

Marc Weinstein

From: Tom Andersen
Sent: Friday, December 23, 2016 2:41 PM
To: Jess Barton
Subject: Re:

Hi Jess. This is what I have sent to others who have emailed me about the project

Thanks for your email concerning this grant. As you may know, I was the only Councilor who voted against it.

I did so for many reasons, none of which related to the insider allegations. The process was flawed; with mis-statements from the beginning and a very late (11/21 application) which led to a rushed decision; the project did not create 80+ new jobs, it merely transferred them from one office building to another; there was no housing (I support these kinds of grants downtown where housing is created); it could have been structured as a loan and not a grant; the project would have been built without the grant, albeit at three stories, not four (so what -it still would make a profit for the developers); nearly 80% of the square footage of the building was going to be leased to business owned by the development group; and there are much better uses for the \$\$\$.

I will continue to oppose projects of this nature and continue to support projects which bring residents to the downtown core and which could not be built without city support. This project did not qualify under any of these criteria.

Thanks again for your civic involvement.

Best, wishes,

Tom.

From: Jess Barton <jwmb@jessbartonlaw.com>

Sent: Friday, December 23, 2016 2:13:43 PM

To: Amy Johnson; Anna M. Peterson; Brad Nanke; Chuck Bennett; Courtney Knox Busch; citycouncil; Dan Atchison; Daniel Benjamin; Diana Dickey; Glenn Gross; Jim Lewis; Kacey Duncan; Kenny Larson; Lynda Rose; Mike Gotterba; Natasha Zimmerman; Peter Fernandez; E-Mail Public; Ruth Stellmacher; Steve McCoid; Steve Powers; Tami Carpenter; Warren Bednarz; Tom Andersen

Subject:

I concur in Brian Hines's concerns, so I too ask you:

Thus I am requesting that Mayor Peterson, City Manager Powers, Urban Development Director Retherford, and the city councilors who voted for (or against) the grant describe in a simple, clear, truthful, transparent fashion the reasons why this is (or isn't) an appropriate use of Urban Renewal money,

This should be done before a check is written to the Park Front developers to assure that the public fully understands why their City officials are spending \$749,000 of taxpayer money in this fashion.

I'd particularly be interested in hearing from my city councilman, Jim Lewis. I've emailed multiple times now, with questions, but have yet to hear back from him.

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