

Mayor's ties to Bisno questioned

About three weeks ago, I attended a City Council meeting in Lomita where the agenda included Ponte Vista, an enormous project proposed for San Pedro near Western Avenue and Palos Verdes Drive North. In spite of the tremendous impact such a project will have on Lomita residents, we were not included in the neighborhood council making recommendations to Los Angeles Councilwoman Janice Hahn.

Our Lomita mayor, Mark Waronek, commented that the developer of this project, Bob Bisno of Orange County, is his client, and therefore he stepped out of the room during the City Council discussion. At that meeting, I had asked why our mayor should not step down completely. If, indeed, he is lobbying for Bisno, his inherent influence, even if he is not joining discussions at City Council meetings, has a far-reaching impact on the community. Many of us feel that the addition of 2,300 units in an area zoned for approximately 230 (the number of Navy houses to be replaced) will destroy the beauty of the area — and will increase tremendously the noise and traffic in an already gridlocked area of the city.

To date, Waronek has not seen fit to respond. I have these questions:

What are his job duties for Bisno?

How is his performance measured?

What percentage of his income does Bisno represent?

Is Bisno his only client?

If not, is Bisno his primary client? >

The project is being met with great opposition, and yet Lomita doesn't even have the option of providing input to the city of Los Angeles as it evaluates the benefits versus the objections. Is this because of you, Mr. Mayor?

— ANNETTE MORRIS
Lomita