

**From:** [Nancy Mays](#)  
**To:** [Eric Mikkelson](#)  
**Cc:** [Erin Winn](#); [Nickie Lee](#); [Wes Jordan](#)  
**Subject:** Re:  
**Date:** Thursday, June 29, 2023 11:39:58 AM

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I think this is good, Mayor. you could  
Have something at the end like, We welcome residents who want to engage in productive conversations to reach out and show up.

The idea behind that being that you are open to transparent conversations.

On Thu, Jun 29, 2023 at 11:25 AM Eric Mikkelson <[emikkelson@pvkansas.com](mailto:emikkelson@pvkansas.com)> wrote:

My draft response:

Council and I remain focused on good-faith, mutually respectful conversations with residents about our community's future. While these conversations may be difficult, I encourage all to try, resisting demonizing those with different policy views. Common ground, compromise and healing are in our collective best interests.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 29, 2023, at 11:00 AM, Eric Mikkelson <[emikkelson@pvkansas.com](mailto:emikkelson@pvkansas.com)> wrote:

This just received from Juliana. Thoughts/suggestions?

“Barely heard back from one of the recall committee members. Their statement claims you divided the community/turned welcoming PV into a place where the city council attacks residents. Wanted to give you a chance to directly respond to that claim if you'd like”

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 28, 2023, at 5:37 PM, Nancy Mays <[nancy@mayscomm.com](mailto:nancy@mayscomm.com)> wrote:

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Yes. Thanks for sharing.

On Wed, Jun 28, 2023 at 5:16 PM Eric Mikkelson <[emikkelson@pvkansas.com](mailto:emikkelson@pvkansas.com)> wrote:

Nancy,

Can you live with this?

I will ask her to publish the full statement if she runs the story. And I sense she might.

I'm honored to be one of the many volunteer elected officials who, along with staff, work hard every day to make Prairie Village a prosperous, safe and welcoming place to live and work. Thanks to those efforts and our residents, our City is in great shape and full of potential.

Unfortunately, repeated, failed, false recall petitions from those with political and personal axes to grind don't do anything to strengthen our community. Instead they create unnecessary divisiveness, while wasting taxpayer resources.

And these are not the only recent petitions proposed to radically change our government, overturn fair elections, and collapse Prairie Village government power into the hands of a few. While similar extreme tactics have sadly become the norm at other levels of government, they are not the Prairie Village Way.

Over 94 percent of Prairie Village voters recently voted for me to lead with this team again. And so that's what I'll do – continue working to keep Prairie Village strong and vibrant.

I look forward to continued, good faith conversations with residents about their needs and ideas for our community's future.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 28, 2023, at 4:24 PM, Nancy Mays <[nancy@mayscomm.com](mailto:nancy@mayscomm.com)> wrote:

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Hi Mayor,  
I will try to reach her this afternoon and if I don't, I'll track her down tomorrow. Let me know if there's anything else I can do on the statement.

Thank you.

On Wed, Jun 28, 2023 at 4:16 PM Eric Mikkelson <[emikkelson@pykansas.com](mailto:emikkelson@pykansas.com)> wrote:  
Thanks Nancy. I will use several of these edits. I would like to draw the connection between these and the other petitions..all designed to consolidate PV government power into the hands of the few on the Stop slate if elected.

If you think it will help, I am fine with you calling Juliana directly today. Running such a story at all plays into the hands of those who maliciously lie to embarrass and cause damage.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 28, 2023, at 3:35 PM, Nancy Mays <[nancy@mayscomm.com](mailto:nancy@mayscomm.com)> wrote:

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Hello!  
The attached document includes a shortened statement, based on what you have above. I also copied the original statement and added some comments in for reference. (I think it's important for you to know the WHY behind what I'm suggesting.) It's important to give her something shorter so it doesn't inadvertently get cherry picked -- and there's no way she'll be able to print everything above anyway.

Happy to jump on a call. MAYOR -- Please confirm where you landed on me calling Juliana. Thanks.

Google link to the document but also attached it in case someone can't access for whatever reason.  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NX7a\\_ZdmRuZVs7Wrd9fl51NjEpnQSBw9GchS9lLaU1o/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NX7a_ZdmRuZVs7Wrd9fl51NjEpnQSBw9GchS9lLaU1o/edit?usp=sharing)

On Wed, Jun 28, 2023 at 1:45 PM Eric Mikkelson <[emikkelson@pykansas.com](mailto:emikkelson@pykansas.com)> wrote:  
Revised version for your comments:

I am honored to be a part of a group of hard-working, volunteer Prairie Village elected officials who, along with professional staff, wake up every day trying to do the best we collectively can for the greater good of Prairie Village. Thanks in large part to those efforts, our City is in great shape and full of potential.

