

**From:** [Traci Horowitz](#)  
**To:** [Suja Lowenthal](#); [City Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Eduardo Sarmiento](#)  
**Subject:** public comment/letter for the Oct. 13th city council meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 1:34:00 PM

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Dear City Council, City Manager,

I am not a lawyer. I am not well versed in court decisions, appeals and legal proceedings. I am a common sense, intelligent, compassionate, community focused, 23-year resident and homeowner in Hermosa Beach. Those are also some of the qualities I feel are important in a city council member and Stacey Armato embodies these attributes perfectly. What I want in a city representative is someone who can be empathetic and kind and yet still make thoughtful and tough decisions for the betterment of the residents, businesses and our city. I believe that is what Stacey did in the case of the CrossFit gym. I disagree with the ruling the court made. I sat through the CrossFit gym meetings and would have made the same decision city council made. I believe it is entirely possible to listen to and help a resident navigate who to talk to and how to move forward and still be unbiased in an important decision. I truly hope the city continues to defend Stacey in this legal matter/lawsuit as I would hope they would do for any other city council member. As Debbie Sanowski pointed out in her well written letter: Why would anyone want to volunteer for this position without the security of knowing the city will support them when it's entirely appropriate to do so?

I think objectivity needs to be the main course of action. I also believe you can be objective and empathetic at the same time. I hope the court reverses its ruling. I hope the city continues to defend Stacey. I hope that our representatives act in the best interest of the residents, putting our needs ahead of any personal self-interest. I think it's also acceptable to disagree and have a healthy and productive discussion. In that vein, Hany, it feels to me that your letter was somewhat personally motivated and lacks some of the same objectivity you accuse your fellow councilmember of displaying. I don't think it's too late to reconsider some of the actions you are taking and proposing. I hope not. Let's let objectivity and compassion together, always rule the day.

Sincerely,

Traci Horowitz