

CENTRAL VALLEY COMMUNITY SPORTS FOUNDATION

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JUNE 24,2021

CENTRAL VALLEY COMMUNITY SPORTS FOUNDATION TO DISTRICT ATTORNEY

“STOP MAKING BASELESS ALLEGATIONS”

FRESNO, CA – Today, after months of negotiations, the Fresno City Council was scheduled to consider a revision to the Service Agreement with Central Valley Community Sports Foundation (CVCSF) to provide for the continued operations, improvement of facilities and the expansion of recreational opportunities at the Granite Park Sports Complex.

Unfortunately yesterday, in a purely political move, Fresno County District Attorney Lisa Smittcamp, jammed the spokes of the consideration of this agreement with an out-of-the-blue announcement - and without one shred of evidence - that she was investigating “potential” Brown Act (illegal meeting) violations and that she “requests that any vote regarding Granite Park be postponed until our investigation is complete.”

Ms. Smittcamp’s request for the City of Fresno to postpone any vote until “our investigation is complete” is rich. We hope this won’t be like her other investigations that never reach a conclusion; for example her scrutiny of the City of Fresno’s flawed audit of CVCSF: Fresno Bee, 2/13/2019, *Is Granite Park Still Cursed? Fresno DA Reviewing Audit Tied to Congressman, Developer.* Notably, after publicly stating that she was investigating the principals of CVCSF (Terance Frazier and former Congressman TJ Cox) she has declined to release the results of her investigation. The reasons for her silence should be clear – because she would have to state there was no offense or misconduct. As the City Attorney for Fresno has previously affirmed, “Granite Park is in substantial compliance with their agreements.”

Recently and notably, Ms. Smittcamp didn’t raise a question – or ask that the recent sale of University Medical Center be postponed - when a Fresno County Supervisor’s chief of staff was arrested following a conflict of interest regarding that sale. But today, she wants to marshal the full forces of the District Attorney’s Office to interfere in a service agreement negotiation between our organization and the City.

As the County’s top prosecutor, it is past time for Ms. Smittcamp to stop using her elected position to pursue baseless “allegations” that defame the officials and community members who are actively working to improve our City.

Today, Granite Park hosts over 500,000 visitors annually with first-class baseball, softball and soccer facilities. We look forward to an amended agreement with the City that will allow us to continue to do what we do best - promoting, marketing and operating sports and special events, while the City assumes responsibility for the physical operation of the facility.

Central Valley Community Sports Foundation