

From: [REDACTED]
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Mary Gourley](#); [Mary Gourley](#)
Subject: Public Comment for 11/5/2024 agenda item 10
Date: Monday, November 4, 2024 1:43:54 PM

Hello Council Members,

I am reaching out regarding item 10 on your agenda for Tuesday, November 5th, specifically with regards to the selection of Mayor and Vice Mayor. Given it's election day this policy and subject seems quite timely. I was concerned to read in the Sebastopol Times that you are re-considering the policy you enacted which would automatically "promote" the vice mayor to the position of mayor in the following year and that the vice mayor would be determined by who received the highest number of votes in the prior election. This is a logical and objective policy that respects the wishes of the voters and should be upheld. Council Member Maurer and Mayor Rich have asked that this policy be reconsidered because Council Member Maurer, having received the third highest number of votes and being half way through her term, would not have an opportunity to be mayor during her term. They suggested an objective randomizer approach to selecting the vice mayor. Any process that circumvents the will of the voters is undemocratic and should not be considered. I'm sorry that Council Member Maurer came in third in the election but that was the will of the people. Please retain your original policy and respect the voters.

Thank you,
Melissa Hanley

melissa hanley

CO FOUNDER AND ARCHITECT
AIA / IIDA / ASID / LEED AP

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