

**From:** [Nomen Nescio](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Subject:** Working with Tesla to Upgrade grid  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 9, 2024 3:08:14 PM

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Hello,

I am concerned that Palo Alto is considering working with Tesla to upgrade the grid: <https://www.mv-voice.com/news/2024/01/09/as-palo-alto-prepares-to-upgrade-grid-tesla-races-to-the-front-of-the-line>

While it may seem like a perfect opportunity the city should weight the long term reputational risk of working with Must whom we know has a long term drug problem: <https://www.wsj.com/business/elon-musk-illegal-drugs-e826a9e1>

Who we also now know over the past year has an antisemitic streak and has no problem socializing and supporting long time and well known antisemitic figures.

He has shown little remorse for these behaviors besides short prefuctory apologies after which he goes on with the same behavior.

There is a point where leaders have to be leaders and say we can not work with folks who allow leaders like that to run their companies.

These behaviors are hateful and damaging to our diverse society and giving him business means he can continue to do these things without penalty.

Is the leadership of Palo Alto willing to stand for some values and say that they won't work with figures that support and speak hate?

**From:** [Don Jackson](#)  
**To:** [Clerk, City](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Comments on Agenda item #14, 2024-01-16 Council Meeting - Urge approval of "Improvement Agreement With Tesla Inc. to Install Improvements and Reserve Capacity at Hanover Substation"  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 5:41:47 PM

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**From:** Don Jackson <[dcj@clark-communications.com](mailto:dcj@clark-communications.com)>  
**Date:** January 16, 2024 at 8:57:56 AM PST  
**To:** [city.council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.council@cityofpaloalto.org)  
**Cc:** uac <[uac@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:uac@cityofpaloalto.org)>  
**Subject:** Comments on Agenda item #14, 2024-01-16 Council Meeting - Urge approval of "Improvement Agreement With Tesla Inc. to Install Improvements and Reserve Capacity at Hanover Substation"

Honorable Council Members,

I encourage and urge you to approve the "Substation Improvement Agreement With Tesla Inc. to Install Improvements and Reserve Capacity at Hanover Substation"

This is a unique opportunity to leverage the experience and cost-sharing of one of the premier clean-energy technology companies.

Benefits of this project to the City include:

- Jump-starting the upgrade of our electric utility, on a faster time scale than CPAU alone would EVER be able to accomplish on its own
- Tesla will voluntarily contribute approximately half the funds required for this upgrade, a rare opportunity/gift.
- Tesla will contribute personnel to help manage and implement this project, freeing up precious CPAU headcount for other important projects. As you well know, CPAU has a longstanding list of open positions, which have proven extremely difficult to fill, this proposal will enable the utility to make additional progress with current staff.
- Provide important infrastructure that will ensure that Tesla continues to maintain an significant presence in Palo Alto.

Tesla's energy and vehicle products are among the world's best, and are an important enabler/supplier to the City's S/CAP goals:

- As of August 2023, the Tesla Model Y, became the top-selling car globally across over 160 countries.
- The Tesla Powerwall Energy Storage System (ESS) is a market leader
- Tesla solar panels are very competitive and their solar roof tiles are extremely innovative and vastly esthetically superior to conventional PV panels.

Again, I ask that you support and approve this agreement.

Respectfully,

Don Jackson  
Former Commissioner on UAC