

Peter F. Carpenter
1 Larch Drive
Atherton, CA 94027-2125
650-323-1162

May 16, 2014

VIA E-MAIL complaints@fppc.ca.gov

Mr. Gary Winuk
Chief, Enforcement Division
Fair Political Practices Commission
428 J Street, Suite 800
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Request to Investigate Save Menlo for Violations
of the Political Reform Act**

Dear Mr. Winuk:

I am writing to bring to your attention serious violations of the Act by Save Menlo, FPPC ID# 1357780, its current treasurer, Diane Patricia Hart, and its former treasurer, Stefan Petry.

Specifically, my complaint alleges that:

1. Save Menlo continues to state on its Statements of Organization, filed under penalty of perjury, that it is a General Purpose Committee, when in actuality it is promoting a single initiative ballot measure in the City of Menlo Park entitled the "*El Camino Real/Downtown Specific Plan Area Liveable, Walkable Community Development Standards Act*". Save Menlo should file as a Primarily Formed ballot measure committee.
2. While its Statements of Organization claims that it "advocates for smart policies in Menlo Park," it has been raising funds solely for the purpose of drafting, and circulating an initiative measure for the November 2014 Menlo Park City ballot.
3. Save Menlo submitted an initiative petition to the City Clerk in February 2014 for title and summary by the City Attorney.
4. Save Menlo has circulated its initiative using both paid petition circulators and volunteers. Save Menlo submitted its petitions to the City Clerk on May 12, 2014.
5. Save Menlo should have registered as a Primarily Formed Committee. As such it should have filed quarterly public disclosure reports. Save Menlo

qualified as a committee around July 23, 2013. As such, it should have filed a quarterly report as required by Government Code Section 84202.3:

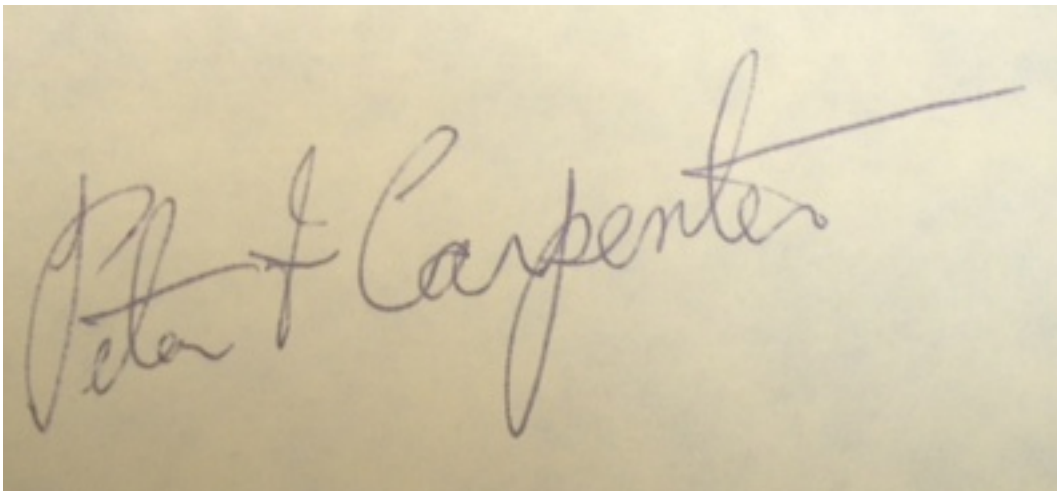
- a. On October 31, 2013 – for the third calendar quarter 2013, and
- b. More importantly again by April 30, 2014 – for the first calendar quarter, 2014. Neither of these reports were timely filed.

The Political Reform Act's primary purpose is to provide the public with timely public disclosure so the citizenry and the voters can make informed decisions. The citizens for Menlo Park have been denied this important information.

Specifically, Menlo Park residents do not know who contributed to the committee since the committee's last report, ending December 31, 2013. The residents also do not know on whom funds were spent to print and circulate the petitions. If the April 30th quarterly filing had been made, much of this information would be public now.

I request that you take swift action to stop the Save Menlo Committee from hiding its financial transactions and force the committee into compliance.

Sincerely,

A photograph of a handwritten signature in blue ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Peter F. Carpenter" in a cursive, flowing script. The first name "Peter" is written with a large, stylized initial "P". The last name "Carpenter" is written with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter F. Carpenter

cc: Menlo Park City Clerk
Enclosures
Save Menlo Form 410 filings
Save Menlo Form 460 filing
Save Menlo Initiative