

## Jim Watt's Comments on Budget, Spending, & Ad hoc Report

As one who has attended most KPPCSD meetings for the last 3 years, I am flabbergasted at the amount of time consumed in petty politics while the major issues that the Board is supposed to deal with go unattended. The Board has two primary mandates: to oversee an effective police department and to make sure that Kensington Park is maintained to acceptable community standards. But those two mandates involve another issue that I will add to the three you have raised.

4. Financial oversight. Attention to potential looming financial problems is long overdue. We have a history of approving budgets that are rarely challenged, have no concept of building a rainy day fund or establishing an appropriate reserve fund, have generally ignored budgeting for the costs of rebuilding the community center and fire/police station, evidenced little concern about CalPERS failure to meet their investment targets, undertaken no serious evaluation about how we might reorganized the police department to reign in expenses and entered into MOU contracts with our police department that do little to address our long-term police costs.

Yes we have a pending ad hoc report that will provide some pros and cons about some alternative forms of governance. But this ad hoc report provides no cost evaluation and does not synthesize the multiple financial issues I have raised above. Therefore, when election time comes in November, I will be looking for candidates who can demonstrate that they understand the complexity of our financial problems and have concrete suggestions for addressing them. I hope other voters will do likewise.