

July 17, 2020

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown and Council Members,

On behalf of the Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors, excluding Brian Maxwell who abstained from this vote, it is my honor to recommend acceptance of Mike Dean and Yaga's Entertainment Mardi Gras contract proposal.

He is trustworthy, respected and the list of recommendations and letters of support you are reviewing are examples of that trust.

Mike is local hero. His kids are in our schools, he is a child advocate who has raised well over \$250,000 for local charities and he is a businessman who chose Galveston Island as the place to operate his businesses. He continues to invest in our community, and these are just some of the important reasons he was The Daily News 2017 Citizen of the Year!

His seasoned Mardi Gras experience and professionalism is unrivalled and his attention to community safety concerns and community relationships when planning this event are necessities.

It's difficult to garner 100% support from a community regarding any decision, but I think it's accurate to say, the majority of people and organizations on this Island and beyond support Mike Dean as the person who should be awarded the five-year contract to produce Mardi Gras.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gina M. Spagnola

Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce, President & CEO,