



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} Do Not Remove George

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 9:50 AM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Passing along an email regarding the George Washington Statue.

Thank you,

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Bill Beecher** <delmarbill@att.net>
Date: Sun, Jul 26, 2020 at 6:57 PM
Subject: {PCS} Do Not Remove George
To: <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

For what ever faults he may have had, without him we would not be our own nation. Do not let Salinas tell us what to do especially with all the problems they have. Fix their own not ours.

Bill Beecher
Pajaro Valley Historical Association

Sent from my iPhone

--



<p>Desiree Moya Administrative Assistant II Parks & Community Services</p>	<p>831.768.3240 231 Union Street Watsonville CA, 95076</p>
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Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} Do not remove the monument

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 1:58 PM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Good Afternoon,
I am forwarding along an email we received regarding the Washington monument.

Thank you,

----- Forwarded message -----

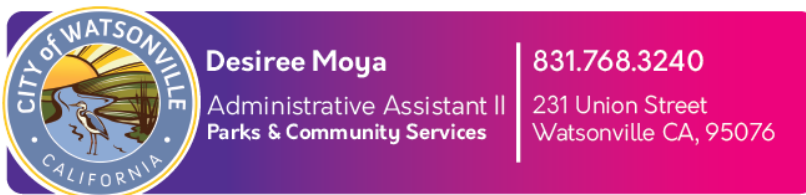
From: **'Kerri Barrick' via PCS** <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>
Date: Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 1:11 PM
Subject: {PCS} Do not remove the monument
To: <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

I am sending this email to implore you to NOT REMOVE the monument of George Washington, our nation's founding father, from the Watsonville City Plaza. I am a longtime resident of Watsonville, a graduate of WHS, and a teacher in the PVUSD, and would like my voice counted.

Kerri Barrick

Sent from my iPhone

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Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} George Washington bust

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 12:05 PM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Good Afternoon,
We received this email and I wanted to pass it along to you.

Thank you,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **'Brittany Sarkes' via PCS** <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>
Date: Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 3:19 PM
Subject: {PCS} George Washington bust
To: <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Please don't remove the George Washington bust in the Watsonville city plaza.

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Desiree Moya
Administrative Assistant II
Parks & Community Services

831.768.3240
231 Union Street
Watsonville CA, 95076



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} George Washington Monument

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 8:58 AM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Good Morning,

We received this email regarding the George Washington Statue. I wanted to pass it along for your records.

Thank you,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bonnie Terribilini** <bonnieterribilini@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Jul 26, 2020 at 11:59 PM

Subject: {PCS} George Washington Monument

To: <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

To the City of Watsonville City Council,

There is a silent majority you're not hearing from. Please do not erase our history by removing statues & monuments.

I'm a retired teacher and taught history in grades K-5. We learn from our past and appreciate what our forefathers and others contributed when this country was founded to present day history.

As a teacher, I taught about many of our heros, including George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Clara Barton, and many more, including the Castros, who received Mexican Land Grants in the early history of Santa Cruz County. Teaching should not exclude those people who made a contribution to our country.

Please do not remove the statue of George Washington from our city plaza.

Thank you,
Ed & Bonnie Terribilini
Watsonville, CA

Sent from my iPhone

--



Desiree Moya
Administrative Assistant II
Parks & Community Services

831.768.3240
231 Union Street
Watsonville CA, 95076



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} George Washington OUT

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Wed, Jul 29, 2020 at 8:32 AM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Good Morning,
We received this email regarding the George Washington statue.

Thank you,

----- Forwarded message -----


From: **Danielle A. Sanchez** <damg822@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Jul 29, 2020 at 8:25 AM
Subject: {PCS} George Washington OUT
To: <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

To whom this may concern and is sitting behind the monitor reading this,

Please remove the George Washington statue and return to the gentleman who donated it back in 1999. Maybe we should place it in his front yard or in his families?.

Paz, amor, gozo 🙌 📧
Danielle Sanchez

--



Desiree Moya
Administrative Assistant II
Parks & Community Services

831.768.3240
231 Union Street
Watsonville CA, 95076



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} Monument

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 9:47 AM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Passing along an email regarding the George Washington Statue.

Thank you,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Betty Bjur** <gtobjur190@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jul 26, 2020 at 6:56 PM
Subject: {PCS} Monument
To: pcs@cityofwatsonville.org <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Please do not remove the monument to George Washington in our Plaza. He was our first President & we honor him for that.

Allen Bjur
190 Bjur Dr
Watsonville 95076

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<p>Desiree Moya Administrative Assistant II Parks & Community Services</p>	<p>831.768.3240 231 Union Street Watsonville CA, 95076</p>
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Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} OUR beloved statue

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 9:01 AM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Good Morning,
We received this message regarding the Statue of George Washinton being removed from the Plaza. I wanted to pass it along for your records.

Thank you,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Loren Iversen** <loren.iversen@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jul 26, 2020 at 9:50 PM
Subject: {PCS} OUR beloved statue
To: <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

PLEASE do not remove the statue of Washington from the plaza . This is the most ridiculous thing i have ever heard. I grew up in the town of Watsonville , and see no good reason to remove the statue , don't bow to the neo marxists.

--



Desiree Moya
Administrative Assistant II
Parks & Community Services

831.768.3240
231 Union Street
Watsonville CA, 95076



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} Removal of George Washington bust in the Town Square

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Mon, Jul 20, 2020 at 3:20 PM
 To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
 Cc: PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Good Afternoon,
 We received this email regarding the George Washington bust, if you can please respond to Donna Blase regarding the suggestion for a petition of how many people actually want to keep the bust of Washington?

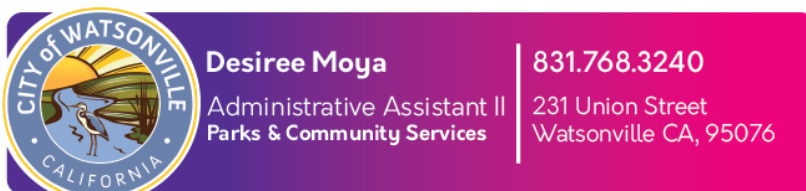
Thank you,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **donna blase** <blasedonna@gmail.com>
 Date: Fri, Jul 17, 2020 at 2:12 PM
 Subject: {PCS} Removal of George Washington bust in the Town Square
 To: <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

I vehemently opposed removing George Washington bust from the Watsonville Town Square. He is our founding father. We would not even have a country were it not for him. He persevered through the hardest winter in Potomac history to save our army and our country from being overtaken by the British he did the same in Yorktown, Virginia to stop Cornwallis and win the war. These people only want to see their side of History. George Washington means a lot more to our country than the mores of the time which he could not control on his own. But he did do everything in this control to try to set this country on the correct path. He could have become a king but he didn't want to. Maybe you should circulate a petition of how many people actually want to keep the bust of Washington.

--





Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} Removal of monument on the Plaza

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 12:11 PM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

I am forwarding along an email we received regarding the Washington Statue.

Thank you,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Carol** <tcharris2@charter.net>
Date: Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 5:32 PM
Subject: {PCS} Removal of monument on the Plaza
To: <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Dear Council Members,

As a former resident of Watsonville, we feel that we **MUST** give you our thoughts about removing the George Washington monument from the Plaza.

My husband is a first-generation American citizen, his parents both immigrated from England in 1929. His father fought for the British in World War I, became an American citizen and fought for our country in World War II. My husband served in the US Army during the Korean Conflict. We lost his brother during the Viet Nam War.

I am a descendant of a man who fought for our independence in the Revolutionary War on my mother's side. On my father's side, my great-great grandfather fought to free the slaves in the Civil War. My great-great uncle wasn't so fortunate as he died in a Confederate prison in Andersonville, Georgia.

This is why are absolutely against this "act of protest," and against the removal of the monument that has graced the Watsonville Plaza since 2001.


Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

ATTACHMENT 2

Tom and Carol Harris
3530 Legacy Circle
Granbury, TX 76049

--



Desiree Moya
Administrative Assistant II
Parks & Community Services

831.768.3240
231 Union Street
Watsonville CA, 95076



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} Statue

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 12:07 PM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Passing along another email regarding the Washington statue.

Thank you,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: 'Joanna Benson' via PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>
Date: Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 3:38 PM
Subject: {PCS} Statue
To: <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Please leave the statue of Columbus in the Watsonville plaza. I understand some of the other statue removals but this one goes too far, because he is so largely historical. Thank you.

--



Desiree Moya
Administrative Assistant II
Parks & Community Services

831.768.3240
231 Union Street
Watsonville CA, 95076



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} Take down the George Washington Bust

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 1:57 PM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Good Afternoon,
I am forwarding an email we received regarding the Washington monument.

Thank you,


----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Piper Debella** <piperdebella@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 12:37 PM
Subject: {PCS} Take down the George Washington Bust
To: <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Hey! I am a citizen of Santa Cruz county and I would highly encourage you guys to take down the bust of George Washington. A racist white man with does not deserve the honor of a statue. He did not found this nation for people of color, he founded it for white people. It is extremely offensive to keep this bust up, take it down please :-)

Much Love,
Piper

--



Desiree Moya
Administrative Assistant II
Parks & Community Services

831.768.3240
231 Union Street
Watsonville CA, 95076



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} Washington Monument

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 12:13 PM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

I am forwarding an email we received regarding the Washington monument.

