

January 1, 2021

TO: Rubin Tilos, Chairman of the OGC & OGC Commissioners Chen, LoPilato, and Montgomery, and residents of the City of Alameda

FROM: Jeff Cambra

RE: Introduction

As the newest member of the Open Government Commission, I want to introduce myself to my fellow commissioners and the greater Alameda community.

I am a bay area native and a 35 year resident of Alameda. I chose this beautiful island city because of its beaches and architecture. I believe in supporting the community, especially the arts and have had the privilege of serving on many of the city's nonprofit boards, including the League of Women Voters of Alameda (two term president), and as a past president of the Rotary Club of Alameda.

I have been a hearing officer for the City's Building Department and chaired the City's Rent Review Advisory Committee – a mediation and administrative hearing body. I have organized and facilitated community discussions in several city-wide meetings including the *Future Uses of Historic Alameda High School* for the Alameda Unified School District.

Professionally, I am a licensed attorney specializing in Alameda rent stabilization law, and where much of my work involves providing legal advice and mediation services to the city's residents on a pro bono basis. Prior to opening my law practice, I was an assistant city attorney for a local jurisdiction where I administered a mobile home rent stabilization program and represented the jurisdiction in dangerous condition of public property litigation. As part of that position, I also advised several departments in responding to California Public Records Act requests.

I want to express my gratitude to Councilmember Spencer for selecting me as her representative to the City's Open Government Commission, and I am honored to have this opportunity to be of service to my community in such an important capacity.

In many ways, this appointment is like going back to the old family home after being away for some years and finding it completely remodeled and new folks residing in it. A few people may remember that I previously served on the Open Government Commission as it's chair from 2013 to 2014. So, I am familiar with its basic functions.

What they may not know is that I was appointed by then Mayor Beverly Johnson to facilitate the creation of the first Sunshine Ordinance in 2011. While my tenure as a facilitator was short lived, I, along with members of the League of Women Voters of Alameda attended every

meeting of the original OGC and contributed to the development of the provisions that eventually became the codified Sunshine Ordinance.

All of the individuals involved in that process firmly believed that an informed public was essential to democracy and that residents had the right to know what their government and those acting on behalf of their government were doing.

Rest assured that I am fully committed to furthering the goals and objectives of the Sunshine Ordinance in my role as an OGC Commissioner, and when the OGC sits as a quasi-judicial body, I will afford each party the broadest due process rights and demonstrate the highest degree of impartiality and objectivity when deliberating the outcome of each case.

I am honored to serve with the other members of the OGC and thankful for the opportunity to serve my community.