

To Everyone Involved in the Pension Fight

Congratulations to everyone on the tremendous victory we had with Judge Barton's ruling on Friday!

While this victory is sweet there is something important still to do that can help stop the mad man who keeps filing these costly lawsuits.

Our friends on Council have mentioned that it could really help them in reining in the mad man if the newspaper starts getting hundreds of letters calling on the Mayor and the council to put an end to this horrible waste of tax dollars by not allowing the City Attorney to file any more lawsuits aimed at our pension benefits. Mention that the Mayor and Council and the employees have made great strides in addressing this issue and that the City's own actuary (hired by Aguirre) says the CERS system is sound and that there is no risk of the system or the City not being able to meet its pension obligations. Highlight that this was accomplished in spite of Mike Aguirre's expensive litigation and constant inference. That it happened because City Employees paid more and the City Council insisted on making its full payments to the retirement system in spite of budget shortfalls. Suggest that the Mayor should instruct Aguirre to stop wasting tax payer dollars on litigation the City cannot win - and instead should work with the council. The Mayor and employees need to continue to address the problem in a cooperative way. I know for many of you this task will turn your stomach - but the council members who I spoke with feel we have an opportunity to get a different dialogue started in the press - to move away from pointing the finger at the greedy employees and their unions - to ask citizens to write in suggesting that the mayor get Mike Aguirre off the expensive litigation track and on the road to real solutions to the City's many problems.

Many of you have been great about writing letters and pointing out what a horrible attorney Mike Aguirre is - and now I am asking you to take a different approach and see what we can accomplish- get some of the people you know who have not written in before to write letters to the editor and to the Mayor and Council along with you - - it can't hurt!

This is the first constructive conversation with council on this issue that we have had in a long time - and I think it will go along way towards building back our relationship with our City decision makers.

Thanks, in advance, for your help on this project - together we can win this battle!

Please write that letter today - before Aguirre talks the Mayor into letting him file a new lawsuit.

In Unity,
Judie Italiano