

VOICES

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SHARE YOUR VIEWS

Submissions to the Voices section should be emailed to tidingsopinion@rosebudmedia.com. Include address and a daytime phone number. Letters are limited to 250 words. Letters at length are limited to 500 words. Guest opinions are limited to 700 words.

GUEST OPINION

Leaders put City of Peace reputation at stake

By David Wick

Dear Ashland Mayor and City Councilors,

In your hearts, you each care a great deal about the city and community of Ashland, yet we are in trouble!

I know most of you personally. There is very important, perhaps vital, city business to be cared for, yet much of it is stalled because of a city council in crisis.

On May 16, 2017, the mayor and city council unanimously proclaimed Ashland a City of Peace and joined the International Cities

It is time to move out of your frozen positions with the assistance of experienced, competent mediation. There is no shame in this, only the wisdom to see the greater good and the courage to act accordingly.

of Peace, yet this reputation is now taking a beating.

Contributing to the dynamic of differing and competing agendas for Ashland's future, you have only met with each other in your disconnected Zoom boxes and never in person.

As with any newly formed team or council, you are experiencing the forming, storming, norming,

performing, and adjourning of the Tuckman development model.

It is time to move out of your frozen positions with the assistance of experienced, competent mediation. There is no shame in this, only the wisdom to see the greater good and the courage to act accordingly.

There are highly skilled people and organizations who are

interested and available to assist us such as Mediators Beyond Borders International, Rotary E-Club of World Peace, and the Northwest Peace Initiative among others. You are offered an opportunity, an "offramp," to reestablish common values, collaborative action, and perhaps trust.

This is not just about you, but about our community and making the conscious choice for our well-being as a City of Peace.

David Wick is the executive director of the Ashland Culture of Peace Commission.

ANOTHER VIEW

High hopes for House's Jan. 6 panel

By Chris Honoré