

April 13, 2011

TO: Fellow Lemoore City Council Members
FROM: John Gordon
RE: Allocation of Redevelopment Bond Funds

I cannot rank a list of projects as Mr. Briltz asked us to do. I believe the task requires more subjective input.

My number one priority is funding a waste water treatment facility that meets the City's and Leprino's needs for the next 20-30 years. Leprino brings high paying jobs into our community and we should do everything possible to promote their expansion. Also, the number one complaint I received while campaigning door-to-door was that city services are too expensive. So, I believe we must work to keep the cost of living down in our town.

Second, we should utilize the Cinnamon Municipal Complex to its greatest extent possible since we already own the asset. Creating a central location for city services makes things convenient for our citizens and will hopefully improve inter-department communications. Therefore, we should fund all projects connected with relocating Planning and Recreation to the CMC. In addition, we have a huge demand for soccer fields as you will notice by looking at the City's tennis courts and basketball courts in the evening. Other cities have successfully put together indoor soccer fields and I hope we can do one in the CMC. By the way, the soccer field is currently not listed with the other bond projects.

Third, it is very important to fund the configuration and dispatch center at our Police Station. The State is releasing prisoners early due to their budgetary shortfall and putting strain on police departments. Plus, the continued poor economy leads to more criminal activity. So, we must make sure our police department can perform at its greatest ability.

Another consideration is to use city employees so that prevailing wage is not triggered on construction projects. We already have a licensed contracted on staff who is very experienced. The city of Lindsey used this to their advantage when they built their recreation center.

Two final items: 1. I hope we do something with the lot on the northwest corner of E St. and Lemoore Ave. It would increase city blight if we allow that lot to become a tumbleweed farm. 2. Our city does not have a cooling facility or an enclosed mall for those that are heat sensitive in our town. Assuming we have cooperative leadership from the senior center, we could solve two problems by putting solar system on the senior center. It would eliminate the senior center's electric bill and make them more financially viable. Secondly, making it a cooling center would be convenient for the seniors that are already out there for the lunch program.

Note: Feel free to publish this memo.