.org>  
**Subject:** Tuesday agenda items 3 C & D

In the upcoming Tuesday session at 7 pm, you the Tracy City Council will cast crucial votes that will shape our city's future. The focus is on proposed raises for City Attorney Patel and the potential promotion of Interim City Manager Lichtwardt to City Manager. As a concerned citizen, I oppose the raise for City Attorney Patel due to the recent lapse in her California Bar License and the lack of communication with the Council. This negligence raises questions about her suitability for such a crucial role.

Moreover, my reservations extend to the promotion of Interim City Manager Lichtwardt. The handling of the Homeless Shelters project, marked by inefficient spending on trailers and questionable decisions regarding generator usage, prompts serious concerns. The expenditure on a diesel generator at \$50k per month, when alternative, more cost-effective options exist, casts doubt on the fiscal responsibility of the current Council and staff.

The proposed \$80 million basketball gym, referred to as a 'multi-generational center,' further raises alarms about the city's financial management. The decision to go into debt for this project, funded by Measure V, risks burdening the city financially, especially considering the uncertain economic future. This strategy, coupled with premature spending on El Pescadero Park improvements, underscores the need for a more fiscally responsible approach.

For detailed information and supporting documents, refer to the following links:

- 1: Tracy City Council <https://www.cityoftracy.org/home/showpublisheddocument/16895>
- 2: KCRA Article on Council <https://www.kcra.com/article/tracy-city-officials-discuss-attorney-license-lapse/44758107>—
- 3: Solar power rentals for construction sites <https://sunforrent.com/uses-applications/construction-rentals/>

Let's prioritize transparency, accountability, and responsible fiscal management for a thriving Tracy.

## Public Comment - ITEM 3.D

**From:** s abercrombie <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** December 19, 2023 at 2:01:38 PM PST

**To:** Nancy Young <nancyyoung4tracy@yahoo.com>, Dan Arriola <Dan.Arriola@cityoftracy.org>, Dan Evans <dan.evans@cityoftracy.org>, Eleassia Davis <eleassia.davis@cityoftracy.org>, Mateo Bedolla <mateo.bedolla@cityoftracy.org>

**Subject:** City Attorney

Hello -

As you know I served on the city council from 2006 - 2012. I currently serve on the Tracy Unified School District Board of Trustees. As a result several people contact me regarding concerns and issues related to the City of Tracy.

I have heard from numerous people how frustrating it is to work with the City Attorney. Some of these comments include rude, unresponsive, cumbersome and disrespectful. I realize that not everyone is going to get along but this is not from a small minority of people. It is also not from just developers. It includes small business owners, larger business owners, city staff and community members.

Tonight, you are going to discuss giving the City Attorney a raise of 8.9%. Five percent of that total is for merit pay. I have a difficult time trying to understand how you believe she has earned that amount considering all of the negative feedback I have heard.

It is also confusing to the general public, based on her issues with her license to practice law, why she should get a raise at this time. I have heard it might have been a clerical mistake but it doesn't small right to John Q. Public.

Well, I just wanted to share my thoughts with all of you. I wish you well in this decision and hope you will do what is best for the citizens of Tracy.

Take care  
ABS

(Copy)

**Please place in record for Item 3D regarding amending the Employment Agreement between the City of Tracy and the City Attorney Bijal Patel**

12/19/2023 by Nancy Young, Mayor of Tracy

I cannot support a pay raise for city attorney Bijal Patel.

Without a formal evaluation, there is nothing to base this merit on and even though we have yet to set official expectations, the basic expectations of the role based on my 11 plus years of tenure on this council, leaves much lacking.

The City of Tracy deserves a city attorney who is honest, ethical, provides sound legal counsel, is impartial, and treats everyone with respect. Bijal Patel has not demonstrated any of these essential requirements and qualities. This has been substantiated by numerous calls, emails, and letters from individuals, businesses, and others over the past year plus.

As a city, we cannot condone illegal and unethical behavior by our public servants.

Bijal Patel failed to notify the city or council when she <sup>was</sup> not in good standing with the State Bar Association that licenses attorneys to practice law for the entire month of July 2023. She therefore continued to practice law for Tracy when she was ineligible to practice law in the state of California.

Further, it has come to my knowledge that Bijal Patel traveled outside of California after claiming to have had a medical condition, which she has never fully disclosed to the Council, the public, or the city.

There have been numerous and serious complaints filed against Bijal Patel by leading Tracy citizens with the State Bar Association, the Fair Political Practices Commission, the San Joaquin District Attorneys Office and the State of California Office of the Attorney General.

All these documented complaints should be made and considered in the evaluation of whether City Attorney Bijal Patel should continue to represent the City of Tracy. These issues must be made part of her personnel file and they must be discussed publicly. To fail to disclose these breaches of public trust in and of

itself is a betrayal of the public trust by the councilmembers who fail to raise these issues.

Because of these significant legal, ethical and behavior issues of City Attorney Bijal Patel, it would be dishonest, unethical, and a breach of the public trust to continue to actually employ an individual who has been dishonest and failed in every respect to be an ethical and professional public servant on behalf of the people of Tracy. Furthermore, I feel it is an insult and completely disregards our concerned citizens by instead rewarding her with not only a raise, but with a retroactive raise that includes paying more for a month wherein she was ineligible to practice law in the state of California.

We must have these significant breaches of public trust and the law as part of the public record. Three councilmembers—Evans, Davis, and Bedolla—are attempting to cover these serious legal and ethical issues from the public by railroading their approval of Bijal Patel's personnel review through this process.

The City of Tracy is at a crossroads. Either we are going to have an open, honest government that works for the people of Tracy, or we are going to fall victim to the tyranny of dishonesty, the tyranny of the rule of the few and failure of an open and honest government to root out corrupt actions when we see them.

In conclusion, I would like to quote Luke 16:10 – “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.” I reiterate, I am not in support of a raise for Ms. Patel.