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John Gioia
Supervisor, District One
Contra Costa County
11780 San Pablo Avenue, Suite D
El Cerrito, California 94530-3050

Dear John,

All good things must come to an end. Thus, with a heavy heart and deep gratitude to you I must tender my resignation from the First Five Commission of Contra Costa County because I am moving to an apartment in Albany, Alameda County. Thanks so much for having appointed me as Commissioner representing District One. It has been a fantastic seven-year ride.

The programs have flourished under the dedicated leadership of a committed staff and Commission. The staff keeps their pulse on developments to improve services for the prenatal to preschool aged low-income population and the Commission supports their efforts. The outcome of the programs demonstrates that parents are meaningfully involved and have become empowered and the children's readiness for kindergarten is greatly improved.

Having worked with Head Start programs throughout my government career and having had the opportunity to witness how comprehensive preschool programs operate at the local level under different sponsorships I found that regardless of who operates the programs, board and staff leadership and vision are the key to success.

In saying good-bye to a unique experience I know that the vulnerable population in Contra Costa County is in very good hands which gives people hope.

Warmest regards

Maria