

From: [Sibby's Cupcakery](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Cc: [Jennifer Chen](#)
Subject: Resolution of Intent to Modify Basis & Method of Levy for the DBIA
Date: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 12:10:24 AM

To Whom it May Concern,

I was unable to attend last night's City Council meeting and wanted to offer my perspective on the proposed adjustments to the fees for the DBIA.

I have owned my business, Sibby's Cupcakery, for almost 19 years, and have been on South Railroad Avenue for nearly 18 years. I am also a resident of San Mateo. I love our community and feel so grateful to be a part of it. I see and appreciate all that the city does to help make the downtown a vibrant place to be.

I understand that the DBIA fees have not been increased in twelve years, and no doubt, that is a long time. Nevertheless, I urge the city to not approve these increases which would triple the fees for many small retail businesses. The pressures that small businesses have faced since 2020 have not lifted. We are still very much affected by Covid on a daily basis, dealing with on-going supply chain issues, exorbitant costs, unpredictable sales, and staff members out for extended periods of time. We are in the midst of a labor shortage as well, and a minimum wage that rises each year, to \$16.75 in January. All this and a likely recession in 2023. Small businesses are the soul of our community. They are what makes San Mateo unique. But with increased costs, it is getting harder to stay afloat. I have spoken with neighbors on Railroad Avenue and they have expressed concern at these proposed increases as well.

I urge you to postpone any increases for the DBIA until businesses have recovered from the pandemic and the economy is more stable.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sibby Thomsen
Owner/Sibby's Cupcakery

From: [Meggie Presti](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: DSMA Business BID Increase - opposition
Date: Saturday, November 5, 2022 7:02:16 PM

Hello,

I am writing in opposition to the increase in the BID Assessment for the DSMA. I served on the DSMA board for a number of years with Ann Feinman and Jessica Evans. Increasing assessments on businesses has been a topic of discussion for many years, and I understand the need to increase funding.

With that said, I feel like the timing of this increase, along with the structure, and a lack of intent to hire a new director makes this feel like the DSMA is asking for additional funding while not serving it's intended purpose of supporting the businesses in the downtown community. The additional increase would take a large chunk out of my annual marketing budget and would therefore have a direct negative impact on my business, especially as the DSMA no longer operates downtown events like Wine Walk or Summerfest. As result, I oppose the proposed BID increase.

Master Meggie Presti

Core Taekwondo | Core Maker

86 E. 3rd Ave San Mateo

www.coretkd.com