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FOLCIK, JULIE

From: francis concannon [ftcjr@cox.net]
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2005 1:17 PM
To: op2council
Subject: Day Labor Center

My Hispanic immigrant wife and I support the closure of the Day Labor Center. This tax payer funded center should have been closed years ago. The majority of workers using the center are illegal immigrants. I know from first hand experience. I have tried to use the center a number of times over the years. Only one time was I able to find a worker that had legitimate documentation to be able to work in the U.S. Since the center does not verify whether workers can work legally in the U.S., the "employer" must do so.

Please encourage the PD to cite workers who continue to gather on street corners in Costa Mesa. Our quality of life suffers when hordes of men (regardless of their country of origin) gather on street corners looking for work. If they were here legally, they would use the numerous temp agencies in the city to find work

Close the center!

Francis Concannon Jr.

3/28/2005

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FOLCIK, JULIE

Subject: FW: Costa Mesa Job Center...

-----Original Message-----

From: Moceanbl@aol.com [mailto:Moceanbl@aol.com]**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2005 4:14 PM**To:** CMCouncil@ci.costamesa.ca.us**Subject:** Costa Mesa Job Center...

I heard some disturbing news today regarding the Costa Mesa Job Center. I understand that the City Council has voted to close it. That decision is a big mistake. Since most of the non-Latino people in Costa Mesa think that working for minimum wage is not good enough for them then the only other work force that small to moderate sized Companies can rely on is this work force. As a local small business manufacturer in the area I sometime depend on this form of legal labor. All this is, is one more stake to the heart to drive manufacturing out of the State of California. Since most of us more affluent people have made (on paper at least) large gains in real estate holdings why don't you just raise real estate taxes. It's time the rich gave some back. 1/4 of a percent increase wouldn't hurt anyone. It would certainly give you and the State much needed funds and stop closing local projects such as the Job Center. We don't need these men now roaming the streets, without a doubt getting into trouble. You'll probably end up having to hire additional law enforcement personnel or pay overtime in order to Police this new situation your going to create. Get the State to raise real estate taxes, fund these projects, stimulate the economy and prevent crime.

Bill LevittCrosSport Mocean
949/646-1701

3/28/2005

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FOLCIK, JULIE

From: Don Elmore [donelmore@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2005 11:10 AM
To: op2council
Subject: Closing of the Job Center

I applaud the City Council for their vote to close the Job Center. It was long over due. At this point I cannot understand Council member Foley's desire to appeal the decision to close the Center.

I understand there was a meeting at the Senior Center concerning the closing of the Job Center. Why wasn't this publicized so that all interested parties could attend? I personally believe the decision to close was a good one.

I am asking the Council to over ride any appeal and let the decision stand.

Thanks you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

**Don Elmore
(949) 646 8769**

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FOLCIK, JULIE

From: Lynne [visualynne@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 20, 2005 12:21 PM
To: CMCouncil
Subject: Costa Mesa Job Center

Dear Members of the Council:

It is with regret I learned that the council members have made a decision to close the Costa Mesa Job Center. I believe that this is a major incorrect decision by the council.

Costa Mesa council seems to be more interested in spending city funds on such un-necessary items as "gas lamp" street light fixtures on 19th street. These fixtures are totally inappropriate in architectural style to Costa Mesa. Maybe if the funds had been directed to keeping the Job Center open and productive our city would now not be facing putting these workers out on the streets, parks, etc. to look for work.

I urge you to reconsider this very poor decision on your part.

Lynne Brem
Costa Mesa resident

3/28/2005

FOLCIK, JULIE

From: charliegrove1@juno.com
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2005 2:01 PM
To: dailypilot@latimes.com
Cc: CMCouncil
Subject: Costa Mesa Westside Improvement Plan (Revised for typo errors)

Three cheers for the City Council for finally moving ahead and doing something about the Westside. The Westside improvement plan elegantly presented by Eric Bever and voted on by the City Council is long overdo. City Council could have waffled for another three decades with no progress forward. This plan will never make everyone happy, however with cooperation and willingness to make sacrifices for the purpose of improving our westside community all residents of Costa Mesa will benefit. We sold our westside rental property because we were not seeing area improvements. We owned this property for 15 years. We would labor to make our property nice for quality renters only to see blight in properties near us. We thank code enforcement for their hard work in maintaining code standards and fighting the blight while the City Council did nothing during that time but talk without action.

