



Paula J. Peper

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March 16, 2020

The Honorable Anthony Rendon, Speaker of the State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

I hereby tender my resignation from the Historic State Capitol Commission, effective today. My reasons for this center largely on the Capitol Annex Project and are as follows:

- Since my appointment five years ago, Commission members have worked to encourage the Joint Rules Committee (JRC) to allow us to develop an overall Park Master Plan or a Tree Management Plan. We have repeatedly been informed by the JRC Chair that those plans will be considered only after the completion of the Capitol Annex project. This places the development of an overall Park Master Plan yet another five years down the road.
- Our efforts to learn more about the Capitol Annex project have been stymied by non-disclosure agreements signed by those participating in Annex planning.
- Department of General Services employees are unable to share information and documents
- The simple courtesy of notifying us of the March 24, 2020 hearing to update information on the Capitol Annex Project was denied
- Entire process has been secretive—kept from the Commission and the public at large—with minimum CEQA requirements in notifying public met
- The Commission has had an Assembly Public Member vacancy for well over a year with no attempt on the Assembly's part to appoint a replacement

I feel the Commission has been entirely obfuscated in our efforts to tend to the tasks we were legislatively assigned to complete. I can do more by serving the public at large.

Please note that my term on the Commission does not expire until January, 2021. I also note that this leaves the Assembly with no Public Member appointees in place. As of April 10, 2020 the Commission will be lacking one Senate Public Member appointee as well. Hopefully, the Senate is more capable of appointing a replacement quickly. Without it, the Commission will rarely have the required quorum necessary for voting.

Sincerely,

Paula J. Peper

Cc: Dick Cowan, Chair, Historic State Capitol Commission
Members, Historic State Capitol Commission
Koren Benoit, Executive Director, Historic State Capitol Commission
Lauren Gustus, Editor, Sacramento Bee
Foon Rhee, Editor, Sacramento News & Review