

**Joseph Barnett is a former Mayor of Palos Verdes Estates and also served 18 years on the PVE Planning commission. At the 5-8-12 PVE City Council Meeting, he expressed concerns about the sale of the 900 Via Panorama property. Below is the transcript of his comments, and the audio is available on the PVE website at (<http://www.pvestates.org/index.aspx?page=191>)**

*"I would like to congratulate you for at least accomplishing the major objective that I had in retaining the deed restrictions and not having a precedent set by violating the deed restrictions by the sale of Lots C & D. I did have some reservations though concerning how you got 900 Via Panorama involved and how we are not possibly setting a precedent by selling some parkland. I'm well familiar with that property – I was Alex Haagen's agent trying to sell that property back in the early 1970s. Dr. Lugiani knew Mr. Haagen, so he went around and bought it directly from him. But I am familiar with property in its configuration back in those days. I was up there today after getting a copy of this memorandum and seeing what was being proposed there. I was amazed at how much extra work Lugliani had done. It was not work that was done by Mr. Haagen. The excavations were a sports court and all of its stone walls were totally new – they were a surprise to me because I hadn't been up there. I'm surprised that we didn't have a code officer up there checking to see what was going on because there was so dirt moved and stone moved. What used to be a fireroad to go around the property was a fairly narrow road. Now it's a widened road, it's paved, got stone walls on the edges, got two pillars out front with a gate that would deny any access to any fire engine that may need to down to protect the parkland. So it bothers me that we are being favored to a violator of the city codes as far as the work going on at Via Panorama. And the sale of city parkland bothers me. But I'm glad that the deed restrictions protected."*

**What was recorded in the minutes of the meeting was more succinct and contain none of the content points, even though they contradict statements made in the staff report and verbally by the City Attorney just minutes before at the same 5-8-12 meeting:**

*"Joseph Barnett congratulated Council for accomplishing the objective of maintaining the deed restrictions; however, he had reservations regarding the sale of parklands property to Via Panorama property owners."*