It takes courage to step forward and do what has been needed for many years and not be just selfishly concerned about political fallout. We all agree that something needs to be done to revitalize this wonderful town by the sea. This City Council action is a great leap forward. Thank you City Council for your brave action.

Martha and Charles Grove
Costa Mesa residents for 32 years

We can be reached at 949 646-8420
2140 Aster Pl.
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

FOLCIK, JULIE

From: Maureen Sullivan [sullivanmaureen@usa.net]
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2005 9:57 AM
To: CMCouncil
Subject: Job Center

I think Steve Smith is right on with his article "Daily Pilot March 16" regarding the Job Center. I have lived in Costa Mesa over 10 years. I have had the opportunity to drive down Placentia in the AM hours. Even though we are one of the few cities in this area who has a job center, I can say that it has eliminated a lot of the problems that Garden Grove and Santa ana see with the workers hanging out at every corner. Lets face it when Home Depot went in the workers were the big concern. The job center no matter what the cost to the city has eliminated the "Bad Image" that these workers can portray to tourist going down Harbor Blvd. I would take more away from the westside improvement plan just to pay for the job center. It has also saved lives with people not running across Placentia after potential jobs.

I truely think your going to have a bigger problem in our city now.

Maureen and Bob Sullivan
Mesa Verde

Maureen

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FOLCIK, JULIE

From: swimcabinets@netzero.net
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2005 2:07 PM
To: CMCouncil
Subject: Support

To Whom It May Concern:

Please use this e-mail as a confirmation of my support for continuing to keep the Costa Mesa Job Center open.

Sincerely,

Stephen Wimsatt

Swim Manufacturing

775 W. 17th St., Unit Q

Costa Mesa, CA 92628

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FOLCIK, JULIE

From: flanabear@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2005 10:17 AM

To: CMCouncil

To Whom it may concern:

This is in regards to the COSTA MESA JOB CENTER. I think that closing the center will cause problems for the people who are there everyday trying to seek employment. They will be on the streets and in the parks etc. These people have a better opportunity to get employed being at that location.

This job center can stay open and possibly discuss a contribution for the cost of the JOB CENTER to stay open. I think these people are trying to make a difference.

I hope that this letter will help support the people who need this JOB CENTER.

Thank you,

J. Flanagan

3/28/2005

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FOLCIK, JULIE

From: Ann Stawicki [annstawicki@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2005 8:55 AM
To: CMCouncil
Subject: Costa Mesa Job Center

Dear Councilmember Beaver, Councilmember Dixon, Councilmember Foley, Mayor Mansoor and Mayor Pro-tem Monahan:

As a resident in Costa Mesa for the past eleven years, I have been impressed with the humane way our city treats people of various socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds. I am proud that we offer resources to some of those who are less fortunate. And I believe that the respectful way in which we offer services preserves the dignity of those being served. Our city's commitment to all people, and not just those with the greatest financial means, is one of the reasons I am raising my family in Costa Mesa.

I am writing to urge you to reconsider closing the Costa Mesa Job Center on June 30, 2005. While I applaud the ongoing efforts to revitalize the area surrounding the job center, I believe that the job center is one of the ongoing solutions and that closing the center will force the people using the job centers onto the street. Please reconsider this position to keep the center open.

Regards,

Ann Stawicki
2333 Notre Dame Road
Costa Mesa, California 92626
(714) 540-6373
annstawicki@sbcglobal.net

3/28/2005

FOLCIK, JULIE

From: Melissa Lippand [Melissa.Lippand@kmc-usa.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2005 10:56 AM
To: op2council
Subject: Job Center

The Job Center is important to give day workers in our community a place to look for work. I believe that closing the center will lead to day workers gathering on street corners, at the Home Depot shopping center on Harbor, parks, etc. The result will be a larger impact on the community and spread out over a larger area.

There are other ways to address the budgetary and other concerns regarding the current Job Center. Surely, the council can figure out a compromise. I believe that the council should explore the possibility of a private, or nonprofit entity taking it over.

