

From: [City of Estacada](#)
To: [Sadie Main](#)
Subject: New submission from Public Comment
Date: Thursday, January 23, 2025 2:27:36 PM

Name

Rosemari Simmons

Address

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Estacada, OR 97023-8582
United States
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Phone

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Email

████████████████████

Select Which Board the Comment is for

- City Council

Your comment becomes public record when submitted.

Rosemari Simmons am asking that Vincent Bellomo be appointed to the vacant spot on Estacada's City Council. Thank you for considering this.

Sadie Main

From: City of Estacada <cityofestacada@sendmail.websiteformemail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2025 12:35 PM
To: Sadie Main
Subject: New submission from Public Comment

Name

Richard Van Buren

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Select Which Board the Comment is for

- City Council

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I advocate Vicent Bellomo as the new city councilman. I support him 100% and hope Vicent Bellomo can serve Estacada.

Thank you,
Richard P. Van Buren

From: [City of Estacada](#)
To: [Sadie Main](#)
Subject: New submission from Public Comment
Date: Friday, January 31, 2025 5:04:21 PM

Name

Eran Smith

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Select Which Board the Comment is for

- City Council

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Mayor Drinkwine and Members of City Council, while I reside just outside of city limits, I have been actively engaged in the community and have participated on a city committee. I am writing to you to let you know that it is becoming very apparent that the City Council has become a partisan entity. Alliances are obvious, and politically motivated. Calls for filling vacancies are becoming hollow requests as people with aligned political values are sought out and all but anointed without a real, open process that values the voice of the community. On multiple occasions, I have heard council members charge into political topics falsely claiming that "it's what the community is asking for". We see right through that language. When council members come prepared with information for an 'off-agenda' topic, it is extremely suspicious. Your council is eroding community trust. In politically divided times, I urge you to return to a place of neutrality, where you are encouraging more engagement, not finding ways to close off voices of those who you have been elected to serve. Please do not allow the loudest voices to become the only voices. Estacada deserves better.

From: [City of Estacada](#)
To: [Sadie Mairi](#)
Subject: New submission from Public Comment
Date: Saturday, February 1, 2025 2:57:35 PM

Name

Jenny Strickland

Address

Cazadero Heights
Estacada, Oregon 97023
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Phone

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Select Which Board the Comment is for

- City Council

Your comment becomes public record when submitted.

Mayor Drinkwine and City Council,

I understand that, due to tragic circumstances, there is a vacancy on the City Council. I also understand that the process put in place to fill such vacancies is appointing somebody from a pool of applicants. I write to remind you of your responsibility to represent the citizens of Estacada. In November, Estacada voters made their selections clear. If Michael Crossett is unable to fill his seat, the only choice to maintain the integrity of our elections is to appoint the person that came behind him in total number of votes. When you are in a position of power, you can make decisions based on what you CAN do, or you can make decisions on what you SHOULD do. Yes, you CAN technically appoint any of the applicants to this open position, but you SHOULD respect the will of the very people that voted you into your position of power through the election process. 905 of our citizens voted for Vincent Bellomo. Between the currently filled seats on this Council and the Mayor, you are only 7 voices. Do you really think that it's your place to tell those 905 voters that you know better than they do?

It is imperative that you do the right thing by appointing the person who actually ran for the position and who received the backing of 905 Estacada citizens, instead of somebody who has never received a single vote. Short of running a special election now, there is no other choice that honors the will of your constituents than appointing Vincent Bellomo. There is another election in two years. If the other applicants are dedicated to serving Estacada, I look forward to seeing them earn their seats through the ballot in 2026.

Thank you,
Jenny Strickland

From: [City of Estacada](#)
To: [Sadie Main](#)
Subject: New submission from Public Comment
Date: Saturday, February 1, 2025 7:23:16 PM

Name

Danielle Bellomo

Address

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Email

[REDACTED]

Select Which Board the Comment is for

- City Council

Your comment becomes public record when submitted.

Mayor Drinkwine and City Council,

I am writing in support of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (Better Together), as well as commentary concerning recent council behavior. If any attempt to dismantle the DEIC is to come to fruition, this council is clearly and boldly claiming that they do not value their constituents' voices, they do not value the diverse spectrum of people they represent.

