ATTACHMENT

For Item

#29

Tuesday,
May 24, 2022

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

From: Mary Davis
To: FGG, Public Comment
Subject: [External] Document for Public Comment/Communication - BOS Meeting 05-24-2022
Date: Friday, May 13, 2022 8:49:14 AM

I am writing to express grave concerns about the limited ability of the public to participate in the new Consent Calendar format that was adopted by the Board (under the new Rules of Procedure on 11/10/2021.)

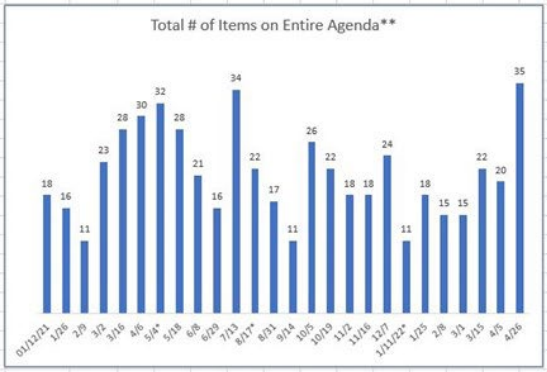
While the first few months of using the Consent Calendar seemed reasonable, this meeting on 04/26/2022 packed in 27 items alone under Consent. The previous historical average from 11/16/21-4/5/22 was 11.75 items. The meeting on April 26 thus more than doubled the historical average for the Consent Calendar.

I am asking that a limit be put on the number of items allowed on the Consent Calendar (15 seems reasonable, since the average has been around 12.)

Since this Board of Supervisors is so fond of 'a data-driven approach' to things, I have taken the time to create a spreadsheet graphic that details the stark change on 4/26/22 (I have also attached the spreadsheet for easier reading, in case the image quality on the picture is poor):

San Diego County Board of Supervisors
Historical Tally of Agenda Items
May 2, 2022

	01/12/21	1/26	2/9	3/2	3/16	4/6	5/4*	5/18	6/8	6/29	7/13	8/17*	8/31	9/14	10/5	10/19	11/2	11/16	12/7	1/11/22*	1/25	2/8	3/1	3/15	4/5	4/26
CONSENT																		15	17	8	14	7	10	12	11	27
DISCUSSION																		3	7	3	4	8	5	10	9	8
TOTAL**	18	16	11	23	28	30	32	28	21	16	34	22	17	11	26	22	18	18	24	11	18	15	15	22	20	35



NOTES

* 1-month gap between meetings

** Does not include:
- Appointments various
- Communications received
- Closed session

1/12/21-11/02/21 - Agenda averaged 21.94 items per ENTIRE meeting.

11/16/21 - Changed to Consent Agenda format

11/16/21-4/5/22: Consent Agenda averaged 11.75 items per meeting

4/26/22 - There were **27** items packed into consent agenda, where public was only allowed 2 minutes TOTAL to speak on those items cumulatively.

THIS IS A SERIOUS DILUTION OF THE ABILITY OF THE PUBLIC TO GIVE COMMENT IN THE MEETINGS AND TO GET THEIR OPINIONS & POINTS OF VIEW HEARD.

I believe these numbers to be correct, but encourage you to check and verify them for yourself.
I embrace the tenets of transparency and accountability for public officials, and hold myself to that standard as well.

Packing the Consent Calendar results in a dilution of the public's voice, as we are restricted to just two minutes CUMULATIVELY to speak. With 12 items on the calendar, a speaker could devote 10 seconds to each item. With 27, that number

drops down to 4.45 seconds per item.

I am hoping you will be open to limiting the number of items on the Consent Calendar. The new rules have already greatly restricted our First Amendment rights. Packing the number of consent items is yet another suppression and dilution of our voices.

Respectfully,

Mary Davis
Alpine