

## Bernard Canez

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**From:** Julie Glenn <julie.glenn67@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 9:49 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** comment

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

This is my first time watching a Fresno City Council Zoom call. Just a suggestion to remind these city leaders that their body language and disconnect to their constituents speaks volumes. At some point there are eye rolls and muted leaders talking while a continuation is speaking. It appears as they are disconnected and shows great disrespect to the people they are supposed to serve.  
Sincerely  
Julie Glenn

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Kirsten Moorehead <kmm0522@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 18, 2020 9:13 AM  
**To:** Marco Martinez-Velasquez  
**Cc:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Re:

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**External Email: Use caution with links and attachments**

Re opening up.  
After emailing i realized the meeting was yesterday.

Kirsten Moorehead

On Fri, Sep 18, 2020, 9:11 AM Marco Martinez-Velasquez <[Marco.Martinez-Velasquez@fresno.gov](mailto:Marco.Martinez-Velasquez@fresno.gov)> wrote:

Good morning Ms. Moorehead,

Is your comment related to a City Council item? If so, please advise which item and item number.

Thank you,

Marco

Sr. Deputy City Clerk

City of Fresno

City Clerk's Office

2600 Fresno St., Room 2133

Fresno, CA 93721

4-E

**Bernard Canez**

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**From:** G G <ggalvan2416@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 1:19 AM  
**To:** Clerk

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

What about the Clovis Camp...we need our gyms open..its time to open up enough already..

**RECEIVED**  
2020 SEP 17 A 8:26  
CITY OF FRESNO  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

## Bernard Canez

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**From:** Rhonda Brewer <rhondab@thePriceCompany.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 9:58 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Supporting the Re-Opening of Fresno

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Good Morning City Councilmembers of Fresno:

Just wanted to send you a note to express my SUPPORT of the re-opening of Fresno; especially restaurants for indoor dining, personal service businesses, and health centers/gyms under all the recommended CDC safety guidelines and protocols.

Not only are these actions in the best interest of our economy and our citizens, it is the fair and decent thing to do considering the large stores and chains have been able to continue in business throughout this entire pandemic while so many local business have suffered.

**The citizens of Fresno have been suffering financially, physically, and emotionally because of the closures!** It is time to take action in the best interest of our community by allowing businesses to re-open, allowing people to return to gyms to keep their bodies and minds active in order to better fight this illness, and by allowing your citizens to get back to work to revive our spirits and our economy!

We're all in this together, and together we can move forward safely!

Thank you for your time!

Best Regards,

## Bernard Canez

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**From:** Ryan Bettencourt <ryan\_nb@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 10:17 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Reopening Fresno

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Good Morning:

I address this email in regards to the topic of Reopening Fresno.

Throughout the months of being closed due to this pandemic our local businesses, restaurants, salons, & gyms/health clubs have suffered dramatically because of regulations put in place by our government. While I agree with the safety precautions issued by the CDC I do not agree that the listed above should continue to be penalized, especially when they are following CDC guidelines. Most of these places have come up with creative ways to stay open during all of this just to have something new like bad air quality affect their establishment.

It is time to reopen Fresno under the guidelines that were given back in June when the city first reopened, and with more structure. How will those effected by this be able to effectively roll out safe operations when the time comes if they are forced to remain closed?

Big Box Retail/essential businesses have been able to remain open during all of this, some of those relaxing behaviors set in place at the beginning of the pandemic. If they continue to remain open, then why are those that are closed penalized for following the CDC guidelines?

The mental and physical health of Fresno citizens is at jeopardy here. Plus an economy that could be thriving and putting people back to work.

I highly suggest that the city council who we vote for to represent us and our well being consider reopening our city.

Thank you,

Ryan Bettencourt

Sent from my iPhone

## **Bernard Canez**

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**From:** Erica Delatorre <erica.delatorre21@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 11:23 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Cc:** Antonio; Elizabeth\_wilson1986@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** I support item 4 E

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Good morning,

This email is in reference to item 4E on your agenda regarding local gyms. I have CC'd the director of Camp Fresno and another Camp Fresno member who is also in support of this item.

