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Subject: Agenda Item #29 - Public Comment
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Agenda Item #29 - Public Comment:

Re: Layoff of Permit Technician Position to be reconsidered (Department of Community Services)

Hi, My name is Angelica Yepez, and I am a Permit Technician with the Department of Community Services. I have been an employee of Yolo County for over 25 years and while I understand there is a deficit in Yolo County, laying off two positions in our Building Division will only cause a greater financial deficit. This decision will impact not only my coworkers, myself, my division, and our department, but also our constituents, contractors, and builders, thus affecting housing, development, and public safety. This will eventually affect future Building budgets and potentially lead to another round of layoffs.

I don't believe layoffs are a solution to our current deficit, within the Building Division. I strongly believe this will cause a bigger financial deficit. I say this because it is nearly impossible for one Permit Technician to do the job of four Permit Technicians and be expected to process permits and collect the forecasted revenue that four Permit Technicians would achieve, given the volume of current permits and inquiries processed regularly.

The Building budget will be impacted by this decision, as processing permits and collecting the necessary revenue will diminish due to delayed turnaround times, thus causing a larger financial deficit in the Building Division budget.

My colleagues and I will also be affected by this decision, as future layoffs and increased workload will be inevitable. In 2008, layoffs impacted our Building Division and the Building Official and I, remained after $\frac{3}{4}$ of our division was laid off. The workload for my supervisor and me resulted in major burnout. Not only did the workload increase, but stress levels were a major concern, affecting my health and my family and this is not a situation I wish upon anyone.

Our public customers will suffer as well, causing delays in their construction projects, repairs and improvements, which will eventually affect the economy in Yolo County. This may encourage contractors and homeowners to do work without obtaining permits, which

can affect public safety. Customers usually expect a 1-2 day response on their permit inquiries. If the two Permit Technician positions are laid off, the turnaround time to respond to customers will be delayed, affecting them and causing public complaints.

My request is to please reconsider layoffs; instead, consider furloughs, golden handshakes, increasing Building Division permit fees, reducing service contracts, and alternative shorter work weeks.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my Public Comment.

Kind Regards,

Angelica Zaragoza-Yepes
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