

Letters to the Editor Holiday ice-skating...

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OPINION

Letters to the Editor: Holiday ice-skating rink a waste of taxpayers' money



Samir Mallyan, of Culver City, skates at a Holiday on Ice event to mark the opening of a temporary ice rink on the parking lot behind Glendale City Hall on Friday, Nov. 22, 2019. Glendale resident Jim Kussman writes he's doubtful the rink will bring in the income estimated by Mayor Ara Najarian. (Tim Berger/Glendale News Press)

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4:54 PM



I filed an information request with the Glendale City Clerk's office asking for the daily revenue reports on the temporary "Holiday on Ice" ice-skating rink by City Hall.

You remember. This is the boondoggle championed by Mayor Ara Najarian that spent \$500,000 of our (your) taxpayer money to install an ice skating rink at City Hall in hopes of generating \$150,000 in revenue so the final taxpayer cost

would only be \$350,000.

Those who objected to the expenditures were labeled “grinches” by Najarian because we think spending that kind of money on such a project is obscene in light of the multitude of things in Glendale that need financial attention.

Aram Adjemian, a very nice records administration analyst with the city, sent me 24 days’ worth of daily financial reports on the ice rink. The dates included were Nov. 22 through Dec. 16.

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During that period 2,114 people

purchased tickets and rented skates for a total of \$56,874.14 in revenue. There are more than 203,000 people living in Glendale. Just 1% of its residents went ice skating over those 24 days, assuming they were all Glendale residents.

With an average daily revenue of \$2,370 (some weekdays as few as five people and \$227.36 in revenue) it is hard to believe they are going to get close to Najarian's \$150,000 revenue projection by the end of the skating-rink's operation, Jan. 6.

I bring this up because I am tired of politicians, and make no mistake Ara Najarian is a politician, making bold unrealistic assumptions and

statements about spending our tax money, and when those assumptions don't come close to being correct they hope we will all forget about them when election time rolls around.

Unfortunately, all too often, history proves the politicians to be correct. Maybe this time it will be different?

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Jim Kussman

Glendale

Re: ["The Whiteboard Jungle: A would-be Dickensian speech from](#)