

12/8/09

5B-2

Santa Clara Plays Fair

www.SantaClaraPlaysFair.org

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Madame Mayor, Santa Clara City Councilmembers and City Staff, thank you & good evening. I'm Bill Bailey and I have lived in Santa Clara for 20 years. I am the Treasurer of Santa Clara Plays Fair<dot>org. All of us are volunteers.

If the public proceedings we now see are truly intended to be open, transparent and inclusive, then there is only one correct date for a ballot measure for the massive 49ers stadium subsidy - and that is by a binding measure placed on the June 8th Primary Ballot of 2010. It is in that election that the greatest number of Santa Clarans will likely participate – not in any Special Election open to “manipulation-by-saturation” from the San Francisco 49ers.

We note also that the cost of adding a stadium subsidy measure to the June Primary is a mere one-quarter the cost of a Special Election. It's entirely appropriate that the public cost of any subsidy decision be made by reducing the public cost of that polling.

However, the current timeline also delays the finalization of the Disposition and Development Agreement until after that election. This permits City negotiators to make even more concessions to the 49ers after the people have in fact spoken. What safeguards will be in place to ensure that even the minimal protections we now have with the non-binding Term Sheet will in fact be honored after an election?

We would like to urge that the DDA be agreed to, and that those conditions be available to voters, before Santa Clarans are asked to consent to a massive \$114,000,000 subsidy for a football stadium.

If this means postponing the subsidy vote until the November election, this City Council should do exactly that.

Thank you.