

July 13, 2021

Public Comment --- for CVWD Board Mtg on 7/13/2021 (from Marilyn Tyler)

Really, this is shameful. Not only does CVWD abruptly terminate the Community Advisory Committee in a series of suspect moves, but then CVWD shamelessly tries to use the CAC for publicity purposes---misrepresenting the truth in the process.

In the July 1, 2021 issue of Crescenta Valley Weekly, General Manager Nem Ochoa writes: "...With feedback from the CAC...the Board decided to move forward with utilizing rates to generate revenue...The feedback provided by the CAC...was extremely helpful in this decision-making process, and staff felt it was important for the Board to hear it before taking action..."

WHAT "feedback from the CAC"? THERE WAS NO FEEDBACK FROM THE CAC!!! Early on when CVWD was still considering bonds, the CAC was asked in general how each member felt about bonds, but that was it!!! To my recollection the CAC presented no other feedback to the CVWD Board. In fact, CAC members were in the process of preparing comments on the 3-year schedule of rate increases when the CAC was abruptly shut down.

Yet General Manager Nem Ochoa wants to claim community involvement in coming up with the schedule of rate increases---it's good publicity, right? So what if it shades the truth?

General Manager Nem Ochoa, you should be ashamed. If you want to treat CAC members decently rather than just publicity pawns, then do the following:  
FOLLOW-THROUGH ON DIRECTOR BODNAR'S REQUEST:

At the June 22, 2021 CVWD Board mtg, Director Bodnar requested that the CAC be involved with and give feedback on the 10-year funding plan for water and wastewater.

[REQUEST] Please call a CAC mtg and brief members on the 10-year funding plan for water and wastewater (from which the 3-year schedule of 8% rate increases is derived).