

Subject: City \$\$ Report, MARCH 10, Hidden investors
Date: February 9, 2015 10:02:55 AM PST

SHWindow

Hi Sandra --

It's Council week tomorrow night and on the agenda are 3 interesting things:

- Hiring to [update the Hunter EIR](#) with the addition of a light at Pope and Silverado, under Consent.
- Report on the [status of the roads](#) here and cost to fix. Question, would they all last longer if there were more connected ones to spread out the traffic load?
- And the main show, the [2014 Financial Report](#) with audit. Everyone should try to keep track of the basics in this report because soon, February 27 I believe, there will be a big meeting at the Firehouse on the 2016 Budget, beginning July 1. This meeting is usually not televised and last year it was 'very candid' as townspeople dealt with a non-negotiable budget from 5 people that did not reflect general priorities. This year we have the Budget Survey so let's hope those priorities are applied and we have a new approach.

March 10. Remember the date. On that day Napa County Supes will hold an open community meeting (the first?) to discuss development in Napa County. Support this effort to hear from the people who live here -- show up, carry a sign and remember the Environmental Defense Fund quote *"The last word in ignorance is the man who says of an animal or plant: 'What good is it?'"*

The Grand Coalition (GC): Another first in Napa County, community groups coming together to form a solid front against exploitation of the County. They will be there on 3/10, united and prepared. See Bill Hockers' site, [Soda Canyon Road](#), for more details on the GC and County perspectives.

Hidden Investors: The NY Times has begun a [5-part series](#) on the staggering amount of secret real estate deals in which LLC's have become the norm for hiding sources of money -- looks like around 50% of the big buck deals in the US. Run the videos with the article and note the little lights that cluster around the Bay Area, including Napa Co. Much of the secret money is foreign and/or illegal and is passed through layers of LLC's.

Follow up: [Shrinking Middle Class](#), also NY Times, one inevitable result of the above.

Sandy

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