

Alberto Quintanilla

From: prashant sharma <prasha98@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 17, 2022 3:53 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Public Comment for City Council Meeting 9/13/22

Dear City Council,

I am writing this public comment to express my concern in regards to corruption and misappropriation of city funds. As you know, our former city manager Mark Danaj has been indicted on felony charges of embezzlement and fraud. To date, the mayor and city council have refused to address this concern, as well as the financial implications of how much could have potentially been embezzled through theft, bad contracts, and/or unnecessary projects in exchange for kickbacks, political pro quo, or other financial or material benefit. Seeing as city funds are funded by our tax dollars, we have a right to know how much of our funds were misused or paid out for personal or political rather than city benefit. It is critical that we hold all involved accountable as well as seek restitution, particularly before Danaj's criminal case is decided, as we do not fully know the extent of the embezzlement without an audit. I respectfully request that the City of Fremont actively seek an independent investigation into Mark Danaj's tenure at the City of Fremont, including a forensic audit of all accounting, spending, communications, and contracts. Because Mark Danaj is being prosecuted by DA Nancy O'Malley's office, is represented by her brother, and DA O'Malley had been an official endorsement of Lily Mei's Senate campaign until recently removed from the website, the DA's office represents a conflict of interest. It is important that the investigation be conducted by either the CA Attorney General's office, or by an investigative body based on the CA AG's recommendation to ensure that all involved or with knowledge will be held accountable.

Local government transparency is protected under the Brown Act, and it is important that our city council act in good faith towards their responsibility of transparency to the people who elected them. Given the circumstances of Danaj's felony indictments, it is not only reasonable but necessary to investigate all activity and spending to fully understand how much of our funds have been misappropriated.

Regards,

Prashant Sharma

Fremont Resident