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Date: October 17, 2009 12:38:25 PM GMT-04:00
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Subject: Argo Dam resolution DC-4

I am furious...I can't put it any other way. To me, this is as if I put a resolution together declaring Council's intent to disregard A2D2 recommendations, or some other issue that any of you have been working hard to educate the public about.

The fact is, the funding for the dam, its maintenance and its insurance, has to be removed from the drinking water fund. Where will this money come from in the future? If we are to leverage any money for environmental impact studies, it needs to happen soon, or we lose it. We have to be open to possibilities, or we are cornering ourselves in for political purposes.

Our Parks revenue from paddling rental could increase dramatically, and there is no question that the water quality will improve, if we took the dam out. (Not that we need to do that any time soon.) There are studies that others (Joe O'Neal, John Russell, Don Gray, Jonathan Bulkley) are working hard to disprove, but that people like Matt Naud, Lana Pollack, Laura Rubin, and Catherine Riseng all have current information supporting.

I have had no chance to bring any of these questions out, because we aren't at the point of dealing with the "dam-in or dam-out" question. We haven't even accepted the HRIMP report, which is scheduled to come to us shortly. This is so unfair to the environmental community, and to the City. It is financially imprudent. And knowing that John won't have to vote on it, and that Tony won't be there, speaks volumes about your timing. You are all running scared, and that's no way to lead the City.

If you would like to inform yourselves and actually read the files I have on this issue, please let me know.