Thank you,

----- Forwarded message -----

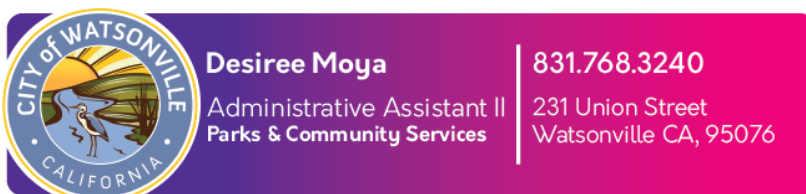
From: **Brad Hubbard** <brad_hubbard@pvusd.net>
Date: Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 11:44 AM
Subject: {PCS} Washington Monument
To: <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>, Betty Bjur <gtobjur190@gmail.com>

City Council Members:

Please do not remove the Washington monument in the plaza in Watsonville. George Washington was one of the Founding Fathers along with Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, John Hancock, and Alexander Hamilton and their work was both critical and essential for the birth of our country. Without his leadership, direction, and support of the Continental Army, the colonists would have been defeated and Great Britain would have retained control of the 13 colonies. I very much want the Washington monument to remain in the city of Watsonville's plaza. Thank you.

Brad Hubbard
Watsonville High School
728-6390, ext 6482

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Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} Washington statue

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 9:46 AM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Passing along another email regarding the George Washington Statue.

Thank you,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Terry Martinez** <theresamartinez.tm@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jul 26, 2020 at 9:36 AM
Subject: {PCS} Washington statue
To: <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Keep the statue

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<p>Desiree Moya Administrative Assistant II Parks & Community Services</p>	<p>831.768.3240 231 Union Street Watsonville CA, 95076</p>
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Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: {PCS} Washington

1 message

Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org> Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 1:59 PM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: PCS <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Good Afternoon,
I am forwarding an email we received regarding the Washington monument.

Thank you,

----- Forwarded message -----
From: '**Pablo Barrick**' via **PCS** <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>
Date: Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 1:24 PM
Subject: {PCS} Washington
To: <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Sent from my iPhone
I am born and raised in Watsonville. I take my heritage of being both white and Mexican seriously. I DO NOT want the Washington memorial taken down. We can not bow to outside influences that are not part of us and our community. As part of a representative and democratic society I hope and expect my input to be considered. Remember at the forming of our government Washington was asked to be king and he turned the offer down. We are the people.
Thank you,
Pablo Barrick

--



Desiree Moya	831.768.3240
Administrative Assistant II Parks & Community Services	231 Union Street Watsonville CA, 95076



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: Please Keep George Washington Bust in Watsonville City Civic Plaza Park

1 message

Marisa Fernandez <marisa.fernandez@cityofwatsonville.org> Tue, Jul 21, 2020 at 8:17 AM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Hi Nick,

Good morning.

FYI below.

Thanks,

Marisa

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Becky Steinbruner** <ki6tkb@yahoo.com>

Date: Tue, Jul 21, 2020 at 12:06 AM

Subject: Please Keep George Washington Bust in Watsonville City Civic Plaza Park

To: Watsonville City Council <citycouncil@cityofwatsonville.org>, Watsonville City Clerk <cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org>

Cc: Becky Steinbruner <ki6tkb@yahoo.com>

Dear Watsonville City Council,

I am writing to urge that you preserve the George Washington bust in the Watsonville City Civic Plaza Park. The Change.org petition by Revolunas to remove it appears to have 1,190 signers at this time, but we do not know if those signers are from the Watsonville City or Santa Cruz County area.

While I support racial equality, I am opposed to removing important historic monuments that were put in place to honor the person and their actions in local, state and national events. I feel it is a disservice to future generations to attempt to erase and sanitize history, losing the vital lessons learned from the mistakes and consequences. Unless we learn about the circumstances that created or allowed some of the terrible events of the country and the world to happen, those terrible things will happen again.

I understand that the Change.org organizers feel that because George Washington owned slaves on his Mount Vernon farm, he should not be honored in the Watsonville City Civic Plaza Park now. What must be made known is that he inherited the slaves and the farm at the age of eleven when his father died. While George Washington continued to add more slaves to his farm as it grew, he was careful to never separate slave families, and would buy more slaves than he needed in order to preserve the slave family units.

George Washington also allowed slaves who were too ill or old to work to do other less-demanding work or not work at all, and provided for their health and well-being for the rest of their lives. He provided education for the children of slaves.

The literature discusses that he often voiced the opinion that he wished he did not have to depend on slaves for farm work.

ATTACHMENT 2

"In 1774 he was a key participant in the adoption of the [Fairfax Resolves](#) which, alongside the assertion of colonial rights, condemned the [transatlantic slave trade](#) on moral grounds. Washington was a signatory to that entire document, and thus publicly endorsed clause 17 "declaring our earnest wishes to see an entire stop forever put to such wicked, cruel, and unnatural trade."

In 1789 he signed a reenactment of the [Northwest Ordinance](#) which freed any new slaves brought after 1787 into a vast expanse of federal territory, except for slaves escaping from slave states. Washington also signed into law the [Slave Trade Act of 1794](#) that sought to limit the involvement of American ships or American exports in the [international slave trade](#).

Washington's slaves were the subjects of the longest provisions in the 29-page will, taking three pages in which his instructions were more forceful than in the rest of the document. His valet, William Lee, was freed immediately and his remaining 123 slaves were to be emancipated [on the death of Martha](#).¹ The deferral was intended to postpone the pain of separation that would occur when his slaves were freed but their spouses among the dower slaves remained in bondage, a situation which affected 20 couples and their children. It is possible Washington hoped Martha and her heirs who would inherit the dower slaves would solve this problem by following his example and emancipating them. Those too old or infirm to work were to be supported by his estate, as mandated by state law.

Washington went beyond the legal requirement to support and maintain younger slaves until adulthood, stipulating that those children whose education could not be undertaken by parents were to be taught reading, writing, and a useful trade by their masters and then be freed at the age of 25. He forbade the sale or transportation of any of his slaves out of Virginia before their emancipation. Including the Dandridge slaves, who were to be emancipated under similar terms, more than 160 slaves would be freed. Although Washington was not alone among Virginian slaveowners in freeing their slaves, he was unusual among those doing it for doing it so late, after the post-revolutionary support for emancipation in Virginia had faded.

He was also unusual for being the only slave-owning Founding Father to do so."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Washington_and_slavery

What I feel the Revolution Petition organizers are forgetting is that George Washington led many Revolutionary War battles that enabled our country to be free from oppressive British rule. They have forgotten that he presided over the Constitutional Convention in 1787, and helped enable the beginnings of our republic began with a system of governmental checks and balances that exists nowhere else in the world.

Please do not allow any group to remove the George Washington bust in the Watsonville City Civic Plaza Park. Instead, encourage teaching moments of lessons learned from the past that must be kept alive for future generations, so that they are not repeated. Honor history, rather than erase and sanitize it.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Becky Steinbruner
831-685-2915

--



Marisa Fernandez
Executive Assistant to City
Manager and City Council
City Manager's Office

831.768.3047
275 Main St. Suite 400
Watsonville CA, 95076



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: Response to attempt to remove bust from City Plaza

1 message

Marisa Fernandez

<marisa.fernandez@cityofwatsonville.org>

Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 9:02 AM

To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Hi Nick,

Good morning. FYI below.

Thanks,

Marisa

----- Forwarded message -----

From: b.wiser@k6rmw.net <b.wiser@k6rmw.net>

Date: Sat, Jul 25, 2020 at 12:56 PM

Subject: Response to attempt to remove bust from City Plaza

To: <citycouncil@cityofwatsonville.org>

Cc: <cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org>, <citymanager@cityofwatsonville.org>

I am writing in response to the recent news item which expressed the desire of some residence of the community, to remove a bust of one of our country founders from the city plaza. I am in objection to the removal of any existing monuments from our city parks and lands.

Regardless of who the bust may be of, while they may have had "slaves" under their rule some 200+ years ago, they were founders of this country and have a rightful place in history of our country, weather we want them to or not - it is a fact.

I would base my objection of a simple statement from the Bible which states, "He who has no sin cast the first stone." The past is the past and now is now, and you can't change the past of an individual by attempting to cover it up. I would offer that the person the bust in our city park is of, did more good for this country, and our city which is a part of this country, than he did wrong as a person, as he's now scene as being. Ideas and opinions change over time, but history does not.

Removing a statue, or any other reminder such as a cross in a cemetery marking someone who may have done something wrong in their life, does not make its removal right or prove anything.

I have lived in this community since 1963 and there has never been a problem associated with that statue and there isn't one now, only some people who would like to express they are offended. That is fine and your right, be offended - just leave the statue alone for the rest of us.

How about we all be offended that so many people are so darn offended about everything these days. What will be next?

Regards,

Bob Wiser
120 Arthur Road
Watsonville, CA 95076

--





Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: Statue removal

1 message

City Manager <citymanager@cityofwatsonville.org> Thu, Jul 16, 2020 at 4:09 PM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: Matt Huffaker <matt.huffaker@cityofwatsonville.org>

Hi Nick,

Good afternoon. I hope all is well. I am forwarding you the email below in regards to the George Washington statue located at the city plaza.

Thank you,

Marisa

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Scott Martin** <larz1@att.net>

Date: Thu, Jul 16, 2020 at 12:19 PM

Subject: Statue removal

To: <citycouncil@cityofwatsonville.org>, <cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org>, <citymanager@cityofwatsonville.org>

I am writing to you about statue removal. I am totally against the removal of our statues. It's part of Our Great History. If you do consider the removal. It should be on a ballot for the people to decide ! Thank You Scott Martin



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: statue

1 message

City Manager <citymanager@cityofwatsonville.org> Fri, Jul 17, 2020 at 11:06 AM
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: Matt Huffaker <matt.huffaker@cityofwatsonville.org>

Good morning!

FYI below.

Thank you,

Marisa

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Margaret McNeely** <margedmc@aol.com>
Date: Fri, Jul 17, 2020 at 10:14 AM
Subject: RE: statue
To: <citymanager@cityofwatsonville.org>

Hi Matt,

I am contacting you to say I am very very very opposed to the removal of the Washington statue.

