

Larry Didway

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June 28, 2020

Mayor Dan Holladay, City of Oregon City
625 Center Street
Oregon City, OR 97045

Dear Mayor Holladay:

I write this open letter to you as a longtime Oregon City resident, parent, educator, and community leader. Dan, we have maintained a friendly working relationship for many years and share numerous friends, acquaintances, and memories. For those reasons and more, it's regrettable that I feel so compelled to deliver this urgent message: you must resign now.

At your best, you have been a dedicated public servant who has donated countless hours at great personal sacrifice to improve the city and community we both love. At your worst though, both your words and deeds have been abusive, tone deaf, and ethically challenged.

As an advocate for an inclusive and anti-racist community, I urge you to educate yourself about racism and reflect upon your own privilege and bias. However, the residents of this community, especially those who are Black and African-American, should not have to wait for you to reckon with and atone for the undeniable harm you have caused while occupying the mayor's seat.

Our children are watching and listening. They deserve a better role model in civic leadership. Do the right thing to spare this community additional pain and your fellow commissioners any further drama. You can demonstrate your professed love for the City of Oregon City and inaugurate the long road to healing that we desperately need. Dan, please resign now.

Respectfully,



Larry Didway

c: Editor, Oregon City News