The Job Center has been a target for some of our council members for quite some time. These members need to be open to compromise and work out a plan that is best for our community. Low income citizens - including the day workers - are a part of the Costa Mesa community. The majority of these people are hard working people trying to make a better life for their families. Closing the center will not make them leave Costa Mesa. It is best for everybody to keep the Job Center open to maintain some type of control and influence on people looking for temporary jobs of this type.

Melissa Lippand
354 Bucknell Rd.
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
Cell 714/342-1996

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FOLCIK, JULIE

From: P C [abcpc1@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2005 8:18 AM
To: op2council
Subject: Home Depot

Saw the story about you ELIMINATING that job center on KTLA...."Due to lack of use". Yeah, I can see by the OVERFLOW crowd outside how THAT makes sense! R-A-C-I-S-T'-S!!

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FOLCIK, JULIE

From: Gary Alexander [galexander@GeminiCapital.biz]
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2005 8:06 AM
To: CMCouncil
Subject: Privatization Proposal

To whom it may concert,
My name is Gary Alexander, I am a founder and a director of a major national staffing company with headquarters in California. It came to my attention that City of Costa Mesa is contemplating a closure of a job source center, assisting construction trade. I was wondering if the City would consider privatizing this operation, thus eliminating cost to the city while keeping a valuable service for it's community. If so, please contact me at the number below.

Regards,

Gary Alexander, Managing Partner
Gemini Capital Partners
17328 Ventura Blvd.
Suite 202
Encino, Ca 91316
818-788-3109 tel.
818-474-8560 fax
galexander@GeminiCapital.biz

3/28/2005

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FOLCIK, JULIE

From: janice gammill [janicegammill@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2005 5:56 AM
To: op2council
Subject: Day labor sight

Thank you very much for shutting down the labor sight! It is so refreshing to actually see the city standing up for the law.
The city has been aiding and abetting illegal aliens who break our laws just by being here!
Janice Gammill
Costa Mesa , Ca

3/28/2005

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FOLCIK, JULIE

From: BullheadAz@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2005 1:16 PM
To: op2council
Subject: From Jerry Vanus Job Center

Dear Council Members:

I normally would applaud Council Member Foley for being a loose cannon on the Council but not this time! The issue of the Job Center is a very hot and a serious issue here on the Westside. Maybe outsiders might not appreciate the scope of our issue regarding the Job Center. We need to **fix** the Westside... We can always get another Job Center at any time and locate it anywhere. Getting the Westside fixed is and should be our first priority. Lets get the Westside fixed first Council Member Foley.

Council Member Foley should be finding other ways to compensate the 35+ workers, if she must, instead of attempting to stop the progress on the Westside which might effect thousands of people. Maybe we can compensate the 35+ for a short time out of the \$100,000+ and send them to other job centers?

I have been a resident of Costa Mesa for over 25 years. These issues are so frustrating for many of us who live on the Westside. The same issues seem to go on and on. Two many years have gone by for the Westside and the promise to be fixed. Its time to get it fixed....

Regards,
 Jerry Vanus
 Westside Costa Mesa
 (949)642-5417

FYI

This might be good time for the Lincoln quote?...You can fool some of the people some of the time but not all the people all of the time .. This is part of an article from the OC Blog.....

Part of the article reads: **..." Now, what gets me (the writer said) here -- and why I'm seeking your (readers) input is this: I bet you John isn't paying taxes, workers comp, social secutiry, payroll taxes, insurance and appropriate fees for employing these people. I bet they're working for cash, under the table. Many OC residents have hired similar day laborers because it's cheap and it's easy. But you know what?**

See full article and web site below >>>>

Article and web sit as follows:

http://ocblog.typepad.com/ocblog/2005/03/good_morning_fa.html

OC Blog ..Penetrating insights into the machinations behind th eOrange Curtain. Or at least, we like to think they are.

« [OC Blog News Roundup -- March 17, 2005](#) | [Main](#) | [OC Blog News Roundup -- March 18, 2005](#) »

March 17, 2005

Good morning fair readers, while I realize it has been some time since my last posting, I know you have found

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comfort in my blogues postings. Rest assured, today we are back after tending the farm for a while, and have found some fascinating questions to pose to readers regarding a subject covered in today's local papers.

