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Answers becoming clear as to why KPMG can't complete the necessary City audits

In yet another story this morning in the [Union Tribune](#), it is identified that the city has no idea how much it costs to run Qualcomm stadium, but, instead of figuring it out and then having an intelligent discussion on the subject, they are quite happy to take multiple guesses and base their decisions on how they should proceed on those "guesses".

This should be a significant red flag to taxpayers who trust city hall when they tell us "it is KPMG's fault we can't get the audits complete". If the city doesn't know what anything cost or how they got there, how can the audit firm be held responsible for information the city can't provide?

Consider this; the city admittedly has no idea if it costs \$3.5M, \$4.0M or even possibly \$2M(?) to operate the stadium. But, instead of figuring it out, which is what is required by all of us in our own businesses or family budgets, they are willing to say "we don't know what it costs, but, we are willing to claim it isn't enough", therefore, it is not our problem but someone else's problem.

And now we have a city who was clamoring to get out of the dreaded ticket guarantee saying essentially that we want the old contract back. The politicians convinced us the ticket guarantee was bad and wanted out, now they want to convince us the ticket guarantee was better than the new contract? Which is it?

The fact is, "they don't know" because they are unwilling to do the work necessary to figure it out. It is far easier to hold a press conference and provide no facts, but, make ridiculous claims of "what it might be costing us" as a basis for going forward. Another demonstration of solid financial acuity by those responsible for the financial welfare of San Diego (which explains why we are where we are).

In 2004 the FTB published a financial analysis that demonstrated that if the city continued with the old contract it would cost San Diego a minimum of \$220M+ if the city lost the then current lawsuits, however, it showed that the city would lose \$280M+ if it won the lawsuits. It was claimed at the time to be the only clear analysis on the Charger contract and neither city hall nor Mr. Aguirre disputed it, not one sentence of it. Now, with time having passed, they will not provide any information that can be verified about costs to currently run the stadium (or what those costs are made up of), but, are

willing to claim that the city was once again hoodwinked by those business types who use actual and verifiable numbers, along with actual research, to figure out issues.

And the city's answer; instead of doing the work necessary so that we can make intelligent decisions based on fact, they hold a press conference to take "guesses" at how they think it might work. So the top clown in this three ring circus (as stated in the UT article), holds a dual press conference with the man he recently called "corrupt"*, to say "we think it costs us more to run the stadium that we currently get". It reminds me of the old question about the difference between genius and stupidity – the difference is that genius has its limits.

We should all be embarrassed by this silliness.

Whether you agree or disagree with the above commentary, [contact your elected officials](#) today and tell them if you prefer to have municipal decisions made based on verifiable facts, or, just political rhetoric. It really is that simple.

*No one (except Aguirre) believes Jim Waring is corrupt, but, he is beginning to look rather foolish by following the Aguirre way of doing business instead of doing the work necessary to understand the actual facts and make decisions based on those facts.