It is very upsetting to me that these anarchist are destroying all our wonderful statues all over this

country. They are trying to destroy our rich history and our country. I have been a citizen of this town

since 1968. It is very changed since I moved here and not for the better. Please , please do not

remove this statue and if it is removed please protect it somewhere and maybe some day we will

have better people here who will put it back in its rightful place. I fear for our country.

Hopefully

Trump will be reelected and we can have 4 more years. I don't want the socialists to take over.

CA has already fallen. If I was not 80 I would be leaving this state. Please Matt do what you can to

protect Washington..

Margaret "Marged" McNeely



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

George Washington Statue

1 message

lewisgiant49@charter.net <lewisgiant49@charter.net>

Fri, Jul 24, 2020 at 11:24 AM

To: nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org

We are residence of Watsonville for over 70 years. We strongly oppose the removal of the George Washington Statue at our city plaza. We never had the opportunity to give our opinion on this matter so we are now. Please consider this man's whole contribution to our country and our history.

Marilyn and Carl Lewis.

Sent from my iPhone



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Online Form Submittal: Parks and Recreation Customer Comment Form

1 message

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com> Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 7:37 AM
To: nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org, imelda.negrete@cityofwatsonville.org, adriana.flores@cityofwatsonville.org

Parks and Recreation Customer Comment Form

Parks and Recreation Customer Comment Form
Please complete this form to submit your comments regarding parks and recreation programs and services. If you have a maintenance concern, use our Maintenance Report form: <https://www.cityofwatsonville.org/FormCenter/Parks-Community-Services-14/Park-or-Recreation-Facility-Maintenance--112>

Area of Comment or Concern	General
Please Provide us with your Comments	DO NOT REMOVE GEORGE WASHINGTON'S MONUMENT
Contact Information (Optional)	
First Name	BEVERLY
Last Name	GLOFF
Phone Number	2547497171
Email Address	<i>Field not completed.</i>

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Online Form Submittal: Parks and Recreation Customer Comment Form

1 message

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com> Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 7:43 AM
To: nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org, imelda.negrete@cityofwatsonville.org, adriana.flores@cityofwatsonville.org

Parks and Recreation Customer Comment Form

Parks and Recreation Customer Comment Form
Please complete this form to submit your comments regarding parks and recreation programs and services. If you have a maintenance concern, use our Maintenance Report form: <https://www.cityofwatsonville.org/FormCenter/Parks-Community-Services-14/Park-or-Recreation-Facility-Maintenance--112>

Area of Comment or Concern	General
Please Provide us with your Comments	DO NOT REMOVE GEORGE WASHINGTON'S MONUMENT
Contact Information (Optional)	
First Name	WAYNE
Last Name	GLOFF
Phone Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	<i>Field not completed.</i>

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Re: G.W. Statue

1 message

Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org> Mon, Jul 20, 2020 at 12:42 PM
To: Marisa Fernandez <marisa.fernandez@cityofwatsonville.org>
Cc: Matt Huffaker <matt.huffaker@cityofwatsonville.org>

Thanks. Just spoke with Doris and informed her of the PRC meeting on 8/3.

Thanks,



Nick Calubaquib
Parks & Community
Services Director

831.768.3240
831.768.3246(Direct)
231 Union Street
Watsonville CA, 95076

www.watsonvillerec.com
<https://www.facebook.com/watsonvillerec/>

On Thu, Jul 16, 2020 at 4:48 PM Marisa Fernandez <marisa.fernandez@cityofwatsonville.org> wrote:

Hi Nick,

Doris Russell, is a community member who called in with concerns about the George Washington statue being removed from the city plaza.

Here is her contact info: (831) 761-5136

Thank you,

Marisa

--



Marisa Fernandez
Executive Assistant to City
Manager and City Council
City Manager's Office

831.768.3047
275 Main St. Suite 400
Watsonville CA, 95076

www.linkedin.com/in/nickalaga

From: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 2:44 PM
To: nick.alaga@gmail.com
Subject: George Washington Bust in City Plaza

Hi Nick,

My name is Nick Calubaquib and I am the Parks and Community Services Director for the City of Watsonville. I am reaching out to see if you might be related to Lloyd F. Alaga, who passed away in 1997. Mr. Alaga left about \$300,000 to the City of Watsonville to purchase reference materials for the Watsonville Library, restore the historical fountain in the City Plaza and install a bust of George Washington in the City Plaza. I have been having a hard time finding surviving relatives of Mr. Alaga and his estate. If are or know anyone who is related to Lloyd Alaga, it would be great to connect with you.

You may be aware that recently there are community members that have raised some concerns regarding the placement of the George Washington bust in the Plaza, including a petition that is circulating calling for its removal. There are certainly community members who have opinions on both sides of the debate.

To allow for a community conversation, staff will bring an item before the Parks and Recreation Commission, including all the relevant background, regarding this topic on August 3 at 6:30p.

The meeting link and call in number will be published on the meeting agenda, which you will be able to find [here](#) theThursday prior to the meeting.

Thank you!



7/22/2020

City of Watsonville Mail - RE: George Washington Bust in City Plaza

www.watsonvillerec.com

<https://www.facebook.com/watsonvillerec/>

ATTACHMENT 2



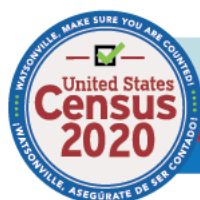
Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Statue

1 message

Beatriz Flores <beatriz.flores@cityofwatsonville.org> Mon, Jul 20, 2020 at 10:55 AM
 To: Matt Huffaker <matt.huffaker@cityofwatsonville.org>, Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>, Tamara Vides <tamara.vides@cityofwatsonville.org>
 Cc: Irwin Ortiz <irwin.ortiz@cityofwatsonville.org>

See the attached emails from Margaret McNeely.



Beatriz Vázquez Flores, MMC

City Clerk - (831)768-3040 or (831)768-3042

275 Main St., Suite 400, Watsonville CA, 95076

beatriz.flores@cityofwatsonville.org

Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday - Friday.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Margaret McNeely <margedmc@aol.com>

To: trina.coffman@cityofwatsonville.org, cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Fri, 17 Jul 2020 14:13:53 -0700

Subject: RE: statue

Hi Tina,

I am writing to tell you that I very very very much oppose taking down Washington statue I am very upset with all these anarchist taking down our statues all over the nation and trying

to delete our heritage and history. I am sad that it has come to our town also. These people

are evil and no one seems to be doing anything to stop them. I am asking you to please not

take down the Father of our country. If it offends them they should leave our country. I am a

very proud patriotic citizen and am very worried about where this country is headed. I do not

want to live in a socialist country. It has not worked in any other countries and it will not work

here. Unfortunately CA has already fallen. If I was not 80 and was young I would leave this state. All they want is more taxes and fees to turn around and give to people who should not be here. Please do not do this. Keep the statue.

Margaret "Marged" McNeely
722 0929

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Margaret McNeely <margedmc@aol.com>
To: aurelio.gonzalez@cityofwatsonville.org, cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org
Cc:
Bcc:
Date: Fri, 17 Jul 2020 10:21:18 -0700
Subject: RE: statue

I am writing to say please please please do not remove the Washington Statue from the plaza.

I am tired of the anarchist tearing down our history and trying to destroy our country. We have a rich historical heritage and I am proud of my country and am so sad and angry that our wonderful statues are being torn down. These people were important to our history whether someone liked or disliked them. I am offended for example when people in this town fly Mexican flags but I do not go around and tear down their flags. But this is my country and the flag is the American flag. But back to the statue. Please stake a stand and keep it where it is. Please Please Please Do what is right., He is the Father of our country. Love it or leave it is my motto.

Margaret "Marged" McNeely
722 0929

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Margaret McNeely <margedmc@aol.com>
To: francisco.estrada@cityofwatsonville.org, cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org
Cc:
Bcc:
Date: Fri, 17 Jul 2020 09:50:14 -0700
Subject: RE: the statue

I am writing because I am very very very opposed to the Washington statue being taken down.

I am tired of these anarchists taking down all these wonderful statues and trying to destroy our history and destroying our country. It makes me very sad and angry. This is my country

and I do
not want to live in a socialist country. CA is already lost to socialism and I am
embarrassed that
I was born in this state. If I was a young person I would be leaving. I am too old to make
a change
now. Please take a stand and leave Washington where he is. If he is taken down I would
love to
have him as he is the Father of my Country and I would be proud to have him.

Margaret "Marged" McNeely
722 0929

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Margaret McNeely <margedmc@aol.com>

To: francisco.estrada@cityofwatsonville.org, cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Fri, 17 Jul 2020 10:04:48 -0700

Subject: RE: statre ue

I am a citizen of this city since 1968. I am very very very opposed to this statue of
Washington

being removed from the plaza. I am tired of all the statues in our country being removed
or

vandalized by these anarchist people who are trying to destroy our history and our
country.

It makes me sad and angry. This is my history and Watsonville needs to be better than
the rest

of the country who is allowing this travesty to occur. Please man up and take a stand
against

this. We have a rich heritage and history in this country and even here in our city. The
people

who want this removed should leave the city if they are so offended. Washington is the
Father

of our Country. I am a proud true patriot of this country.

Margaret "Marged" McNeely
722-00929

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Margaret McNeely <margedmc@aol.com>

To: trina.coffman@cityofwatsonville.org, cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Fri, 17 Jul 2020 09:38:46 -0700

Subject: RE: statue

Hi,

I am very very very opposed to the statue of Washington being removed from the plaza.

