

July 25, 2011

TO: Fellow Lemoore City Council Members

FROM: John Gordon

RE: RDA Bond Projects

1. Westside Improvement – I could not support this unless I knew Wal-Mart was coming to Lemoore and that the engineering was done so that we do not cause a traffic problem like 12th Avenue in Hanford.
2. Wastewater Engineering – Yes – As long as it helps the rate payers, the City, and Leprino.
3. Revolving Loan Program – I need to know what businesses we would help that the Economic Development Corporation doesn't already help.
4. 19th Avenue Utility Relocation – Yes – If it moves forward our ability to development our industrial park and increases our tax base.
5. Dispatch Design and Equipment – Yes – Assuming it will reduce the need for impact fees.
6. Video Surveillance – Yes – If it is done only on city property and in no way invades people's privacy.
7. LED Street Lights – Only if I can be shown that it reduces blight and will increase business in our town.
8. Cedar Lane Extension – No – I do not like eminent domain and I believe we need to revisit the closure of Vine Street at Highway 198.
9. Storm Water Drainage in the Industrial Park – Yes – Assuming it helps the development of the park.
10. Road Construction Lot 11 of the Industrial Park – No – We should not be in the Real Estate development business and should leave that to professionals. – More information may sway my opinion.
11. Venture Place Road Construction Lot 14 – No – For the reasons stated in #10.
12. Underground Dockstader Ditch – Yes – It is a safety concern and we need to make Cinnamon Municipal Complex user friendly to potential businesses and to Lemoore's youth so that they have a positive relationship with the City.
13. Security Cameras at CMC – Yes – They will pay for themselves by reducing the amount of shrinkage the City feels due to property loss.
14. ADA Sidewalks – I believe our first priority should be to create a safe railroad crossing at Fox St.
15. Entrance Signage – No – It might be pretty, but it does not bring more business to our town.

16. Brick Stamping – No – For the reasons stated in #15.
17. Railroad Upgrade at Fox St. – Yes – We need a feasible crossing into downtown for the Senior Citizens that will be living at new Senior Housing on the corner of Fox St. and Cinnamon St. None of our railroad crossings are user friendly to wheelchairs or scooters and create a barrier in the middle of our City.
19. Cooling Center at the Senior Citizen Center – Yes – The RDA is meant to also help low to moderate income housing and this helps people maintain a livable residence. Some people cannot afford air conditioning and need a place of refuge. Additionally, electricity is the Senior Citizens Center greatest expense and this plan could keep them solvent for many more years. We could also require that the Center maintain a better budgeting system as part of the City’s investment in them. The bottom line is we do not want the Center to go belly up and become the City’s responsibility.
20. Expand CMC Parking – Yes – Use RDA funds instead impact fees so that we can lower impact fees and we need the larger parking lot to fully utilize the Complex.
21. Move Planning and Recreation to CMC – Yes – We need to centralize staff as much as possible so that they can operate more efficiently and provide a better service to our community. Plus, the reasons stated in #20.
22. Softball Field and Swimming Pool Partnership with West Hills – There is a great demand for these recreation activities in our town and it makes sense to partner up because we both have Bond Funds available to create a mutually beneficial project.

Note: Feel free to publish this memo.