I work for the county and my husband works for a hospital in Fresno. We both work in supervisory positions which has put us on the frontline of the COVID-19 crisis since we are classified as essential employees. We have both continued to report to work physically throughout the pandemic, and have had to implement regulation that changed daily. We have put our personal lives on hold to be present and provide guidance and leadership for our staff when the reality was that we did not have that guidance ourselves.

I am asking that you please give gyms like Camp Fresno the opportunity to prove that they can operate under the guidelines set by the CDC and give our essential employees a healthy outlet to destress. I urge our elected officials to realize how important mental and physical health really is for those of us that are still working. Let's stand together and support each other's goals for the good of our community and the economy. Thank you for your time and consideration.

## Bernard Canez

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**From:** Brandi Nuse-Villegas <brandiangela78@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 10:10 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Regarding the special agenda item

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

I raised my hand to speak, but for some reason it kept being lowered.

I support your resolution. I appreciate the situation you and the state are at in this issue. It's a horrible place to be and I feel it's simplistic to demonize any leader trying to protect the community. I know people who have died and have become sick. This should never be a "death is a part of life issue."

I appreciate the the things you have done to help business owners over the last six months.

I agree with Nelson- We could have been better and been open like other counties if we as a community followed guidelines well and early.

I know it hurts to not be open- I am a massage therapist and I haven't been working, even when I legally can, because I don't want to become sick and I don't want to put my roommate and clients at risk.

I do appreciate the hurt of the business owners, but we need to do things safely.

I do encourage you to continue to follow the guidelines and be as safe as possible. My concern with the demands of those who want to be open is there are so many in our community unwilling to do the safety efforts, to such as wear a mask to protect others. I volunteer assist with an elderly at risk woman who suddenly decided not to wear a mask or believe the risks because of people on TV and that scares me.

Thank you again for approaching this plan safely.

## Bernard Canez

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**From:** Renee Rees <ridewithrenee@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 2:40 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting re: Opening Fresno

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Good Afternoon,

I am pleased to have had the opportunity to speak for 1:00 this morning at the City Council meeting. However I am very concerned with statements made by Mr. Arias at the conclusion of the meeting.

He stated in so many words that "Opening businesses in Fresno County kills 'my' people. Latinos are the ones doing the work and exposing them with open restaurants and businesses kills Latinos;" and "If your opinion is different from mine, you are wrong and your narrative is exhausting."

I honestly do not know where to begin with how wildly inappropriate both of these statements are and how unbelievably incorrect he is on all accounts.

First, Arias and every other city council member were elected BY the people and they are to serve FOR the people. ALL of the people-- not just SOME people (i.e. Arias is not responsible for ONLY "his" people, i.e. Latinos; he is responsible for ALL people in his district).

Second, council members like Arias need to be reminded of who pays their salaries: WE DO. THE PEOPLE. WITH OUR TAX MONEY. He apparently was very threatened to have someone challenge him to give up his salary because honestly, it's a great idea. If he is truly in solidarity with "his people," why not get on the level with the tens of thousands of folks who have not received ANY incomes the last six months?

Thirdly, what he said is incredibly racist and it makes it sound as though Latinos are the only ones in potential harms' way or are the only ones that should matter. That is simply not true. Shall I begin with the Vietnamese nail techs who are sitting out in HAZARDOUS air quality day in and day out for the last month and a half since fire season began. Or maybe the child down the street who is beaten by their unemployed alcoholic father. Or perhaps the grandmother who is responsible for six children because their parents have committed suicide or have left entirely since this entire debacle began six months ago. Race should not matter to the president of a city council. Hardship does not see color. Viruses do not see color.

Fourth, these kinds of statements are proof that the Fresno City Council President isn't doing his job he was elected to do, which is to preside over his ENTIRE community. His eyes should not be focused on "his" people alone. For him to single out Latinos ONLY to represent is incredibly offensive, divisive, and frightening.

Latinos are not the only ones "doing the work" and Latinos are not the only ones "being exposed." This type of language is divisive and pits people against one another-- a City Council President should focus on UNIFICATION, NOT DIVISION. He is essentially deeming one "race" of people to be more important to him than another-- how does that make every other race/ethnicity feel? Unheard. Unvalued. Undeserving.



