

September 21, 2016

Hon. Mayor and City Council,

My name is Robert Bitter, and I am a Canby resident. I am unable to attend tonight's Council meeting, so am sending this testimony in lieu of an appearance regarding the timing of the appointment of a Councilor to complete the term of Councilor Rocha.

As a former Councilor I appreciate the demands of this position, and wish to thank you all for your service, and especially Councilor Rocha, who has had to balance the needs of his business and family with the demands of this position, and found that to be untenable.

To that end, knowing the requirements of service on the Council, I highly recommend a deliberate process in finding a replacement. Specifically, I suggest that you postpone this until after the Nov 8th elections. As you know there are five people who desire to continue to serve on the Council or wish to join it. All of you have given much thought to this and are campaigning to achieve this goal. If you wait the few weeks remaining until after the election, you may well have good candidates remaining who have expressed a desire to serve the people of Canby and have articulated it well.

This should never be viewed as a partisan position, and I encourage you to demonstrate this by delaying the selection for a short time. There needs to be a variety of views on the Council, for this is how democracy works at its best. To serve the diverse population that we have in Canby, I encourage you seek this diversity in your body.

Again, thank you all for your service; I know what a sacrifice you make every day on behalf of the citizens of Canby.

Sincerely,

Robert Bitter

1412 NE 11th Ave.