


CITY OF SIMI VALLEY • MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 22, 2014

TO: Eric J. Levitt, City Manager

FROM: Ky Spangler, Assistant City Clerk 

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION BY MAYORAL/CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

On September 14, 2014, a candidate requested the following information:

QUESTION: How many businesses had their permits expedited?

ANSWER: The City does not track how many businesses are assisted with permit processing.

QUESTION: How many businesses did NOT have their permits expedited?

ANSWER: The City does not track how many businesses are assisted with permit processing.

QUESTION: How many businesses has the Business Ombudsman assisted?

ANSWER: The City does not track how many businesses are assisted with permit processing.

QUESTION: How many businesses has the Business Ombudsman NOT assisted?

ANSWER: The City does not track how many businesses are assisted with permit processing.

QUESTION: Have any changes been made so that ALL businesses receive the same "special" treatment as has been provided to some businesses (i.e., expedited processing/ombudsman assistance)?

ANSWER: No changes have been made. Assistance is available to all businesses in Simi Valley or those contemplating a move to Simi Valley.

QUESTION: How is it determined who gets "special" assistance in the process?

ANSWER: Assistance is available to all businesses in Simi Valley or those contemplating a move to Simi Valley. If contact with City staff is made, staff will provide the assistance.

QUESTION: How are businesses notified that they may receive "special" assistance or do they have to know already?

ANSWER: At several locations, the City's website informs the reader that business assistance is available. The Chamber of Commerce has previously referred businesses in need of assistance to the City. City staff in other departments will refer businesses in need of assistance to other City staff members.

QUESTION: How are the services of the Business Ombudsman advertised?

ANSWER: At several locations, the City's website informs the reader that business assistance is available. The Chamber of Commerce has previously referred businesses in need of assistance to the City. City staff in other departments will refer businesses in need of assistance to other City staff members.

QUESTION: What is the total compensation of the Business Ombudsman?

ANSWER: The total monthly compensation is \$12,363 comprised of \$8,102 in salary and \$4,261 in benefits which includes \$1,937 in mandated retirement and Medicare compensation.

cc: City Council
Candidates for City Council
City Attorney
Assistant City Managers
Assistant to the City Manager
Department Heads