

IRMA Glidden

To: LARA WEISIGER
Subject: RE: AGENDA for 2/15/17 Workshop

From: Janet Gibson <mejcgibson@gmail.com>
Date: February 16, 2017 at 1:35:36 PM PST
To: <tspencer@alamedaca.gov>, <mvella@alamedaca.gov>, <fmatarrese@alamedaca.gov>, <mezzyashcraft@alamedaca.gov>, <joddie@alamedaca.gov>
Cc: <manager@alamedaca.gov>, <lweisiger@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: AGENDA for 2/15/17 Workshop

Mayor Trish Spencer
Vice Mayor Malia Vella
Councilmember Marilyn Ashcraft
Councilmember Frank Matarrese
Councilmember Jim Oddie

Dear Mayor Spencer & Council Members,

As members of the Alameda Citizens Task Force Steering Committee, we ask that our Mayor and City Council take urgent and immediate action to clarify and revise the agenda for this Friday's Priority Setting Workshop. We have read the 2/15/17 letter sent to you by our member, Dorothy Freeman, and fully agree with her request.

We know that a number of Alameda residents are planning to attend, owing to the fact that they came to past City Council Meetings and were unable to address the Council on agenda referrals. You have the responsibility to respect the time and effort of these constituents by prioritizing the referrals and placing them as your first and primary order of business at this workshop. As stated in the Mayor's referral, Council and staff should have "an opportunity to share work and set priorities on pending initiatives, projects and programs, including outlining key deadlines." The session should also "allow for a thorough public discussion."

We ask that the meeting start with a revised agenda that begins with prioritizing and discussing the 9 referrals not heard on June 1, July 5 or 19, September 6 or 20, or October 4 or 18 (all in 2016). Also, only if the Council and public are allowed comment on all 44 Council referrals dating back to January 2015, should the Council consider continuing with the announced, but poorly explained, title: "Strengths and Opportunities, Characteristics of Effective Governing Bodies." We believe that these agenda revisions will more closely comply with the spirit of the Brown Act which

requires that any reasonable person should be able to understand what the topic is and in what order it is going to be discussed and presented.

Sincerely,

Gretchen Lipow, Janet Gibson, Paul Foreman, Mark Greenside, Patsy Baer, Kathleen Schumacher _____

For the ACT Steering Committee

cc: Jill Keimach
Lara Weisiger