

**From:** [Melissa Taylor](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** For Tuesday's City Council Meeting  
**Date:** Monday, March 1, 2021 11:34:12 AM

---

A key to being a great leader is being a great listener. It involves relying on empathy when others speak. Empathy is what unites us, it empowers us to try harder, and to work for a better community. As a leader when someone comes to you with a negative opinion, or a complaint about something, your role is not to belittle them or show them how they are wrong. Your job is to listen, and to understand. Your job is to take a look at what you have done and think "What could I have done differently?"

Mayor Adams, the way you conducted yourself online in the "Monrovia, California" Facebook group during the week of Feb 15-Feb 19 was appalling. When people pointed out a fault in your leadership, instead of listening to see what you could have done differently, you doubled down and dismissed their opinions. You criticized typos instead of answering questions. You called people "unhappy" -- just because someone doesn't agree with you, does not make them unhappy. Regardless, this past year has been terrible for many people so some of them have the absolute RIGHT to be unhappy. People have a right to be angry when mask mandates are not enforced, when neighbors continue to get sick, when neighbors and family members continue to die from this disease.

As a leader, as the mayor, you are in a position to do more for the community. It is not up to you to question what others have done. Not everyone is in the position you are as someone who didn't lose their job, as someone who has means, and again, as someone who is in a leadership position. It is not apples to apples. People don't need to explain themselves to you, but as an elected official you are held to a higher standard. You do not need to resort to bully tactics such as "I have \$1000 that says you are wrong so are you going to bet or shut up?"

As an elected official people aren't always going to agree with you. You are elected to be a leader for everyone. To those that don't agree with you, listen to them, try to understand and take into consideration what they said so that next time you can do better. What people need now is hope, and guidance, and inspiration.

Please think beyond KGEM and biweekly city council meetings. I will quote Devin Anderson who said, "You're basically blaming others for not using an antiquated communication mechanism." Our residents are made up of various age groups, and people do get news from Facebook groups. There are many people who would like to attend meetings and participate, but meetings aren't compatible with their schedules. Social media now is the best way to get information to your constituents. Councilmember Shevlin is a perfect example of using social media to engage. She goes above and beyond in reaching out, listening to the issues, and working together. I have never once seen her get into petty fights on Facebook.

According to the California Brown Act, by engaging in social media, even if Councilmember Shevlin already posted, you would not be in violation because of a clause that stipulates this does not pertain to social media posts: “This bill would provide that, until January 1, 2026, the prohibition described above does not prevent a member from engaging in separate conversations or communications outside of a meeting authorized by this act with any other person using an internet-based social media platform, as defined, to answer questions, provide information to the public, or to solicit information from the public regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body, provided that a majority of the members do not use the internet-based social media platform to discuss among themselves, as defined, business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body, and that a member shall not respond directly to any communication on an internet-based social media platform regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body that is made, posted, or shared by any other member of the legislative body.”

Additionally, I am requesting that the council does not approve the proposed Chik-Fil-A development. We have a strong LGBTQ+ community in Monrovia and allowing a company that has historically donated money to restrict the freedoms of LGBTQ+ members does not align with our values, especially since we have taken the steps to form a Diversity adhoc committee. Let’s build bridges together, and one way to do that would be to stop this development.

Sincerely,

Melissa Taylor

**From:** [Sari Canales](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Chamber report  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 2, 2021 4:13:12 PM

Member Name	Join Date	Status	Web-Participation	Notes
Eastham Transcription Service	2/24/2021	Active	Basic	
Pacific Oak Compounding Pharmacy	2/24/2021	Active	Basic	
Bella Sol Botox Bar	2/24/2021	Active	Basic	

Dropped Members

Member Name	Drop Date	Status	Web-Participation	Notes
Myrtle Tree Cafe	2/2/2021	Dropped/Inactive	Basic	COVID-19 impacted Myrtle Tree Cafe is being leased out by Hop Secret.
Studio Movie Grill	2/2/2021	Dropped/Inactive	Basic	COVID-19 impacted Filed Bankruptcy, Has not re-opened.
Golden Coast Marketing	2/2/2021	Dropped/Inactive	Basic	Not renewing this year Hi Sari, Thank you for your email. While I enjoyed my experiences with the chamber this past year, I've made the decision to not renew my membership this year. I will look into renewing my membership once things open up and I feel I can take full advantage of all the chamber events. Best, Karen Escobar
AFLAC Monrovia	2/2/2021	Dropped/Inactive	Basic	Moved Moving Monrovia office
KJ Electric	2/11/2021	Dropped/Inactive	Basic	Cannot renew at this time

Sari Canales  
 Executive Director