As the city of Estacada looks to grow its tourism, turning away from inclusion will push away visitors and new businesses. Some of our own neighbors and community members do not feel safe in this town, let alone someone who is just passing through. Estacada has a certain reputation throughout Clackamas County, and the greater Metro area, and it is not one of hospitable prowess. Estacada city government has the power to form a new reputation, one of warmth and safety for all those who visit or call Estacada home.

In order to embrace its growing population, Estacada needs to leave behind its isolationist perspective. Time and time again council members have made claims about not wanting to be like other cities or turning down ideas because some other city did it first. We cannot be so prideful as to look down on our neighbors.

Comments about how our newer community members are less valuable is unacceptable. At the first council meeting of 2025, this type of phrasing was used multiple times, by not only council members, but by our mayor as well. Turning down the voices of people who want to be active members in their community just because they haven't lived here as long as others comes from a place of arrogance and exclusion. Anyone who calls Estacada home, deserves to have their voice heard. Welcoming new voices does not shrink your own, it simply adds to the conversation.

Estacada city council members continue to operate by enacting fear and intimidation to shut out diverse voices. How can we as constituents feel comfortable participating when this is the hostile environment we are met with? There is no will of the people, it is only the personal agendas and preferences of a few.

The use of an equitable lense in all city matters, should be the very least the city government is doing to act on the needs of its constituents.

Council has continued to push the DEIC to the side, not giving clear guidance, then blaming DEIC for its shortcomings. There is clearly work to be done, and the council needs to finally give the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee the respect and support it deserves.

Assigning the DEIC to seek out more local nonprofits to provide mutual aid for Estacadians is something I would like to see as a goal for this new year. Financial hardship is something we can all relate to and continues to grow for us all. Working to ease that burden should be a council priority and I believe the DEIC can help create those relationships and are best equipped to seek out those most in need in our community.

Danielle Bellomo

From: [City of Estacada](#)
To: [Sadie Main](#)
Subject: New submission from Public Comment
Date: Saturday, February 1, 2025 9:44:04 PM

Name

Chrystal Hohn

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Select Which Board the Comment is for

- City Council

Your comment becomes public record when submitted.

Dear City Council and Mayor Drinkwine,
Please respect November's election results by appointing the candidate with the highest number of votes after Michael Crossett instead of an applicant that wasn't on the ballot. A decision to do this would align with the constituents, which should be a priority for this body.
Thank you
Chrystal Hohn

From: [City of Estacada](#)
To: [Sadie Main](#)
Subject: New submission from Public Comment
Date: Saturday, February 1, 2025 10:02:14 PM

Name

Tabitha Basye

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Select Which Board the Comment is for

- City Council
- Planning Commission

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Keep the DEIC and codify it into the charter.

Adult white males are a minority in Estacada. Based on 2020 census data, approximately 1,110 able-bodied, straight, white adult males live here. In contrast, 2,157 adults fall into diverse demographic categories, not including 1,089 children. This means able-bodied, straight, white males barely outnumber children and are vastly outnumbered by the rest of the community.

If those numbers were overwhelming, here's the simple truth: for every one able-bodied, straight, white male, there are two other Estacada residents who do not fit that category. The perceived majority is, in reality, the minority.

Arguments against the DEIC on January 27, 2025, were uninformed and specious. The DEIC does not control hiring, nor does it discriminate against those who identify as able-bodied, straight, white, and male. What it does do is give me a voice—a voice representing 2,157 of your constituents. Its role is to advise the Council to ensure that those residents are included in events and policy decisions.

Excluding us from the conversation would be a travesty not just to democracy, but to the very values Estacada claims to uphold.

The City Council is elected to represent the entire community, not to silence us. If the concern is that DEIC wouldn't be inclusive to you, let me assure you it is. That's the point. Estacada is a diverse community, and the sooner this is accepted, the sooner we can move on to the real work of governing.

From: [City of Estacada](#)
To: [Sadie Main](#)
Subject: New submission from Public Comment
Date: Sunday, February 2, 2025 4:16:04 AM

Name

Rachael Basye

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Select Which Board the Comment is for

- City Council
- Planning Commission

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The DEI committee is there to ensure that every Estacada resident feels welcome and included in decisions and events that the city holds. It's not about "recruiting" minorities, women, the elderly, the disabled, and the LGBTQ community. People from all of those groups are already here and an active part of this community.

There is no benefit from getting rid of this committee. Reassigning members to other committees ignores the fact that they joined the DEIC based on their passions and skillsets.