I am tired of these anarchist who are trying to destroy our history and country tearing down history. Please do what is right and leave it alone and see that it is protected. I would be glad to have the statue of it is taken down. I am a true patriotic citizen and am very upset about all these statues being removed. It is my history and if they don't like it let them leave this country.

Margaret "Marged" McNeely
722 0929

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Margaret McNeely <margedmc@aol.com>
To: ari.parker@cityofwatsonville.org, cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org
Cc:
Bcc:
Date: Fri, 17 Jul 2020 09:44:04 -0700
Subject: About statue

Hi Ari,

I am a retired teacher. Think you may have gone to Corralitos after I retired. Anyway I am very very opposed to the Washington statue being removed. I am sick about these cry baby anarchist tearing down all these statues and trying to destroy all of our history. In fact I am angry and it is backfiring because I am going to the opposite way of what they want. Please please do not remove the statue. I have been in Watsonville since 1968 and am seeing the city go down hill and it is very very sad. Be brave and take a stand.

Margaret "Marged" McNeely
722 0929

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Margaret McNeely <margedmc@aol.com>
To: rebecca.garcia@cityofwatsonville.org, cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org
Cc:
Bcc:
Date: Fri, 17 Jul 2020 09:34:37 -0700
Subject: RE:statue

I am very very opposed to removing the Washington statue from the plaza. I am opposed to any statue being removed and am tired of these anarchist trying to destroy our history. This needs to stop and it needs to stop here in Watsonville. I have lived in Watsonville since 1968 and am sad at the demise of this city. Please please do not do this. Stand up and do what is right.

Margaret "Marged" McNeely
722 0929

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Margaret McNeely <margedmc@aol.com>

To: felipe.hernandez@cityofwatsonville.org, cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Fri, 17 Jul 2020 09:27:40 -0700









Subject: RE: statue removal

Hello,

I am very very much opposed to the Washington statue being removed. Am sick and tired of our history being torn down by these anarchist people trying to destroy our country Please do what is right and keep it where it is.

Margaret "Marged" McNeely
Watsonville citizen since 1968
722 0929

8 attachments

-  **RE: statue.eml**
11K
-  **RE: statue.eml**
11K
-  **RE: the statue.eml**
11K
-  **RE: statre ue.eml**
11K
-  **RE: statue.eml**
10K
-  **About statue.eml**
11K
-  **RE:statue.eml**
10K
-  **RE: statue removal.eml**
10K



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Washington Monument

1 message

Betty Bjur <gtobjur190@gmail.com>

Thu, Jul 23, 2020 at 7:09 PM

To: "citycouncil@cityofwatsonville.org" <citycouncil@cityofwatsonville.org>, "nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org" <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

I am extremely disturbed by the idea of removing President George Washington monument from our beautiful plaza. Doesn't anybody know the contribution that President Washington made to the birth & establishment of our country? If you would just take some time to read early America's history, you would know that this country would not exist without President Washington's contribution to American independence & gift of leadership. Please don't be pushed around by the changing cultural political norms of the time. If you would stop & consider the advancements that American culture has made over the last 300 years in racial equality, the freedom of mankind throughout the world, all had its start because of George Washington. His contribution far out ways the fact that he owned slaves, which were freed upon his death.

The first I heard of this was reading Manny Solano's page on Facebook. This has not even been publicized to the people in Watsonville. Did you not want us to know about this possible removal of the monument? I'm actually in shock over this & totally disappointed. How could anyone sign a petition when we are in the middle of a pandemic? 1000 signatures? Are the names going to be made public? Do they live in Watsonville? We are in stay in place orders, not out collecting signatures. Lots of questions from a person that was born & raised here & taught school in Watsonville, now retired but continue to sub in the school district. I love this city & our monument & plaza.

I hope that if the council decides to remove his monument, the city of Watsonville has \$100,000.00 to repay Mr Alaga's estate. I know the Alaga family had to have the city council approval before they were allowed to put the monument in place.

Betty Henry Bjur

Subject: Statue removal
From: Scott Martin <larz1@att.net>
To: <citycouncil@cityofwatsonville.org>, <cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org>, <citymanager@cityofwatsonville.org>
Date: Thu Jul 16 2020 12:19:40 GMT-0700 (Pacific Daylight Time)
Filename: Statue removal.eml

I am writing to you about statue removal. I am totally against the removal of our statues. It's part of Our Great History. If you do consider the removal. It should be on a ballot for the people to decide ! Thank You Scott Martin

Subject: Washington Statue
From: Eric Vargas <vargas.eh@gmail.com>
To: <trina.coffman@cityofwatsonville.org>, <cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org>
Date: Thu Jul 16 2020 12:48:36 GMT-0700 (Pacific Daylight Time)
Filename: Washington Statue.eml

Please do not cave to pressure by these groups to remove the statue of George Washington.

This supposed "movement" to end police brutality has now morphed into pure mob violence threatening to remove or destroy anything is American. Don't you see something wrong with this?

This is still America! It is because of the brave actions of our Founding Fathers such as George Washington that all of us now have this wonderful country in which we have enjoyed God given rights and liberties.

The real problem is so many young people growing up ignorant of our country's history and importance, and being taught to hate their own country.

And now, these groups who claim to promote "social justice" are the ones making communities feel unsafe and even afraid to speak our honest opinions, lest we anger the mob and feel their wrath.

Is that where you are headed? Is that how you will give up your city and your country? At the demand of some angry mob?

Please don't.



Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: George Washington

1 message

Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
To: Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 10:27 AM

Please save and add to spreadsheet.

Thanks!



www.watsonvillerec.com

<https://www.facebook.com/watsonvillerec/>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Roz diNatale** <quiltlady500@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, Sep 5, 2020 at 3:57 PM

Subject: George Washington

To: <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

I understand the history of President Washington has created both sides that want to honor his memory and those that want to remove the bust because he was a slave owner. It is good to know that he later changed his thinking and provided for the slaves that he owned. I believe that it was a way of life during that time period and he did make amends for his beliefs.

Since his actions has created a lot of pain for so many people, it would be a good gesture to have the bust removed from the park. We have many heroes during our time that we could honor with statues, etc. If we must have them.

I guess my opinion is that it should be removed.

Roz diNatale



Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: GW Bust Brouhaha

1 message

Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
To: Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 11:02 AM

To save and add to the spreadsheet.

Thanks!



Nick Calubaquib
Parks & Community
Services Director

831.768.3240
831.768.3246(Direct)
231 Union Street
Watsonville CA, 95076

www.watsonvillerec.com

<https://www.facebook.com/watsonvillerec/>


----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Beatriz Flores** <beatriz.flores@cityofwatsonville.org>

Date: Tue, Sep 8, 2020 at 10:11 AM

Subject: Fwd: GW Bust Brouhaha

To: Matt Huffaker <matt.huffaker@cityofwatsonville.org>, Tamara Vides <tamara.vides@cityofwatsonville.org>, Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>



Beatriz Vázquez Flores, MMC
City Clerk - (831)768-3040 or (831)768-3042
275 Main St., Suite 400, Watsonville CA, 95076

beatriz.flores@cityofwatsonville.org

Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday - Friday.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bampa** <unkledon@aol.com>

Date: Mon, Sep 7, 2020 at 11:48 AM

Subject: GW Bust Brouhaha

To: <felipe.hernandez@cityofwatsonville.org>, <cityclerk@cityofwatsonville.org>, <lowell.hurst@cityofwatsonville.org>, <rebecca.garcia@cityofwatsonville.org>

I am writing to the three of you because you know of my work. Among other things, back in 1994 when we started New School, I conducted conflict resolution groups with Northside and Poorside gang members who had shot at each other before. I learned that LISTENING can resolve a lot of misunderstandings.

I am very concerned about the direction the polarization in this country is taking us. Already in some cities there is violence.

I believe Watsonville is better than that.

I know Citlali Cabadas, who is one of the protagonists in this drama and I also know Manny Solano who is another. Both are good people.

Before a mass meeting when no one listens to the other side, I propose a very small "listening session" where the major protagonists, through various structures, could LISTEN to each other. The worst that could happen is that each side would feel more heard, and the issues would be better clarified.



Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

Fwd: Your Input is Needed!

1 message

Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>
To: Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 10:11 AM

Hi Desiree,

Please save to our files and add to the spreadsheet.

Thanks!



Nick Calubaquib
Parks & Community
Services Director

831.768.3240
831.768.3246(Direct)
231 Union Street
Watsonville CA, 95076

www.watsonvillerec.com

<https://www.facebook.com/watsonvillerec/>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Imelda Negrete** <imelda.negrete@cityofwatsonville.org>
Date: Tue, Sep 8, 2020 at 12:16 PM
Subject: Fwd: Your Input is Needed!
To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Zarko Radich** <zradich@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Sep 8, 2020 at 12:01 PM
Subject: Re: Your Input is Needed!
To: <imelda.negrete@cityofwatsonville.org>

Sir,

If you call talks to those that call themselves Revolucionas, 'dialogue':

they are NOT for dialogue. They are too loud,
coming with an agenda and following somebody's
directions. That makes dialogue impossible.

This has to go to the people of Watsonville. to vote and that would be the only fair solution.

Best regards,

Z. Radich

On Fri, Sep 4, 2020 at 12:20 PM City of Watsonville Parks & Community Services <imelda.negrete@cityofwatsonville.org> wrote:

City of Watsonville
Parks and Community Services



REX'S UPDATES

September 2020



The City is seeking greater community input through a survey on the George Washington bust. The survey will be open through September 30. A series of Town Hall Meetings will be scheduled in October to share survey results and collect ideas from residents to create viable options for consideration of the Parks and Recreation Commission during its meeting on November 2.

