

The following form was submitted via your website: Contact the City Council

Name:: Bill Reuter

Address:: 2 Commodore Drive, 175

City:: Emeryville

State:: CA

Zip Code:: 94608

Phone Number:: 510.653.8881

Email Address:: wreuter493@aol.com

Please leave your comments and questions below:: To: Members, City Council of Emeryville
From: Bill Reuter, Member and Chair of the Economic Development Advisory Committee
Subject: A Fair Work Week Ordinance for the City

The Economic Development Advisory Committee took up the issue of a Fair Work Week ordinance at its meeting on 21 September. We heard from staff regarding outreach efforts on the issue, from representatives of both small and large businesses operating in the city, and from representatives of part time workers employed in Emeryville.

After extensive discussion, the Committee voted 5 to 1 to recommend against adopting a Fair Work Week ordinance at this time. The majority believes no ordinance is presently needed, that work force flexibility must be maintained—especially for small businesses and hotels, and that we have too little information regarding the potential impact of an ordinance on businesses and workers in the city.

I respect the concerns of the Committee’s majority, but disagree with their conclusion. As you will correctly conclude, my vote was the only one in favor of an ordinance.

The reasons for my dissent are these. A well-crafted ordinance in place now will not punish fair players in our business community—of which there are many—nor will it diminish agreed upon flexibility between workers and employers. Such an ordinance, I assume, would be complaint driven, not monitored by regulatory “cops”, and subject to fair review processes. No harm, no foul. But such an ordinance would discourage unfair practices and set a clear standard for the future well-being of our part time work force in the city.

I support the City Council’s goals regarding part time work in the city. We need to increase stability of work schedules for retail and restaurant employees, reduce employee turnover, and decrease “underemployment” in the ranks of part time workers. A well-crafted ordinance can effectively pursue these goals.

I remind you that this is a distinctively minority view from the ranks of the Economic Development Advisory Committee, but I hope you give it attention.

Additional Information:

Form submitted on: 10/17/2016 8:50:56 AM

Submitted from IP Address: 73.189.15.125

Referrer Page: <http://www.ci.emeryville.ca.us/382/Council-Members>

Form Address: <http://www.ci.emeryville.ca.us/Forms.aspx?FID=43>