The only reason to get rid of the DEIC is to intentionally exclude certain residents from having a voice in city matters. It would effectively silence them and discourage people from getting involved and volunteering. If this is your reason, you have absolutely no business representing the residents of this community.

I have lived in Estacada for over 10 years and have grown to love it. I may not like how quickly it has grown in recent years but I also realize that with growth comes diversity. Removing the DEIC sends a very bad message to all of our residents and surrounding communities. It would send the message that our city council only cares about running things the way they see fit regardless of whether or not it causes harm to already marginalized people. We should set an example by fostering a warm and inclusive community rather than creating division and exclusion.

From: [City of Estacada](#)
To: [Sadie Main](#)
Subject: New submission from Public Comment
Date: Sunday, February 2, 2025 8:22:53 AM

Name

Dorothy A Hoffman

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Select Which Board the Comment is for

- City Council

Your comment becomes public record when submitted.

I support appointing Vincent Bellini to the city council. He has already proved that he is a suitable person to take the city lace of the councilor who had to resign. It is only fitting that the runner up in last November's election be appointed. It is time, past time, to have a council that more closely reflects the citizens of this city!

From: [City of Estacada](#)
To: [Sadie Main](#)
Subject: New submission from Public Comment
Date: Monday, February 3, 2025 1:33:39 PM

Name

Michael O'Shaughnessy

Address

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Select Which Board the Comment is for

- City Council

Your comment becomes public record when submitted.

I wish to cast my support for Vincent Bellomo as new City Councilor. With over 900 citizens casting their vote for him in the election, the just action would be to elevate him to this position. The tragedy that has necessitated this new appointment should not be exploited to replace Mr. Crossett.

The citizens of Estacada cast their votes for City Council positions. To bypass the results of an election to fill that vacancy with an individual not chosen by the voters diminishes the trust between the people and those chosen to serve them.

Estacada is a terrific city with much to offer and I'm delighted to call it my home. Disregarding the will of the people is the first crack in the cornerstone of any community that hopes for a sustainable present and its possible future.

To put it succinctly -- the runner-up, in this instance Mr. Bellomo, should be, and traditionally has been, the one to advance.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion.

From: City of Estacada
To: Sadie Main
Subject: New submission from Public Comment
Date: Monday, February 3, 2025 3:55:22 PM

Name

Tabitha Basye

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Select Which Board the Comment is for

- City Council

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I hope to address the Council on February 10, 2025 by giving a 3 minute speech. I intend to have the data & speech completed for dispersal by February 6, 2025. I believe it is unwise to submit my speech until after I attend the DEIC committee meeting January 3, 2025 to gather more insight. I seek to understand and then be understood.

As of now key points include:

- * My residence and preference for keeping Estacada less populated.
- * The will of the voters regarding election results and the empty Council seat.
- * Concerns about Council's perceived desire to impose their will upon us rather than represent what we have already voted for.
- * Demographic need for Council to have access to advice from the community.
- * How Council discussions of silencing ADVICE from the community is a major concern about who we may have elected to represent ALL of the residents.
- * Concerns about negative attention and protests from outsiders if Council makes the unwise decision to silence voters and/or the advice of 2/3 Estacada's adult population.
- * * Data to support any facts or figures- supporting documentation will not be included during time limited speech.

From: [City of Estacada](#)
To: [Sadie Main](#)
Subject: New submission from Public Comment
Date: Monday, February 3, 2025 3:58:03 PM

Name

Rachael Basye

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Select Which Board the Comment is for

- City Council

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We as a community have already voted for the people we want to be in the city council. The vacant position should go to the candidate that had the next highest votes, especially since the vacancy occurred before the city council member even took office. It doesn't matter if this person is left or right leaning politically... they are the one that voters chose in November. You should not have the ability to hand select someone to serve a full term without voter input. If you go through the full list of candidates from November's ballot and none of them are able to serve, then you can select a city council member to temporarily serve until an election determines who the people want to serve a full term. This is how you build trust with your constituents and fellow Estacadians.

From: [City of Estacada](#)
To: [Sadie Main](#)
Subject: New submission from Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 10:20:56 AM

Name

Kat Malstead

Address

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Select Which Board the Comment is for

- City Council

Your comment becomes public record when submitted.

My letter is in support of Vincent Bellomo as City Council member. He was the next voted in on the ballot, only lacking 156 votes. It seems to me that choosing Mr Bellomo as our City Council member would be the most efficient, less expensive, and fairest option. Please consider my request.