These old, false, failed, fabrications and efforts from those with personal grievances and political grudges say this to Prairie Village citizens: Your votes at the ballot box don't matter. They waste taxpayer resources at the County and City by seeking to overturn a recent election. Over 94% of Prairie Villagers recently voted for me to lead with this team again, and I intend to continue to do just that.

And as we know, these failed petitions are not the only petitions being proposed here to radically change our form of local government, overturn recent election results, and consolidate all local control and power into the hands of those offering them. Sadly, these efforts are rancorously dividing our community. While such tactics and personal attacks are unfortunately part of an alarming explosion of destructive incivility hurled at local governments, staff and officials across the country recently, they are not the Prairie Village Way. Our democratically elected institutional form of government and elections, with all their imperfections, have served us exceptionally well here for decades. Reckless attempts to override them present a threat to our quality of life in Prairie Village.

What we have built here together in Prairie Village, like democracy throughout the country, is precious. It takes a lot of good people working together in good faith, day-in-day-out, year-in-year-out, to sustain. For my part, I gratefully intend to continue to stay focused on the job as I have throughout my many years of public service: Keeping Prairie Village a safe, prosperous, civil and welcoming place to raise a family, work, play, shop, learn and live.

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**From:** [Wes Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Nancy Mays](#)  
**Cc:** [Nickie Lee](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Statement for the City  
**Date:** Thursday, June 29, 2023 10:56:00 AM

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Believe we are close – another twist: *The recent Mayoral recall effort is a matter that does not involve City operations. The best contact for comment would be the Johnson County District Attorney's Office because he ruled the petition effort was insufficient and/or invalid.*

Wes Jordan  
City Administrator  
City of Prairie Village, KS

913-385-4621

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**From:** Nancy Mays <nancy@mayscomm.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 29, 2023 10:15 AM  
**To:** Wes Jordan <wjordan@pvkansas.com>  
**Cc:** Nickie Lee <nlee@pvkansas.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Statement for the City

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Ah, got it. Thanks, Wes. What you proposed is great. A different twist

This isn't a City matter so the best contact would be the District Attorney because he ruled the petition invalid/unconstitutional, or the Mayor.

The best contact would be the District Attorney, since his office is in charge of ruling on the validity of petitions.

On Thu, Jun 29, 2023 at 9:59 AM Wes Jordan <[wjordan@pvkansas.com](mailto:wjordan@pvkansas.com)> wrote:

True, but I was wanting something to explain why the City is not involved. *This is a matter that does not involve the City and the more appropriate contact would be directly with the Mayor or Johnson County District Attorney's Office – or something to that effect.*

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**From:** Nancy Mays <[nancy@mayscomm.com](mailto:nancy@mayscomm.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 29, 2023 9:54 AM  
**To:** Wes Jordan <[wjordan@pvkansas.com](mailto:wjordan@pvkansas.com)>  
**Cc:** Nickie Lee <[nlee@pvkansas.com](mailto:nlee@pvkansas.com)>

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Wes,

After some thought, I'm thinking that if a reporter calls about the recall, the Mayor should respond -- and not City staff. Since he's an elected official, I feel like it's his to answer. Let me know if you disagree. Historically, would you respond to something directed to the Mayor? Just thinking about the firewall.

### **Proposed shorter statement**

I'm honored to be one of the many hard-working, volunteer Prairie Village elected officials who, along with City staff, work every day to make our community a prosperous, safe and welcoming place to live and work. Unfortunately, repeated, failed recall attempts don't do anything to strengthen our community and, in fact, create unnecessary divisiveness *while wasting* taxpayer resources. The fact is, over 94 percent of Prairie Villagers **recently** voted for me to lead **with this team again. And that's what I'll do – continue working to keep Prairie Village strong, vibrant and welcoming.**

(Optional last sentence: I look forward to my continued conversations with residents about their needs and ideas for our community's future.)

On Thu, Jun 29, 2023 at 8:43 AM Wes Jordan <[wjordan@pvkansas.com](mailto:wjordan@pvkansas.com)> wrote:

Nancy,

Can you please put together a concise statement that the City can refer to should we receive any media inquiries today.

Wes Jordan  
City Administrator  
City of Prairie Village, KS

913-385-4621

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