

Katherine Douglas

Public Comment

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From: Susie Tomlinson <susietom10@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2025 4:57 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Pay raises, cell towers

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Hi Folks,

I live in SB unincorporated area, I get the two local digital newspapers: Independent and Noozhawk. Recently there have been articles on pay raises that you will vote for yourselves. Now it was revealed quite a while ago that SB has more employees than most cities along the Southern California coast. We all know how expensive it is to live in this city. Many folks have to work 2-3 jobs to pay all their bills. I am taken back and honestly shocked that you all would give yourselves this enormous raise of almost 49% just because others get it.

I ask you how that will impact all of our taxes, fees, etc? We pay your salary/wage. I don't think that is right, if you all want a raise then give yourselves \$10,000. It was also mentioned that other agencies and positions were in line for increases in their wages. I think this idea of wanting everyone to compete with each other only encourages all these raises in salary/wages. It will never stop.

I am a small mom and pop landlord. With all the rules, regulations and laws that SB city, county, state and federal government have made in the last 5 years, we are really at the end of our rope as to when it will stop. You tie our hands telling us what we can't do, and one of those things is increasing rent. How are we supposed to pay for all the increased wages of all these people mentioned above, when you have made rent control. All our insurances, property taxes, and utilities have all gone up, all the city services and personnel wages continue to go up, but we can't raise rents due to rent control. This isn't fair nor right. We are not the problem. There are always a few bad apples in a bunch, but the way all the laws and rules get made are against all landlord. The city and County need to find those bad apples and apply many of these last few years rules and laws to them and not ALL landlords. It isn't fair nor right.

The city of SB has more employees than most communities equivalent to us along the Southern California coast. This was written about a few years ago when other people were complaining about the cost to live in SB. Just to inform you : my property taxes alone for the Isla Vista District I pay over \$4000 on my bill in fixed charges !! That is out of control even when more bonds, services, and charges are added to my property taxes and they certainly will. How can the county, and city continue to make decisions that will impact the residents and what they have to pay on your behalf?

I would not like to sell my rental property as it is a life line to my existence and income to pay for bills. That income from the rental is getting smaller and smaller in relation to the bills that keep increasing to live here. I am seriously thinking about selling my rental as the environment in this city, county and state are all against the landlord. I have never felt so frustrated, discouraged, targeted and honestly mad at all the laws, regulations and rules that have come to affect the landlord and giving all rights to the tenant. It is not the landlords problem that SB didn't build for 30-40 years and is now in a

sad state of not having enough housing. Landlords didn't cause that, but you expect us to accept all the policies and regulations and limitations in what we can charge for rent and make onerous laws/rules that tie our hands in business. This will backfire very soon, as landlords sell to big corporations that will renovate and then increase rents or apts will be turned into condos. Landlords will not repair or improve their rentals because they won't be able to raise rents to cover them. It is not realistic or sustainable to building low income housing for 1 million per unit !! That's ridiculous, while allowing more hotels and market rent housing to be built....not fair, right or equitable. Small homes can cost A LOT less than that, someone has to get with the reality.

Cell Towers. Please refer to an article on Noozhawk a letter by Eric Durak. I won't reiterate his letter but it is right on point. I am against the decision to allow 5G cell towers as close as 20 feet from my house let alone anyone's. There was not enough research about the condition or problems that come with cell towers that close to communities and homes, such as radiation just to mention one. Please read Mr Durak's letter, and follow the questions and concerns he has...as many of us feel the same way. I don't think that you all did your due diligence in authorizing these cell towers. You and the city supervisors are supposed to be our voice, I don't see that happening most of the time!

Respectfully,
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