From: <u>Vesta Kennedy</u>
To: <u>Public Comment</u>

**Subject:** Fourth of July, open public comment at the first meeting of April

**Date:** Friday, April 2, 2021 10:08:59 AM

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Good evening! I hope you and your families had a wonderful and peaceful Easter Week full of love and laughter.

I am writing to suggest the relocation of High Point's Uncle Sam Jam to downtown, with the fireworks display being at the Rockers Truist Point Stadium. The reasons for this suggestion are:

- 1. The American Bald Eagles nesting in the fairway of Hole 11 on Oak Hollow Golf Course. This nest is active, and the eaglets will not fledge (leave the nest) until late July or early August. Businesses and municipalities face a 200,000.00 fine for any disturbance of an active nest.
- 2. Moving High Point's celebration downtown will allow for more food truck vendors, craftsmen, and local businesses to showcase their foods, products and services.
- 3. This move could create an opportunity for area organizations to connect with underprivileged citizens that may not not be aware of these resources.
- 4. Transportation could be more easily provided from EACH ward of our city, allowing for a more diverse and inclusive celebration.
- 5. The Nido and Marina Qubein Children's Museum could possibly connect and be a part of this event. This would establish a relationship with families and children from ALL of our city.
- 6. The push to revitalize downtown certainly would benefit from this relocation of the Uncle Sam Jam, as this would bring more residents to the downtown area. A successful event would instill confidence in the safety of downtown and raise awareness of the many new area businesses and recent improvements. I have reached out to Forward High Point to get their input.
- 7. I have read through many of the comments attached to the online Rhino Times article regarding the recent survey Council distributed among High Point residents. Has this survey been returned and are there any issues contained therein that could be helped by this relocation?
- 8. The fireworks display would be wonderful at Truist Point Field. The High Point Rockers have away games scheduled starting July 2nd until home games resume July 13th.

I hope that you will give serious consideration and thought to this idea.

Gratefully and Sincerely, Vesta Kennedy