Please participate in our survey by September 30 by clicking [here!](#)

Please feel free to share our survey with anyone you know who may have interest in this topic. Please note that survey responses require contact information. This is for the purpose of reducing duplicate entries and to determine residency only. Personal information will not be shared and responses will remain confidential. Non-resident responses will be counted separately.

More Information regarding the George Washington Bust

The City of Watsonville is seeking your input on the George Washington bust in the City Plaza.

On May 25, 1999, the City Council unanimously adopted a resolution approving the acceptance of a monetary gift of approximately \$100,000 from the Estate of Lloyd F. Alaga, for the purpose of placing a bust of George Washington in the City Plaza and using any excess funds to refurbish the historic fountain, also in the City Plaza. The Council also accepted a monetary gift of approximately \$200,000 from the Estate for the acquisition of library reference works. Mr. Alaga was a Watsonville native of Croatian descent. Artist Michelle Armitage created and installed the bust and an unveiling ceremony was conducted in 2001.

Recently, an online petition was created calling for the removal of the George Washington bust. A counter petition was then created calling for the bust to remain in its current location. A sit in was hosted on July 17 in front of the George Washington bust that was attended by community members both in support of and against its removal. Another group organized a sit in to save the bust on July 31. The City Council, City Manager, City Clerk and Parks and Community Services Director have received many emails regarding this matter, which has also been reported on by the Register

Pajaronian, KION and other media outlets. The Parks and Recreation Commission held a study session regarding the bust on August 3 that was attended by over 190 community members, many of whom expressed their opinions advocating that the bust be removed or remain.

Some of the viewpoints expressed by supporters of the removal of the bust include that George Washington owned 100s of slaves, aided in the genocide of the Indigenous people of this land and is a symbol of White Supremacy. If we are going to display representations of men like Washington in a public space, we should then include features that reflect their dark, inhumane and genocidal qualities as well. If monuments are meant to be permanent tributes to individuals and what they stand for, this idea is laden with many flaws and this bust does not reflect the values of our community and must be removed.

Some of the viewpoints expressed by supporters of the bust remaining include that the bust serves as a reminder of our country's history, recognizing we are a nation of diverse people who fought against tyranny and oppression. Considered the Father of our Country, Washington was a farmer, a soldier, a politician and businessman. Washington was also a man of conviction and regrets. As he grew older, his attitude toward slavery changed, and was instrumental in the fight for liberty. In his will, his estate paid for the care of freed Mount Vernon slaves for decades after his death.

.....

Please feel free to contact our Parks and Community Services Director Nick Calubaquib should you have any questions at nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org. or (831) 768-3240.

.....



About Rex Watson

Rex Watson is Watsonville's own dinosaur who's job is to be a bright source of happiness to everyone he meets and protect all things green, from green space to green grass.




Watsonville Parks & Community Services
231 Union Street • (831) 768-3240
www.watsonvillerec.com

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This email was sent to zradich@gmail.com.

[Click here to view the online version.](#)



Imelda Negrete
Recreation Superintendent
Parks & Community Services

831. 768.3245
231 Union Street
Watsonville CA, 95076

 Please consider the environment before printing this message



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

George Washington Petition and Letters 8.16.20

1 message

Manny Solano <mannyjsolano@gmail.com>

Sun, Aug 16, 2020 at 3:56 PM

To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

Cc: Matt Huffaker <matt.huffaker@cityofwatsonville.org>

Hi Nick,

Attached are more signatures and letters from supporters in favor of keeping the George Washington bust. One letter in particular is from Alaga family member John P. Alaga. John lives at [261 Corralitos Rd.](#) in Watsonville if you need to reach him. Other family members are also sending letters and we have more petitions and letters to send in.

Thanks for keeping us up-to-date on this issue and to your staff who promptly responded to people who took time to send emails.

Sincerely,

Manny Solano

[75 Fruitland Ave.](#)


[Watsonville, CA. 95076](#)


(831) 726-6653

mannyjsolano@gmail.com

3 attachments

 **John Alaga Ltr 8.16.20.pdf**
1017K

 **Petition 8.16.20.pdf**
1332K

 **Batch Wash. Ltrs 8.16.20.pdf**
3561K



Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

OK, my turn to weigh in on George W.....

1 message

steve trujillo <cruztbone@yahoo.com>

Wed, Aug 5, 2020 at 1:58 PM

To: Nick Calubaquib <nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org>

1. yes, he owned and bought slaves. AWFUL.
2. yes, he was a sexist and racist. AWFUL.
3. yes, he did little to treat native Americans with dignity or respect. AWFUL .

BUT:

4. he was the 1st POTUS of the USA.
5. he did lead the continental army, badly out gunned and out manned by the British.
6. he did unite the 13 colonies and manage to get a written constiution, as flawed as it is.

SO: my recommendation is to move George to in front of city hall.

remove the plaque and replace it with a more accurate review of his life, blemishes and burnishments .

and while we are at it, LET US DUMP JUAN RODRIGUEZ CABRILLO as the name of our community college. if we think GW was bad, CABRILLO WAS WORSE. i know. I wrote the Mexican American history course for the Salinas Union High school district in 1992. CABRILLO WAS : EL CABRON CHINGON DEL DIABLO.

best wishes . stay well. Steve Trujillo

Dear Mr. Solano,

This is a letter confirming my support in keeping the bust of George Washington in the park.

The argument for removing it is ridiculous. All People through history have had flaws, beliefs and actions that are not concurrent with todays morality. We honor Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Roosevelt, Kennedy, King, Chavez, and others not because of their flaws but because of the decisions and actions they made to create and improve this country.

Thank you,

Dave Loveless

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D.M. Loveless".

Mr Alex Solano

**Please do what you can to preserve the historic
statuary downtown. Our history both local and
national is vital to our futures.**

Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Workman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Paul Workman and family
839 Lake Village Dr.
Watsonville**

Dear Mr. Solano,

I want to give you my support in keeping the bust of George Washington in the park.

All People through history have been imperfect they are a result of their upbringing and environment. We honor Washington not because of his flaws, but because of the decisions and actions he made to create and improve this country.

Thank you,

Marie Loveless

Marie Loveless

MY NAME IS HANK WEMPE AND I
BELIEVE IN OUR AMERICAN HISTORY AND
DO NOT WANT IT ERASED. I DO NOT
WANT WASHINGTON REMOVED FROM OUR
PARK



Hey my name is Eddy Estrada and I do not want the Washington statue removed. I believe it has a lot of historic value for our city.

Eddy Estrada

My name is VICTOR ROCHA and I would like for
our History not to be erased. So can u please
keep our Washinton statue in the Watsonville Plaza for
our future generation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Victor Rocha', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

DO NOT REMOVE THE WASHINGTON
STATUE. DO NOT REMOVE MY
HISTORY. IT'S AMERICAN HISTORY.

BEST REGARDS,

NICHOLAS J. WEMPE

8-12-20

To whom it may concern,

I am apposed for the
Removal of the George Washington bust
from the City of Watsonville Plaza.

Truly,

Barbara Pratt

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

LOYD ALBA WAS A VERY GOOD MAN WORKED HARD HIS HOLE LIFE
AND WANTED TO DO SOMETHING FOR HIS NATIVE WATSONVILLE
IN DONATE \$100,000.00 FOR THIS STATUE PLEASE DONOT REMOVE
IT FROM IT PRESENT LOCATION HE IS ONE OF A VERY FEW THAT
WILL DONATE \$100,000.00 TO THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE.

John Lubrick

The George Washing statue was
donated to Watsonville.

It should be in it's current location.

Antoinette Lukrich

To Whom It May Concern
c/o Watsonville City Council

August 14, 2020

all monuments dedicated to the Father
of our country, George Washington, First
President of the USA, should be maintained
and left unmolested!

X William S. Little
Tech Stone.

X Dusty Dixon
Dixon and Son Tires

To whom it may concern;


As a member of the Alaga family

I John Alaga strongly oppose moving the Washington Bust, I do not see the purpose, it was placed where it is with the approval of the then city council and the wishes of Lloyd Alaga.

THE FACT REMAINS PRESIDENT Washington helped provide the freedom we all now enjoy, These demands are creating a needless unrest and a social divide, Plus the fact remains the final wish of president Washington was to free his slaves.

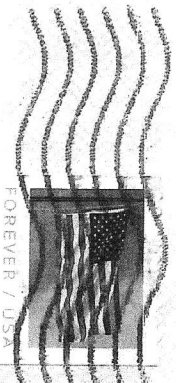
SINCERLY

John P. Alaga

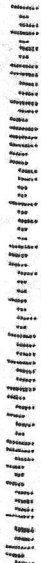

Mr. John P. Alaga
261 Corralitos Rd.
Watsonville, CA 95076

Mr. Alex Solano
333 EIKHORN Rd.
Watsonville, CA 95076

SAN JOSE CA 950
07 JUL 2000 PM 3 L



95076-561733



8/22/20

SENT

I am in favor of keeping
George Washington Statue in the
city plaza. - If people can't accept
the history - removing the statue does
not change the facts -

Terri Kemppe
Watsonville, Calif.

The bust of
George Washington
should be left in
the park, - Leave it
there, Gregory

8/22/20

MY NAME IS HANK WEMPE AND I
BELIEVE IN OUR AMERICAN HISTORY AND
DO NOT WANT IT ERASED. I DO NOT
WANT WASHINGTON REMOVED FROM OUR
PARK



8-17-2020

Angela Gallardo

106 Cutter Dr.

Wats. 95076

831-728-5282

Please do not remove
George Washington Statue

Taking historical statues
down is ridiculous!
History? Does it mean
anything to you?
We are Americans!

8/22/20
Paul Souza 831-809-3351

Born and Reised in Watsonville

This man Did more for our Country
Then all these People Put Together.

