

02/05/12

Disclaimer:

All information in this presentation is public domain, and is either my own creation, freely available on the general web, or freely available on the City of Redlands' website.

City of Redlands' website: www.ci.redlands.ca.us or www.cityofredlands.org

Other sites: Attributed in the documentation

If you were not a direct recipient of this information, feel free to read it and pass it on to others. Please consider supporting me in my bid to replace the current administration of the City (highest management levels) with those who will implement City Council ethics and sustainability guidelines.

My Intentions:

The City of Redlands is currently fiscally unsustainable. Years of neglect of infrastructure has led to damaged/destroyed facilities, utilities and equipment. Our vehicle fleet, computer/network equipment, trees, buildings, roads, water lines, storm drains, traffic lights etc. are all years past routine maintenance and replacement, with no visible end in sight.

Combine structural neglect with a top heavy workforce where a third of the City's employees earning \$100,000+ a year represent over half of the salaries and benefits budget. Yet expensive "managers" (at over \$100,000 each) continue to be hired while less expensive general employees are "reorganized" and deleted. This is a recipe for disaster.

There is a distinct difference between workers who started with a low salary and worked/earned their way to a middle class income over decades of service, versus those who are politically appointed to high salaries and who often are given little or no staff/resources/budget to be successful anyway.

Unfortunately, there also appear to be a few top level bureaucrats whose goal seems to be to acquire as much money and benefits as possible before the City crashes around them, at which point they can escape with golden parachutes, at least one to the tune of a third of a million dollars.

It's time for STRUCTURAL change. My intentions are:

1. To present the reality of our City's structural unsustainability to the City Council in open session in the March 2012 - April 2012 time frame.
2. Actively seek three of five votes at that meeting to release the current City Manager and immediately appoint me as his replacement.

If I am successful I intend to:

1. Retain my current salary and comparable benefits as they are, which will structurally return a third of a million dollars to the taxpayer.
2. Immediately remove one director for recurring unethical behavior and delete the position. After a few additional changes to that department, this will be a total structural savings of over a quarter of a million dollars.
3. Remove a second director for lack of need, and hire at least five workers for that department using those savings.
4. Consolidate three additional director positions into one "Public Works Director" position, at a

structural savings of a third of a million dollars.

5. Delete third party, non-contracted attorneys who have been delegated duties which are supposed to be handled by the City Manager and City HR department, at a structural savings of at least a third of a million dollars.

6. Put a "new hire" freeze on positions above \$100,000 (note, this does NOT effect entry level Police/Fire as their starting positions are not this expensive).

7. Whenever possible, direct the delegation of duties and authority (not just duties WITHOUT authority) to the LOWEST levels necessary to facilitate City operation.

8. Allow line level supervisors to purchase inexpensive basic (routine) parts/consumables without wasting taxpayer money on layers of red tape and delay.

9. HIRE at least 20 apprentice level positions at \$10-\$15 an hour for maintenance/administration (structural SUSTAINABILITY) in various City departments.

All of this will INCREASE the number of humans performing actual WORK, DECREASE the number of bureaucrats attending meetings and producing nothing, while still structurally saving the taxpayer over half a million dollars.

Bottom line: City Government exists for the sole purpose of SERVING THE PUBLIC. Those processes/programs/personnel which DO NOT serve the public need to be curtailed or deleted, while those processes/programs/personnel which are self sustaining and/or are critical to public need (e.g. Police, Fire, Water, Solid Waste) need to be supported and sustained.

What you can do to support returning ethics and sustainability to the City of Redlands:

1. Contact your City Council members and tell them you support the published Redlands City Values, but do not support top level bureaucrats who line their pockets with hundreds of thousands of dollars in taxpayer money while neglecting their duties.

2. Attend the City Council presentation I intend to present in the March 2012 - April 2012 time frame.

3. Be prepared for the first scheduled presentation date to be cancelled/postponed by City administrators trying to undermine your voice. Be flexible as the City administration cannot postpone City Council meetings indefinitely.

4. At the Council meeting, consider signing a public speaker slip and donating your time to me so the City administration cannot hide behind a time technicality to avoid answering for its historical behavior.

5. Write your local papers and ask them to publish information pertaining to unsustainable City governance.

6. Subscribe to the philosophy of "See something, Say something."

Thank you in advance for your support. Our City deserves better governance and I intend to provide it.

Bob Platt
redlandsservice2012@gmail.com