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Subject: Palm Drive--Request for Condition on Dissolution
Date: Thursday, July 2, 2020 11:48:42 AM
Attachments: [Email_20200617.pdf](#)
[01-10.pdf](#)
[Resolution_tax_04-61.pdf](#)
[041102 Measure W Parcel Tax-Voter Info Guide Pages.pdf](#)
[GHAC amended proposal to the Board \(003\)qat \(002\).pdf](#)
[SW_20200619.pdf](#)
[GHAC SOS_20200630.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL

Hi, Mark ???

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As you know, I am a former director of the Palm Drive Health Care District, as well as a trustee of the Gravenstein Union School District for 17 years. I???m also one of the petitioners seeking the dissolution of Palm Drive earlier this year. I write to request that LAFCO include the following conditions when it considers and hopefully approves the dissolution of the Palm Drive District on August 6 (or sooner, if at all possible):

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- 1.????????? Prohibit the illegal District expenditure of Measure W parcel taxes for purposes not approved by the voters. Specifically, I ask LAFCO to prohibit the District from giving \$200,000 (or similar sum) to the brand new ???Gravenstein Health Action Coalition??? (GHAC), as approved by the District board by a 3-2 vote on June 18. (GHAC filed its Articles of Incorporation on June 10, just one week before the District grant approval.)
- 2.????????? If such transfer of funds has already been made to GHAC prior to the August 6 LAFCO meeting, I ask that the County be encouraged to ???claw back??? these funds to be used instead to administer the dissolution and pay off District debt, which currently exceeds \$20 million and is not scheduled to be paid off until 2034.

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I am requesting this action for several reasons:

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- 1.????????? **The clear language of Measure W prohibits using our parcel taxes for the purposes listed in the GHAC proposal.** I attach the following documents:
 ??? My June 17 email to the District board discussing the allowed uses of our parcel taxes;
 ??? The Board resolution authorizing an election for the initial \$60/parcel tax back in 2001;
 ??? The Board resolution authorizing the Measure W election in 2004;
 ??? The text of Measure W and associated ballot arguments;

???????????????? A copy of the GHAC grant ???proposal??? that was approved by the Board on June 18; and

???????????????? A copy of a June 19 article in Sonoma West Times & News discussing the Board vote. In it, District board member Richard Power, a retired attorney, is accurately quoted as follows: **???I have read the Hanson-Bridgett report,??? he said, referring to a report the district ordered on the legality of giving grants for public health purposes, ???and I think it tells us that we cannot fund this proposal.???**

2.???????????? **The District appears to be using GHAC, at least in the short term, as a place to ???park??? \$200,000 of District funds to keep them out of reach of the County when dissolution is approved.** Normally the County would assume all assets, debts and authority of the District upon dissolution.

According to sources on the GHAC ???board??? (which apparently has not yet met and has no officers, bylaws or 501(c)3 designation), Alanna Brogan, the District executive director, was the main force pushing for GHAC???'s creation. The GHAC ??? proposal??? itself was drafted by Brogan???'something usually not done by staff of a granting agency. According to the CA Secretary of State???'s website, GHAC???'s agent for service of process is William Arnone, the District???'s legal counsel, and GHAC???'s address is the District office at 612 Petaluma Ave. in Sebastopol (screenshot attached). In short, GHAC appears to be a creature of the District.

I understand that several members of the fledgling GHAC board have serious reservations about accepting the District grant under these circumstances. I share their concerns and hope they make them public. **And I hope that LAFCO will do what it can to prevent this illegal transfer of funds.**

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Please let me know if you have questions or need additional information. Thank you very much,

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Jim Horn, PE, LEED AP

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