

**From:** [Kelly Michaels](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Cc:** [Kelly Fernandez](#); [Edward Lavallee](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Council agenda item request number two for 5-28-24  
**Date:** Friday, May 17, 2024 9:55:59 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
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[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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Mercedes: Here is the 2<sup>nd</sup> item from Mr. Smith for the 5/28 meeting agenda.

## Kelly Michaels, MMC

Venice City Clerk

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**From:** Ronald Smith <[ronaldcsmith@gmail.com](mailto:ronaldcsmith@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2024 9:53 AM  
**To:** Kelly Michaels <[kmichaels@venicefl.gov](mailto:kmichaels@venicefl.gov)>  
**Subject:** Council agenda item request number two for 5-28-24

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To: Kelly Michaels, City Clerk

From: Ron Smith, City Councilmember

Subject: Agenda item request

Date: May 24,2024

I would request that an item be placed on the 5-28-2024 agenda.

I would like an item under Council Discussion/Action that would read:

Discuss appropriateness of staff over-ruling council directives

Background: After the council passed an ordinance on first reading recently, the staff pulled the second reading off the agenda to work on a counter proposal to the council's directive. The council has the opportunity to reverse course at the time of a second reading if the staff raises concerns that the council finds meritorious, but the staff should not be doing this on their own. The city attorney suggested at the time that we return to this issue and give clear direction on whether the staff can pull an item on their own after the council has voted and short-circuit a second reading of an ordinance without council input.

Action Requested: State a clear policy limiting the staff's ability to countermand council decisions and directing them to return to the council with their concerns when necessary.

Supports Strategic Plan:

This item really involves all of our strategic goals including:

Goal 2: Provide Efficient, Responsive Government with High-Quality Services

Goal 6: Preserve the Venice Quality of Life through Proper Planning