

OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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January 14, 2022

Dear Judge Hon. Morrison C. England Jr

I am writing you today after reviewing the document labeled "Warren V. Chico – Settlement Agreement" for the FIRST time. I received this document at 4:31pm yesterday. I believe that I am left with no other choice than to reach out to you directly. Please note, that this letter is being sent to you by myself as an individual and NOT representing the entire City Council.

When we had closed session discussions on Tuesday January 4th. During those discussions we were brought up to date with the progress of the ongoing negotiations. Our Attorney Mr. Vince Ewing presented with us verbally with the final remaining perceived outstanding "issues", ensuring us that if we agreed to allow him to negotiate these last few items in principal then he believed we could come to a "Settlement Agreement". The items that were outstanding and mentioned were the following —

- 1. Attorney and Plaintiffs fees
- 2. Showers how many and often
- 3. Meals how many per day
- 4. Laundry availability and frequency

In my naivete I "assumed" that we would have a document coming back to us for full review once the final "Settlement Agreement" was drafted and agreed upon by both sides for final review. There were absolutely NO conversations about enforcement and what/how it would look in the agreement. We were advised that once this agreement was reached the injunction would be lifted and we would again be able to uphold our Chico Municipal Codes. In reviewing this agreement, I just as a lay person can find over a handful of areas where it appears to me we will be leaving our City in a position of actually NOT being able to do the stated goals of providing safe resting areas and enforcing laws equally in our community while protecting our parks and waterways.



I have serious concerns about this whole process being done in the dark with a gag order to only be able to say "progress is being made and negotiations are ongoing". We as elected officials are obligated to keep the public informed on what is happening. We have not been able to have ONE conversation or ability to bring the public "along" with the progress to help them understand what is happening and why we are doing what we are doing.

Last but not least my biggest concern is the that I am on record voting YES to this document, when I have never even had a chance to review it until yesterday. I do not believe that the contents of this document were fully disclosed and or correctly explained (not that anyone could give a complete verbal review of a 45 page document) to us as a Council and we need time to discuss some of the concerns before this is finalized.

I am asking you, <u>would it be possible to not sign</u> this Settle Agreement until all of our City Council members can meet next Tuesday (January 18, 2022) to fully review and discuss our concerns and or objections.

Thank you,

Kasey J Reynolds

Vice Mayor Chico City Council

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CC: Magistrate Newman