

**From:** Donna Bergeron-Birge [mailto:birgebergeron@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 3:54 PM

**To:** Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; Robert Garcia <Robert.Garcia@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

**Subject:** Agenda Items 8 & 9

**-EXTERNAL-**

Mr. and Mrs. James Birge  
4681 E. Goldfield Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90807  
April 13, 2021

Subject: 3701 Pacific Place/Agenda Items 8 & 9

To All Who Will “Hopefully” be Concerned:

As much as this plea is about the west side’s needs for green space, the decisions and plans that you make will speak loudly about how you are viewed as trusted advocates (or not) for the health and well-being of our community and how faithful you are to your commitments.

People are talking; residents and voters, even Assemblyman O’Donnell, Speaker Rendon, Congressman Lowenthal, former Councilwoman Rae Gabelich; all are advocates for the plans for the LA River revitalization made over the last 20 years. A lot of us are talking...about how corporate interests are increasingly more valuable than the concerns of those impacted by their plans.

According to information from the Trust for Public Lands, the City of Long Beach has not been forthright in attempting to acquire this property. TPL’s frustration with the parcel acquisition was that the City didn’t take it seriously and TPL was never engaged by the City as its purchasing agent. They became completely frustrated with the City’s lack of interest and commitment.

You must realize that the proposed project at 3701 Pacific Place is an improper fit for the Lower LA River’s long-range plans. There have been repeated revitalization commitments for the Lower Los Angeles River for which you were lauded. You know this. The City also has also made a commitment to equity and environmental justice. You know this.

I can only assume that you know the following: **This area was classified as a [disadvantaged community by the CalEPA for the purposes of SB 535 due to the residents’ exposure to disproportionately high rates of pollution.](#)** According to the **Coalition for Clean Air**, the proposed project-3701 Pacific Place (at the 405 & 710) is where

residents are already heavily impacted by poor air quality and toxic diesel emissions from the highways.

With all due respect...given the preceding, how does a multi-story concrete storage facility that will house hundreds of gas-guzzling RVs offset such contamination? How does it fit into the long-range plans of reviving the LA River? Can you in good faith to the community you serve...give such a project the green light?

Sincerely,

Donna Bergeron-Birge and Jim Birge  
Residents; District 8

"The beauty of the living world...has always been uppermost in my mind...I have felt bound by a solemn obligation to do what I could--if I didn't at least try-I could never again be happy in nature...there would be no peace for me if I kept silent."--**Rachel Carson** (1907-1964)