

CARDENAS, GERALYN F.

From: Bizia Greene <biziagreene@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 6, 2020 4:29 PM
To: Mayors Office; VILLARREAL, RENEE D.; LINDELL, SIGNE I.; GARCIA, MICHAEL J.; ROMERO-WIRTH, CAROL; RIVERA, CHRISTOPHER M.; ABEYTA, ROMAN R.; CASSUTT-SANCHEZ, JAMIE A.; COPPLER, JOANNE V.; Public Comment
Subject: Re: City Council Mtng April 8 / Item 11

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Dear Mayor Webber and City Councilors,

I wanted to write in to commend you on your efforts to support our citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic. Your efforts to communicate through daily live briefings and social media posts etc have kept my family up to date and offered transparency. I have felt that city and state government have been on the right side of history and science while sharing a unified message creating confidence and trust in managing this unprecedented event.

In that spirit, I am kindly requesting that the City Council delay this Wednesday's agenda topic of 5G installation until a future date when all families can participate in that dialogue. At a time when parents/carers are overly stressed and vulnerable it would be inappropriate to make decisions about our public schools/spaces and the citizens who inhabit them without them physically present at the meeting. While I understand your mission, I, personally, am uncomfortable with the timing of this vote landing now when there is no traditional chamber for public comment. With an already eroding trust in government at the national level on how this health crisis has been managed, I would hate to feel that sense of distrust locally when we need you most.

It is no secret that 5G presents some controversies worth examining and local citizens have a right to vet your process and ask questions. As Councilman Chris Rivera expressed at a city council meeting on wireless telecommunications expansion in 2018 "Thirty years from now, we may be looking at this the way we do look at cigarettes" (5/19/2018 The Santa Fe New Mexican). I do not want to swap one public health emergency for a future one and certainly not hastily over the confines of the internet.

As expressed by you, Mr Mayor, at the same meeting: "I think it's completely legitimate to be very vigilant and to recognize not all technology is progress." An issue of such magnitude deserves vigilance and a voice in the room.

It behooves you to wait for an in-person traditional public forum. Our children, the future of this remarkable city, must know that we the citizens and the government are on the right side of history when making decisions that directly impact their health and well-being.

Sincerely,

Bizia C. H. Greene
Etiquette Consultant
Columnist, The Santa Fe New Mexican

Etiquette School of Santa Fe

hello@etiquettesantafe.com
<http://etiquettesantafe.com/>
Post Office Box 1043
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504
505.988.2070

It's not just about the fork.