We need to educate These IDIOTS. If That
wont work, our fists will! America

Please do not remove the statue
of George Washington from the plaza.

I am Tired of the "whiners" trying to
remove/change history. If they put as much
energy into looking at the future as they do
criticizing the past, it would be a better place

Marilyn Marker

8/22/20

I'M NOT IN FAVOR OF REMOVING THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT FROM
OUR PLAZA. GEORGE WASHINGTON WAS OUR FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THIS IS HISTORY. YOU CANNOT ERASE
HISTORY.

JOAN E. TAYLOR

Joan E Taylor

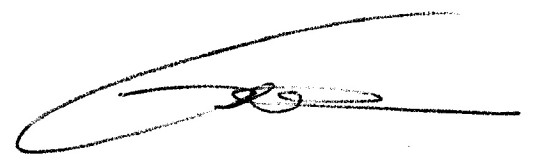
I do not want the
Statue Removed From
Plaza

Kathy Treaner

8/22/20

Please do not take the
Statue of George Washington
Down

290 ALIUS DR.
WATSONVILLE CA. 95076



PLEASE DON'T TAKE
THE STATUE OF
GEORGE WASHINGTON DOWN
Fannie J. Jaque

8/22/20

Please allow the statue of George Washington
(my forefather) to remain in Watsonville Plaza,

800 PLEASANT VALLEY LN.
APTOS CA. 95003

Tony A. Alameda

Tony A. Alameda

Please allow the statue of George Washington
to remain in Watsonville Plaza. He was my
forefather and should still be honored.

800 PLEASANT
VALLEY LN.
APTOS CA. 95003-9596

Mabel A. Alameda

8/13/20

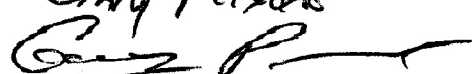
Hi Alex,

I'm writing to alert you to my desire to keep the George Washington bust in its place in the plaza.

He has always been considered the 'Father of our Country.' And this whole cancel culture movement should not be allowed to attempt to wash away our history. What George Washington did over 200 years ago is the same today as it was a year ago. Don't buckle to a few noise cymbals.

I recently read an interview where the subject put it very well; if something is on TV that you don't like, turn the channel or turn it off.... Don't force other people to follow your beliefs. If people don't want to see the bust in the plaza, walk a different route.

Again, please don't allow the current movement to try and hide our history. I'm proud to be an American, and George Washington is as American as hot dogs and apple pie. We must save the bust!

Sincerely
Gary Peixoto


8/22/70

Please keep George Washington in our P/227

Wade Jones

539 RODRIGUEZ STREET

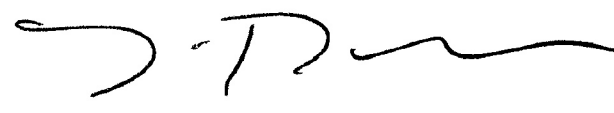
8/22/20

My name is JONNA KOVACIUK. I WAS
born and raised in Watsonville and I
am totally against the removal of
the George Washington statue in our Plaza.
He is one of our countries Founding fathers
and a big part of our history, whether you
like him or not! My contact # is
8312279829

Hi my name is Manuel Arroya and I would
like for the statue to be left where it is.
Its something that will teach people of history.

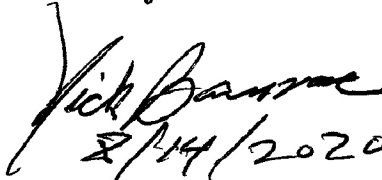


3/22/20

Hello my name is Jose Kodriguez
I'm 41 years old, I'm Born and raised
in Watsonville CA. I believe in Our
American History and I want
everything left alone, I want
the statue left alone as well
as everything else. 

NICK & STELLA BANOVAC
14 HAZELWOOD CT.
WATSONVILLE, CA 95076

We do not support the removal of the
Washington statue


2/14/2020

08/22/20

HELLO,

My NAME IS LESLIE WENPE AND I STRONGLY
OPPOSE THE REMOVAL OF OUR PLAZAS
GEORGE WASHINGTON STATUE.

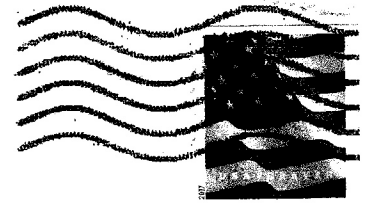
IT IS MY OPINION THAT GEORGE WASHINGTON
WAS A GREAT VISION FOR OUR COUNTRY
TO REMOVE THE STATUE WOULD BE A GREAT
DISRESPECT TO HIS MEMORY AND ACCOMPLISHMENT
PLEASE PRESERVE THE STATUE OF OUR
FOUNDING FATHER AND OUR UNITED STATES HISTORY

Leslie Wenpe

WENPE
ST
VILLE CA
95076

OAKLAND CA 945

15 AUG 2020 PM 6 L



*Ally Solano
333 Elkhorn Rd
Watsonville, Ca
95076*

95076-561733



8/22/20

ROBERT M. LEONARDICH
940 GREEN VALLEY RD
WATSONVILLE, CA 95076

I OPPOSE THE REMOVAL OF GEORGE
WASHINGTON'S BUST FROM THE
WATSONVILLE CITY PLAZA.

Bob Leonardich - AMERICAN

Do not remove the
George Washington statue
from the Watsonville Plaza

Ken Blanton

3/22/20

sent

I am in favor of keeping
George Washington Statue in the
city plaza. - If people can't accept
the history - removing the statue does
not change the facts -

Teri Kemp
Watsonville, Calif.

The bust of
George Washington
should be left in
the park, - Leave it
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8/22/20

MY NAME IS HANK WEARE AND I
BELIEVE IN OUR AMERICAN HISTORY AND
DO NOT WANT IT ERASED. I DO NOT
WANT WASHINGTON REMOVED FROM OUR
PARK



8-17-2020

Angela Gallardo

106 Cutter Dr.

Wats. 95076

831-728-5282


Please do not remove
George Washington Statue

Taking historical statues
down is ridiculous!
History? Does it mean
anything to you?
We are Americans!

8/22/20

AS A LOCAL BUSINESS
OWNER, AND FATHER
TO AN 8 YEAR OLD
GIRL, I FEEL STRONGLY
THAT WE MUST NOT
REMOVE THE BUST OF
GEORGE WASHINGTON.
WE CANNOT AFFORD TO
REMOVE HISTORY.

SINCERELY,


WILLI ORTNER

August 15, 2020

Dear City Council,

I am writing you this letter to voice my concern for the direction of the city and specifically the statue of George Washington. If we critique every prominent figure from the past, I'm sure we could eliminate most for something from their past. In the time of George Washington most prominent leaders had slaves and that was acceptable at the time. As time evolved slavery was eliminated by our past leaders. We have no idea what Washington thought of having slaves or if he despised the thought of having slaves, but I know he was a prominent figure in forming this fantastic country and I'm proud to have him here in our plaza. We've lost so much of our past lately by people destroying statues of people they don't even know what they did to give them the freedom they have today. We need to resist the wishes of a few to erase our past even though our past leaders' actions are what keep us free. Let us not be like sheep to the slaughter to follow the short sightedness of others to erase our past. I have lived in the Pajaro Valley my whole life and feel part of improvements to this city. I am proud our diversity and who we are today and have no desire to remove any part of it because a few don't agree with. It's who we are! I implore you to leave the plaza as is.

Sincerely,



Dick Peixoto

470 Hidden Valley Road
Royal Oaks, CA 95076

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing in support of keeping the bust of George Washington where it is at Watsonville City Plaza.

As we all become more aware of the need to re-examine statutes in public places, and whether the people they represent should truly be celebrated, there is no doubt that some statues should be removed. However, I believe that it's important to do this on a case-by-case basis and that there should be discussion and thought put into what is removed and what remains.

There is little doubt that statues of Confederate generals should be removed from public view, given that they fought for slave-holding interests. There is also good reason for mission figures to be taken down when we consider California missions' role in subjugating indigenous peoples and helping lead to the demise of once-populous tribes.

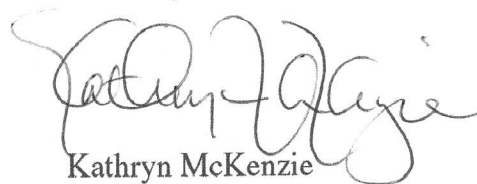
However, when it comes to George Washington, I would argue that there is value in retaining this piece of public art. He is the father of our United States, our first president and the man who held the American Revolution together as it threatened to fall apart. In addition, although he was a slaveholder during his lifetime, he freed his slaves upon his wife's death.

The message of Washington's life was that of self-sacrifice in the name of something larger than himself, and obviously he was willing to do what it took to right wrongs. That's a message that still resonates today.

I understand that some local groups are unhappy that indigenous people are not represented at the City Plaza. I think the city should invite them to erect their own statue, bust, plaque or other marker to commemorate the role of native Californians in our history. That way, they are able to honor this area's indigenous roots and to put that history on public view for all to see.

There's plenty of room for both Washington and a statue honoring indigenous people at City Plaza.

Sincerely,



Kathryn McKenzie

August 29, 2020

City of Watsonville

To Whom It May Concern:

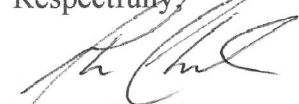
I am writing to express my support for leaving the George Washington statue at City Plaza. I believe that its removal would be damaging to our present day understanding of history. Washington represents the founding of this country, and the founding of a new way that government should operate. It represents freedom of expression, democratic traditions and that all men and women have the right to self rule.