Lastly, to hear an elected leader state something as minacious as "If your opinion is different from mine, you are wrong and your narrative is exhausting" is horrifying. Since when did this become an autocracy? Since when do other opinions not matter? Does he not realize what dangerous waters he is treading when phrasing something like that. He is essentially saying NO one and NOthing matters if they do not agree with him. And that is simply not true. We do NOT need career politicians like Arias presiding over our City Council and our community.

After what I heard from Miguel Arias this morning, I can say with the utmost of confidence that that man is not fit for the office he holds. Aside from Governor Newsom, I have never been so disappointed and disgusted by an elected leader.

Thank you,

A Concerned Fresnan.

## **Bernard Canez**

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**From:** Melinda Fuzesy <MelindaFuzesy@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 2:09 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Say NO to Prop 16!

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Honorable City Council,

I'm writing this to express my strong opposition to Prop 16. Proposition 16 allows the government to freely discriminate based on race or gender. The California constitution prevent that. Yet, supporters a proposition 16 wants you to illuminate that language in the California constitution. While it's being sold as A way to create a diversity. That makes no sense. And I hope that you see through this fallacy. Vote no on proposition 16 and keep California the way it is. Please read out my comments in the meeting.

Thank you all.  
Stay safe & Have a good day!

Melinda Fuzesy

## Bernard Canez

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**From:** Jean Lang <jeanlang841@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 2:47 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Equal Rights for All

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Honorable mayor, City Council members, city staff and fellow citizens,

Lately there were many rallies organized by residents throughout California to oppose proposition 16. Civil Rights activists, law professors, elected officials, students and parents all spoke passionately against Prop 16 in those rallies. Why was that? I learned that Prop 16 was proposed by the state assembly woman Shirley Webber, aiming to repeal Prop 209, part of California constitution, which clearly prohibits the state from discriminating against, or granting preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, or public contracting. Yet the state wants to repeal it. If Prop 16 passes in the Nov election, it means we the Californians allow the state to discriminate against all of us based on our race, gender or color and allow special treatment by the state in college admissions, jobs and contracting. This is totally unconstitutional and against the American value of equal rights.

Furthermore I have learnt that the ballot label was written in a very misleading fashion. It says Prop 16 allows diversity as a factor in public employment, education and contracting decisions. The legislators are playing word game with the voters. They replaced the word "discrimination" with the word "diversity". This is discrimination in the name of "diversity".

Let's all not be misled by the ballot label. We should all say no to discrimination and most of all discrimination from the state level. Please vote NO on Prop 16 in Nov! Please read out my comments in the City Council meeting. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jean Lang

Special  
mtb

**Bernard Canez**

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**From:** Chelsea McCliment <chels\_amanda@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 11:47 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Opening Fresno

**External Email: Use caution with links and attachments**

My name is Chelsea McCliment. I am not a business owner, but I am equally invested in the economy and success of the Fresno community. I have always been so proud to call the Central Valley my home. I think we are not your typically "Big little City". We have the city drive with the country mentality and by that, I mean, if our neighbor is hurting or in need, we as a community will come together and do what we can help (which is so admirable for our size!). The Creek Fire relief is a perfect example of this. The Sheriff's office had to issue an announcement pausing donations because the facility receiving the donations was at capacity and could not accept any more. Just WOW!

That being said, we are currently experiencing something that we have never experienced in our lifetime and I believe that our community did their best at the beginning of the pandemic to keep Fresno safe and take the proper precautions not to spread COVID-19. It has now been six month of closures and any savings that these business owners, employees, etc. had saved is dwindling and it is coming to a point where they have to choose to fight or flight. **This is our fight.** We are doing all we can to not abandon our community but if our community leaders, who we elected to make decisions in our best interest, are not listening to what the people have to say and make decisions accordingly, we will have no choice but to leave.

Small business owners such as our locally owned restaurants, clothing shops, gyms, etc. are the foundation of this community and they are suffering, but not in silence. They have made it clear to you that they want to open their businesses, following the proper CDC guidelines of which Costco, Walmart and other high trafficked stores are taking.

Please consider what the people have to say. Our community depends on it!

PS – I wanted to note that Mr. Arias' comment at the conclusion of the special meeting this morning stating that he has been receiving his "minimal pay" while many of the valley employers and employees haven't received *anything* was ignorant and disrespectful to those people.

Thank you for your time.

Chelsea McCliment