

David S. Wall

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San José City Clerk

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Mayor Reed and Members San José City Council
200 East Santa Clara Street
San José, California 95113-1905

Re: MISREPRESENTATION: DOWNTOWN HOSPITAL ISN'T GOING TO REOPEN.

Go ahead and fire up the MISREPRESENTATION machine and crank out placations directed to the downtown residents who think there will be a Hospital in the Downtown any time soon. Why don't YOU tell all of them that YOU will lead them along the primrose path of universal free healthcare? Why don't tell them that YOU will provide, "a chicken in every pot"? Hell, why don't YOU just tell them instead of a Hospital for the Downtown, here are the weekly winning Lotto numbers?

Reported in today's San José Mercury News (Tuesday 3/18/2008), "Council to discuss need for hospital" is another stark example of the San José Council, facing an enormously huge budget deficit, being totally out of touch with reality.

Why did the San José Medical Center close down in the first place?

Earthquake retrofitting is an issue. Profitability or rather the un-profitability is the real answer here. The San José Medical Center was a victim similar to hundreds of other hospitals in the state, people who can't pay for healthcare services and the unfunded mandates for such care finally was too much for the owners.

Then I read a comment from, guess who, District 3's "Sammy on the spot".

Councilmember Liccardo, "*In both financial and human terms, it is far less costly for us to provide primary care to seniors and other critically underserved residents in the downtown than it is to do so in the emergency room at Valley Medical Center.*" Wrong, again Sammy.

Pretty stupid comment since the City of San José, to my knowledge never picked up the tab for health care for the downtown residents at the San José Medical Center. Or even cared about health care until the old worn out closed-for-good hospital is about to be demolished.

Pretty stupid comment since the San José Fire Department has to be the first responders.

Pretty stupid comment if the American Medical Response (AMR), the ambulance people, if they are not on the City payroll.

Why don't YOU tell the Downtown residents the truth? Like, "Why don't all the seniors and poor people just hurry up and die so more High Density living projects for the gentry can be built."

Scaring seniors and the disenfranchised into hope of a Downtown Hospital is at least, a material misrepresentation.

Personally, I'd rather have the winning Lotto numbers.

Respectfully submitted,

Cc: City Attorney / City Auditor / City Manager

David S. Wall
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