That Washington was an imperfect person bears no reflection on what he represents. All people are imperfect. Generations to come will invariably look back on us as barbaric in some manner. Will it be because we tolerate poverty, slaughter animals for food, pollute the environment, recklessly enable climate change or execute criminals? Or it maybe something entirely less controversial. Does that mean the future should look at us as uncouth and selfish? I hope not, just as I hope we do not look back at the past, at people who did heroic deeds, such as Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King or Cesar Chavez, but all who had personal failings and political missteps of different degrees. The totality of the person is what is important.

The discussion at hand, to leave or remove the Washington statue, involves the very rights that Washington fought to secure in the Revolutionary War and later defend as President of the United States. There is nothing wrong with this discussion. This is how a free people operate. It is the ultimate decision that matters. To make a rash decision based on a sudden expression of a few well-meaning but misguided individuals of a narrow viewpoint does not bode well for the future of our democracy and careful thought of future policies.

Finally, it would be an extraordinary example of hypocrisy for the city of Watsonville to remove the statue of Washington but keep the name Watsonville. Watsonville is named after Judge John Watson who came from Georgia to California during the gold rush. He came with a slave. How can anyone rationally support removing a bust of Washington because he was a slaveholder and still embrace the Watson of Watsonville for the same failings? Watsonville did not take Watson's name because he was a slaveholder. It did so because he laid the foundation for a new community. Washington did the same when he laid the groundwork for a new nation.

Respectfully,



Glenn Church

470 Hidden Valley Rd.
Royal Oaks, CA 95076

August 28th, 2020
City of Watsonville

To whom it may concern,

In light of recent tidings, voices promoting the removal of a statue in George Washington's likeness have been heard. This message is to offer thought contradicting the aforementioned motion; that the removal of such a statue from the city plaza would result in the lessened merit of the area of interest.

In hindsight, mistakes formerly gone unnoticed become discovered. To be human is to be no stranger to this. As a people, we are works in progress, we live and we experience. We learn and forget. Thus, this is the courtesy of change. What we once knew, we then realize *only to have thought to have known*. What was once lost to us, then became found by us. As the ages pass and trees grow taller, our sense of wisdom becomes not akin to how it had been. We begin to see the world through different eyes.

Naturally, this is how we have come to be at odds with our pasts. It is hindsight that has made us know what was wrong. What those from before used to believe 'great' soon was believed 'okay' and that which was then 'okay' thereafter was branded 'evil.'

The reasons to remove the statue follow this nature. Despite the wide breadth of activity as part of George Washington's life, specific details that had escaped public conscientiousness are now loathed today and mar his name. It is true he was a slave owner. It is true that many of the values he held dear are open to ethical debate. But it would seem to me, these grounds should only be taken as fact and context, not something to weaponize against him. It would seem folly to do so, much as it would be folly to chastise someone in the middle of reading a novel for not knowing the plot, especially by us whereupon we have already finished the story. If these ills are of blindness and the remedy is time, then it is undoubtedly only a matter of time until our children's children denounce the things we have done and considered mundane. We will be Samaritans when in life, but criminals when in our graves.

In spite of any conclusions regarding retrospect of morals, we all are heirs to the same family, whether the actions of those before were good or bad, they have made us all the same, and much how we come to find stains of corruption in our heroes, we likewise continue to find new gems of wisdom. Everyone from our past, much how we will be, are held accountable for trespasses. Though are we then to react by wholly ignoring them? No. We are what we are today because of them and we must become acquainted with them much to our benefit. There is always something of worth in them to take heed no matter the changes in society.

It is on this premise, that there is worth in the statue retaining its place. The statue commemorates his political achievements by replacing a government structure with a more inclusive one. It is true that this 'inclusion' in comparison to what we have today is lacking and flawed, but this was the first step and that is worth remembering. If the nation is a relay race, although the first person to hold the baton did not cross the finish line, they still played just as much as a role in claiming the gold as the one who did.



Kristopher Church,
377 Hidden Valley Rd.
Watsonville, CA 95076

DATE:

PETITION TO SAVE THE WASHINGTON STATUE

We, the undersigned citizens of Watsonville and the Pajaro Valley call upon the Watsonville Parks and Recreation Commission and City Council to not remove nor relocate the George Washington monument from the City Plaza.

	NAME	EMAIL (PRINT)	STREET ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
1	Margie Kay	margie17k@aol.com	PO Box 12371 Watsonville	95077
2	Robert Willse	atpoo8@gmail.com	21 Airport Rd. Freedom	95019
3	Glenn Church	glchurch@gmail.com	470 Hidden Valley Rd Watsonville	95076
4	Pamela Mello	mellodywillse@aol.com	1051 San Miguel	95076
5	FRANK Mello		1057 San Miguel	95076
6	Betha Mello		1057 San Miguel	95076
7	PATRICIA AKIYAMA	Benjamin_Akiyama@provident.net	471 Airport	95076
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DATE:

PETITION TO SAVE THE WASHINGTON STATUE

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NAME	EMAIL (PRINT)	STREET ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
1 Kristopher Church	kristopher.louis@gmail.com	377 Hidden Valley Rd, Watsonville	95076
2 Kathryn McKenzie	kathymc@sbglobal.net	470 Hidden Valley Rd.	95076
3 Gabriela Church	poissongg@gmail.com	377 Hidden Valley Rd. Royal Oaks	95076
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Dear City of Watsonville

Have you lost your minds. Stand up for
this great County!

Peter Jensen
34 HAZELWOOD CT.
WATSONVILLE CA 95076

WE NEED TO
PRESERVE OUR
FINE FASHIONS AND
NO CHANGES TO OUR
PRESENT SITUATIONS.
COLLECTION FOR
VES VAN VESSEN.

I, Roy Jensen believe that
the Peogre Washington statue
should not be removed from
the Wabowille Plaza

Jensen

to whom it may concern:
I strongly oppose the removal of the Geo. Washington bust from
the Watsonville Park & Plaza. I was born & raised in Watsonville
and want to keep it's history alive. Mr. Lloyd Alaga, long-time
resident, generous & respected, donated the bust to our city, along
with a generous contribution to repair the water fountain in the park,
also.
With due respect to his memory (and in appreciation) along with my
love & respect for ~~our~~ the historical representations of the city of
Watsonville, it would be shameful to remove the bust and remove
Lloyd Alaga's memory.
Sincerely, Judy Carey Eiskamp

Dear City of Watsonville

I feel that it is a shame to take down a
Reminder of how our Great County got started

Peter Jensen
34 Hazelwood Ct.
Watsonville CA 95076

Alex, I oppose the removal of
the Washington statue at
the town square. History
can be/is fraught with problems and
at best is a useful teaching tool
warts and all

Sincerely,
Lizbeth Agone

I am against the removal of
the George Washington statue in
the downtown plaza, Watsonville.

Mark DeBolske
149 Grove St.
Watsonville, CA 95076

Watsonville, CA

Dept of Parks + Recreation

We would like the statue of George Washington to be left on the Plaza. He is one of the ore important flounders of our country. No man is perfect. He had his good points and bad, but the good greatly outweighs the bad. It is easy to judge a person form 250 years ago by 21st century values. He was a man of his time. If we only erected statues of those who were perfect, we would only have statues of Jesus Christ. "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone".

Michael Homer

Michael D Homer

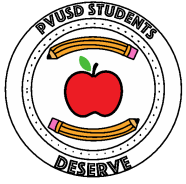
C.L. Homer

Big Moore

2 Moore

E Mura Homer





*Press Release
For immediate release
02 November, 2020*

Removal of the George Washington Bust

Dear community members,

We'd like to write this letter in support of the efforts led by the collective @Revolunas to eliminate the George Washington bust. As you all might be aware, PVUSD Students Deserve has always advocated for the well-being of our PVUSD students. Most notably, we stand in solidarity with historically marginalized student populations. This includes but is not limited to our Black and Indigenous students within our community.

The George Washington bust is located in the Downtown Watsonville Plaza. The plaza is meant to be a place in which the residents of Watsonville can walk through and enjoy the city's community space. As it stands now, the Watsonville Plaza is home to the bust of George Washington. **George Washington was a white-slave owning man who also contributed to the genocide of Indigenous peoples.** How then- are Watsonville's Black and/or Indigenous people allowed to enjoy this space when the mere presence and legacy of a slave owner and murder looms over them?

We urge Watsonville Parks and Rec to understand that there is absolutely **NO EXCUSE** to try to keep a bust of an individual that represents physical and physiological warfare against Black and Indigenous Peoples.

The rhetoric that individuals in City Council and the Watsonville Parks and Rec Commission have taken, has been that of apologists. They insist that we, as a community, must come to a "compromise" that allows us to continue to celebrate and uphold an individual who killed and enslaved Black and/or Indigenous individuals.

To members of Watsonville City council and the Watsonville Parks and Rec Commission: please consider how the actions you take tonight will impact the physiological wellbeing of our Black and/or Indigenous community members. Their physiological and physical livelihood is not one that should be "compromised."

When voting on the fate of the bust of our racist founding father Mr. George Washington; ask yourselves, are you in the early 1900s or are you in 2020? Are you fine with going down in Watsonville's history as being an apologist for genocide and enslavement?

If you consider yourself an ally to Indigenous peoples and Black people, we expect you to vote for the full removal of the George Washington bust.

In solidarity always,
PVUSD Students Deserve



Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

{PCS} Washington Bust

1 message

linda orosco <linda_orosco@hotmail.com>
To: City of Watsonville <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Mon, Nov 2, 2020 at 3:00 PM

Esteemed members,

I am writing in support of removing the George Washington Bust located at the Watsonville Plaza.

The time to make this change is now. This figure does not represent the values and consciousness of the Watsonville community. It is time to take down colonial structures that are rooted in the colonization and genocide of Indigenous People, the Slavery of African People and the White Power structure that is upheld through the false history of this figure.

