



**Additional Documents  
Distributed for the  
City Council **Special** Meeting of  
December 21, 2022**

Item No.	Agenda Item Description	Distributor	Document
1.	PUBLIC COMMENT	Yvonne LaRose	Email to Council
2.	AUTHORIZATION OF UNSCHEDULED VACANCY APPOINTMENTS TO CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES	Bianca Richards	Email to Council
2.	AUTHORIZATION OF UNSCHEDULED VACANCY APPOINTMENTS TO CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES	Ron Rosen	Email to Council

**Public Comment  
December 21, 2022  
Item No. 1**

**From:** [Yvonne LaRose](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment: Recognizing our 2022 Government Leaders  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 11:59:38 AM

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**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

There's a lot that goes into being a government leader. Hearing the concerns of the constituency and advocating on their behalf is just a small portion of the job. Also included in the work is establishing favorable alliances and relationships with other governments, agencies, and cities to make delivery of services reasonable.

Just as with any normal business or residence, a budget needs to be created and adhered to so that economic stability is a constant. Hiring the best help to push forward the endeavors of the city and its multiple parts is also a critical responsibility of our government leaders.

Although not a stated quality of the job description, our leaders are expected to be visionary with regard to the constituency's welfare. In a way, the leaders are like parents - they have the experience and insight to either know the answers to issues that confront the stakeholders or have resources available to find the optimal way of addressing the situations that impact the city.

Our leaders are the gate keepers for the welfare of our city, its inhabitants, and those who frequent this space for numerous social and cultural matters. They are the keepers of the things that bring quality of life to us and attract others who are desirous of enjoying and contributing to our home.

For all those things that our 2022 leaders have done for us, I hope my voice expresses the thoughts and emotions of many others in South Pasadena.

Thank you so much for your care and governance during this year.  
God speed you in the remainder of your pathways.

Viva  
Yvonne LaRose  
Organization Development Consultant: Diversity/Title VII, Harassment, Ethics

**Public Comment  
December 21, 2022  
Item No. 2**

**From:** [Bianca Richards](#)  
**To:** [CCO](#)  
**Subject:** Email the Council  
**Date:** Saturday, December 17, 2022 8:09:15 AM

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To all current City Council Members,

I am writing this email to voice my opposition to Item #2 on the upcoming council meeting of December 21. I feel this item should be pulled and not handled by current mayor and council. This last action assignment of appointments to commissions seems to be unusual and could wait for the new mayor.

Again, please consider pulling Item #2 for upcoming council meeting and let new mayor assign appointments at future date.

Thank you,

Bianca Richards

**From:** [Ron Rosen](#)  
**To:** [City Council Public Comment](#)  
**Cc:** [Evelyn Zneimer](#); [Jack Donovan](#); [Diana Mahmud](#); [Jon Primuth](#); [Michael Cacciotti](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment - December 21, 2022 Special Meeting - 6:00 PM - Item 2  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 11:04:06 AM

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

This comment concerns Item 2 AUTHORIZATION OF UNSCHEDULED VACANCY APPOINTMENTS TO CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES on the agenda of the December 21, 2022 6:00 PM Special Meeting.

I urge the Council to vote against these “unscheduled” appointments and allow the incoming mayor to make his own appointments. This has nothing to do with the proposed appointees, most of whom I do not know. This has to do with this unusual departure from longstanding precedent.

My understanding is that the new mayor usually appoints commissioners at the beginning of his term. It seems unprecedented that commissioners would be appointed by an outgoing mayor on the last day of his term. From what I understand, according to usual procedure, the new mayor should have been appointed at the December 7 meeting. Why didn't that happen?

These proposed appointments by the outgoing mayor are all for partial terms, or as the agenda item says, “unscheduled.” Were commissioners asked to resign early so the outgoing mayor could accomplish this?

I have learned that two incoming elected office holders were asked by city staff to resign their current commission posts early. They did not do so. It would seem that the outgoing mayor may have been behind this unusual and unnecessary request.

When something unprecedented like this is proposed, it raises concerns. It's dangerous to break longstanding precedent. Precedents exist for a reason. They should be broken only in very extreme circumstances. Why is the outgoing mayor proposing to do this? Why has he apparently put in a great deal of effort to do so?

In my experience, when something like this is proposed, it is usually because something questionable is going on behind the scenes. Do you as councilmembers really understand the reasons behind this? If not, you should vote against it. Even if you do know, you should vote against it because it's a major break in precedent that should not be occurring. When unusual and unexplained things happen in city government, when normal precedents are not followed, it raises mistrust in the public's mind. Do you really want to allow something questionable occur on your watch? Some of you may recall events of about a decade ago where a major scandal occurred in the city over the unusual way an appointment was made. All but one of the Councilmembers who supported that lost their jobs. The outgoing mayor should be very well aware of this.

I urge you to follow longstanding precedent and refuse to make these appointments. Allow the incoming mayor to make any appointments that are needed.

Ron Rosen  
South Pasadena