The city of Costa Mesa recently voted to close a city-funded and staffed job center in the neighborhood (that is actually on the "mesa" in west Costa Mesa). "Immigrants rights" advocates, city employees and even employers are criticizing the move. Following are two links to the stories from each of our local papers, as well as some questions and thoughts that arise from each story:

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/orange/la-me-daylabor17mar17,1,2560773.story?coll=la-editions-orange&ctrack=1&cset=true>

http://www.ocregister.com/ocr/2005/03/17/sections/local/local/article_446321.php

- Of note, the Times begins its coverage by describing the center as "believed to be the first of its kind in the nation." Hyperbole aside, I question the need for the government to be involved in this type of transaction ie: finding work, at all. Should governments be subsidizing this type of activity?
- Graphs 4-5 address the rules of the center and its goals "the center's primary purpose has been to get day laborers off the streets and out of the parks on the city's Westside." Wow, interesting. I thought the center's primary purpose was to help people find work - not as an alternative to enforcing loitering laws. Of even greater interest is the casual mention of the following, "each day an average of 104 job seekers, most of them immigrants [status not reported], gather at the center.... They register with a valid form of identification." Who decides what type of identification is necessary? Who ensures its authenticity? Does a foreign consulate ID card work? What about an ID card from another state? Further, I have to wonder why if the real problem is loitering and hanging-out in parks, that the city didn't address that rather than subsidizing what amounts to cash labor, free from taxes.
- A curious complexity arises further down: "John Price, who owns a Newport Beach construction company, has hired many part-time and three permanent workers from the center in the last year. Price said the closure would leave him short-handed and may force him to turn down some jobs. I'm disgusted. The people who're here really want to work..." Now, what gets me here -- and why I'm seeking your input is this: I bet you John isn't paying taxes, workers comp, social security, payroll taxes, insurance and appropriate fees for employing these people. I bet they're working for cash, under the table. Many OC residents have hired similar day laborers because it's cheap and it's easy. But you know what? It's also wrong when done on a full-time basis. In this case, it appears Costa Mesa is subsidizing work that is likely done for cash and encouraging contractors to engage in illegal behavior. Do we really believe that if Mr. Price ran classified newspaper ad, and conducted some job interviews at his job site, then told his top candidates "be here tomorrow for work" that they couldn't get there without a stop at the job center first? I'm interested to see your thoughts on this issue. Also, while I can relate to the feeling of being out of work -- who can't? -- it is amusing the way the "immigration" issue is totally overlooked in this coverage. Not one line of the story addresses the actual immigration status of any person quoted, or of any worker. Omission speaks volumes. Interesting how ignoring certain parts of the law to cover a "human interest" story seems ok to many...your thoughts?
- While the LA Times story was in-depth and explored the story from the "impact" point of view, the Register on the other hand, ran about as poor a story as I've ever seen - particularly when viewed in contrast to the Times' coverage.
- The Register ran a brief story with one very interesting quote: "He speculated that the laborers will not use private agencies to find work, as city officials hope, because those firms take an unfair cut of the workers' hourly wage, he said. Instead, they'll look for work outside Home Depots and 7-Elevens, he said." He is Delphino Rojas, 60, a frequent user of the center for 10 years, the paper noted. The government takes an "unfair cut" of my check in the form of taxes, but that is also the law. Now, I find it interesting that again, the city government is willing to subsidize this center to make it "easier" to find jobs! Can't workers use the newspaper? Can't they visit job sites and ask contractors for work? Bottom line: it's a cash cow for workers and they don't want it to change. It's also a huge savings for contractors who are experiencing a huge boom right now. Just as the Times and Register omit coverage of the immigration status of workers, so too do they omit any mention of these workers tax status, or work for pay that is not cash or taxed. I would be interested to hear from readers out there.
- Do day laborers get paid in cash primarily? If so, is this legal? If not, what are the tax implications?
- I would also like to hear from contractors out there. Is it really easier to hire day laborers vs. running an ad and interviewing people? Also, what are the potential costs if a cash laborer is injured on the job and must seek medical attention? I'd be interested to learn if contractors must carry insurance and workers

comp coverage for these laborers, or if they are covered at public health centers or public hospitals in case of catastrophic on-the-job injuries?