Take a stand! White Supremacy runs rampant and this figure remains a symbol to them of thier dominance over people of color and thier need to cosplay Master.

It is time to be ANTI-RACIST! That is the only way to move forward in this time.

Be on the side of truth and human evolution!

Take it down. Don't feed the racists!

Thank you,

Linda Orosco
Watsonville Resident



Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

{PCS} Washington Bust

1 message

linda orosco <linda_orosco@hotmail.com>
To: City of Watsonville <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>

Mon, Nov 2, 2020 at 3:00 PM

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Thank you,

Linda Orosco
Watsonville Resident



Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

{PCS} Removal of Washington Bust

DSA Santa Cruz Executive Committee <info@dsasantacruz.org>
To: pcs@cityofwatsonville.org

Mon, Nov 2, 2020 at 5:02 PM

Dear Watsonville Parks and Recreation Commission,

We, The Democratic Socialists of America, Santa Cruz, are writing to urge you to listen to the voices in the community that are calling for the long overdue removal of the bust of George Washington in Watsonville Plaza.

This is a moment when communities all across the country are coming to terms with our nation's long history of racism, oppression and genocide. One form that this very important reckoning is taking is the reassessment of the sorts of history and the historical figures that we celebrate and memorialize. Taking down a monument or a statue doesn't mean we are forgetting our history. On the contrary, the act of removing a monument like the bust of Washington represents a much fuller understanding of that history and a recognition that figures who have traditionally been portrayed as the heroes in our history books, are not perceived that way by many of our fellow community members whose ancestors were victims of our nation's bloody history.

As we work towards an anti-racist future, we see no room to continue to venerate in our public squares someone who owned other human beings and waged genocidal wars against native peoples. "Contextualizing" the statue with a bilingual plaque, as staff recommends, is not a compromise but an insult in that while it gives official recognition to Washington's slave-owning past it sends the clear message to the community that this isn't a 'dealbreaker' for the city.

DSA-Santa Cruz represents over three hundred members throughout the county, including many in Watsonville. We stand in unwavering solidarity with all in the community calling on you to do the right thing and remove the statue.

- DSA Santa Cruz Executive Committee



Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

{PCS} Re: GW Bust

pvusdstudents deserve <pvusdstudentsdeserve@gmail.com>

Mon, Nov 2, 2020 at 3:31 PM

To: "pcs@cityofwatsonville.org" <pcs@cityofwatsonville.org>, "felipe.hernandez@cityofwatsonville.org" <felipe.hernandez@cityofwatsonville.org>, "Aurelio.gonzalez@cityofwatsonville.org" <Aurelio.gonzalez@cityofwatsonville.org>, "Lowell.hurst@cityofwatsonville.org" <Lowell.hurst@cityofwatsonville.org>, "Francisco.estrada@cityofwatsonville.org" <Francisco.estrada@cityofwatsonville.org>, "Rebecca.garcia@cityofwatsonville.org" <Rebecca.garcia@cityofwatsonville.org>, "Trina.coffman@cityofwatsonville.org" <Trina.coffman@cityofwatsonville.org>, "Ari.parker@cityofwatsonville.org" <Ari.parker@cityofwatsonville.org>

Also, please read this statement at tonight's meeting.

Thank you

On Monday, November 2, 2020, pvusdstudents deserve <pvusdstudentsdeserve@gmail.com> wrote:

Good evening all,

On behalf of PVUSD Students Deserve, we are sharing with y'all our most recent public statement. Please make sure to read it thoroughly before making your decision tonight on its FULL removal.

Best,
PVUSD Students Deserve



Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

{PCS} Public comment on removal of Washington Bust 11/2

Samantha Bleisch <sam.bleisch1@gmail.com>

Mon, Nov 2, 2020 at 3:04 PM

To: pcs@cityofwatsonville.org, nick.calubaquib@cityofwatsonville.org

To whom it may concern,

Hello. My name is Sam Bleisch and I am a resident of Royal Oaks and a community member of Watsonville.

I am writing to express my concern for the racist, bigoted, and classist behavior this community witnessed when we called for the removal of the Washington bust during one of the biggest civil rights and antiracist movements in the history of the United States.

Keeping the bust of George Washington enforces the idea that colonialism, genocide, and racism persists still in Watsonville. We all know our residents do not appreciate the the board's desire to honor the legacy of one of the most racist president's in this country's history—a president whose literal teeth he stole from slaves. George Washington does not represent Watsonville or it's community.

We can do better than this. I urge you to strongly consider the statue's removal. Help our community trust each other and vote against an outdated piece of history that honors white supremacy. Remove the George Washington bust from our beautiful community hub and make downtown Watsonville a place where all people feel safe—especially it's hard working Chicax, Latinx, indigenous, undocumented, and Mexican residents. Thank you for your time.



Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

{PCS} Public Comment For Todays (11/2) Meeting

Alejandra Ponce <ponce.ale24@gmail.com>
To: pcs@cityofwatsonville.org

Mon, Nov 2, 2020 at 3:14 PM

Here is what I'd like to read during the meeting, thank you.

Dear Parks and Rec Members and community members listening:

PLEASE REMOVE THIS BUST. This piece of rock (which SPECIFICALLY, the Amah Matsun in Watsonville community did not even get to input why/where it should go) is a daily VIOLENT reminder of the STOLEN LAND and DISENFRANCHISEMENT and DISPLACEMENT that settlers and capitalists continue to influence in our community. I give ZERO FUCKS about the work Washington did to establish white supremacy as law and strongly encourage the white supremacist listening to go read "America's Deadliest Export: Democracy" by William Blum, perhaps that will open your eyes to the hate flowing through your veins. If the council votes anything OTHER THAN removing the bust, they are compliant in white supremacy, genocide, and contribute to the ongoing violence that colonization brings. Honor the Amah Matsuna and Ohlone survivors and descendants of genocide to reclaim their land and take that stone and incinerate it. REMOVE THE FUCKING BUST.

Thank you,

Alejandra ponce



Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

{PCS} Parks and Recreation Meeting- George Washington Bust

1 message

Anissa Balderas <anissabalderas@gmail.com>
To: pcs@cityofwatsonville.org

Mon, Nov 2, 2020 at 2:35 PM

Dear Parks and Rec Team,

My name is Anissa Balderas and I was born and raised in Watsonville. I am urging you all to remove the George Washington bust that is in the Plaza along with the canons. When I step foot in the plaza, I admire the space it provides for community gathering. For example, I really loved the Dia de los Muertos art that was showcased and would encourage further spaces for art in the community. That was a representation that the community of Watsonville was able to relate to. However, I in no way feel represented by the Bust. In fact, I feel anger and frustration when viewing it because it is a snapshot of a problematic past. Instead, I would hope to showcase art from someone in the community. I would love to highlight bright leaders of our past that contributed positively to Watsonville. Keeping the bust disregards the wants and needs of the folks who live here. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,
Anissa Balderas



Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

{PCS} GW Bust

pvusdstudents deserve <pvusdstudentsdeserve@gmail.com>

Mon, Nov 2, 2020 at 3:10 PM

To: pcs@cityofwatsonville.org, felipe.hernandez@cityofwatsonville.org, Aurelio.gonzalez@cityofwatsonville.org, Lowell.hurst@cityofwatsonville.org, Francisco.estrada@cityofwatsonville.org, Rebecca.garcia@cityofwatsonville.org, Trina.coffman@cityofwatsonville.org, Ari.parker@cityofwatsonville.org

Good evening all,

On behalf of PVUSD Students Deserve, we are sharing with y'all our most recent public statement. Please make sure to read it thoroughly before making your decision tonight on its FULL removal.

Best,
PVUSD Students Deserve

 **GW Bust.pdf**
88K



Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

{PCS} George Washington Bust

Brianna Valle-Gallegos <briannavalle.g@gmail.com>
To: pcs@cityofwatsonville.org

Mon, Nov 2, 2020 at 4:10 PM

Parks and Rec,

In the first meeting someone mentioned that if we didn't want the Washington bust to stay or were opposed of the idea of it, then how come we didn't speak up when the council approved the gift back in 1999. I'd like to remind everyone that most of us speaking today for the removal were either not born during that date or too young. The bust became a much bigger issue within the city and its residents the moment counter protestors began treating it as a reason to be demeaning towards those who want to remove it. Members against the removal of the bust have let offensive actions go unchecked. Examples of this is people using phrases such as "white power" and "if you don't like it then leave", or even calling the work places of those in favor of removing the bust. This is a clear sign that the bust must be removed. It's been clear that the bust is a symbol of white supremacy but now it became a symbol of power for those wanting to keep it. Keeping the bust shows them that they can act or say whatever they want without any consequences.

Sincerely,
Brianna Valle

Sent from my iPhone



Desiree Moya <desiree.moya@cityofwatsonville.org>

{PCS} George Washington Bust - Watsonville

1 message

Tatiana Chavitage <tatithgreat@gmail.com>

Mon, Nov 2, 2020 at 1:36 PM

To: pcs@cityofwatsonville.org

To whom it may concern,

My name is Tati Chavitage and I'm a longtime resident of Santa Cruz County and undergraduate student at UCSC. I'm emailing you to implore you to remove the George Washington bust in the City Plaza. The primary reason to remove this bust is that it has recently inflamed white supremacists in the city, including Manny and Alex Solano, the former who told one of the protestors of the bust to "go back to Mexico". Any symbol that supports white supremacists in this moment is a symbol that should be abolished and replaced with something constructive, something that makes Watsonville residents (who are primarily Latinx) feel at home rather than attacked. A symbol of colonization, like this one, is a symbol of hatred.

Thank you for your time.

Best,
Tati Chavitage