

Rick Beeson: Making Our City Safer

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Valero needs to be a better neighbor. This would include opening the lines of communication with the surrounding community and the officials of the City of Benicia.

As Andres Soto wrote in a recent letter to the editor, it's been over a year since Valero's massive month long flaring debacle of May 2017. Valero still hasn't provided any public reports with an objective root cause analysis nor any corrective actions that Valero should implement.

During that incident, the community had to get our information from the media. The media reported that Valero released of a year's worth of toxic chemicals into our air over a two week period.

The citizens of Benicia have a right to know what steps Valero has taken to mitigate any further incidents like this. A good neighbor would provide answers to the community it's part of.

We need to quit waiting for them to step up to the plate and become a good neighbor. Our city council should implement an Industrial Safety Ordinance (ISO) that would fill that communication gap as a step toward making our city a safer place to live.

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Benicia