

From: Anya Goldstein <anyagoldstein@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 5:25 PM
To: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS <ALLELECTEDOFFICIALS@elsegundo.org>
Subject: Yadranka Draskovic's Candidacy for the DEI Committee

Dear City Council,

I am writing regarding the scheduled interview tomorrow May 22nd of Yadranka Draskovic as a candidate for a seat on the DEI Committee.

Ms. Draskovic ran for ESUSD School Board in the 2022 election cycle and therefore has a public record from her campaign on her views on DEI issues. I am writing to make you aware of what Ms. Draskovic has said about DEI previously, and ask you to consider this information in reviewing her candidacy in light of the DEI Committee's purpose and goals, which include the following from the City's current DEI website:

- "Its purpose is to inspire and activate efforts to integrate diversity, equity and inclusion into City of El Segundo decisions, service delivery and policies to improve the well-being of the entire El Segundo community."
- "The DEI Committee is committed to listening and advising with an equity lens to help foster a healthy, just and inclusive El Segundo, instilling a sense of understanding, healing and belonging for all who live, work and play here."
- And in the Background section, "El Segundo residents shared their concerns about local racial diversity issues, inclusion, treatment by police, experiences at local schools, and other matters during several community rallies in response to the tragic murder of George Floyd in 2020."

For your review, here is a sampling of some of her comments on DEI.

An interview Ms. Draskovic did with the Liberty Chronicle in October 2022:
<https://libertychronicle.us/yadranka-draskovic-for-esusd-2022-mom-and-former-teacher/>

Around the 1:40 mark, she refers to "DEI" in the context of issues residents are concerned about.

At 3:25, she says, "you can call it DEI and it sounds nice and fluffy, inclusion, diversity, it aims to get equal access to all groups, and that sounds very good, but it's actually destructive."

At 22:20, she says, "If parents are not happy with any direction that the school is taking, be it CRT, DEI, or anything else in terms of instruction in the classroom, parents not feeling that they've been heard lately, I invite you to vote for me, because I am your agent of change."

Also, in an interview in the El Segundo Herald that same month, on page 11 she said the following:

http://www.heraldpublications.com/herald/sites/default/files/publications/pdf-files/Herald_102022_FNL_lorez.pdf

"CRT is a political theory focused on racism and is being pushed by teacher unions. Rooted in CRT is Diversity, Equity and Inclusion or DEI, which has already been embraced by ESUSD.

DEI claims to guarantee fair treatment and opportunity to all. Sounds nice, but what it aims to do is place race into every lesson and works to divide children. Kids are no longer thought of as individuals, but rather part of a race/group."

I ask you to consider the history and purpose of the DEI Committee as you review this information and her candidacy and whether her appointment to this Committee would further these DEI goals of the City or undermine them.

Thank you,
Anya Goldstein