



**City of Long Beach**  
*Working Together to Serve*

**R-14**  
**Office of Gerrie Schipske**  
**Councilwoman, Fifth District**  
**Memorandum**

Date: April 6, 2010

To: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

From: Councilmember Gerrie Schipske, 5th District (5)

Subject: AGENDA ITEM: 2010 Solar Grand Prix Update

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**DISCUSSION**

For over three months, 300 students, from 21 different schools, consisting of over 70 teams have been working to design and build cars powered by solar energy. On January 23, 2010 each student was required to attend a brief workshop on the basics of solar energy and how automobiles operate. The workshop was conducted by experts in the fields of engineering and solar installation. Upon completion of the workshop, Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske gave each team a solar car kit that includes a solar panel and a motor. Student teams are responsible for designing the cars and will compete for prizes for the fastest and most creative solar cars. A panel of technical experts will judge the cars. Solar cars will be raced on a wooden track constructed by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America – Local 360.

A number of “solar and sustainability” exhibitors will also be on hand to demonstrate the latest items. Sponsors of the event include: Southern California Edison, the City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine Department, P2S Engineering, Progressive Power Group, Long Beach Nature Center, Partners of Parks, Ameco Solar, United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America – Local 360, Long Beach Firefighters Association, and the Long Beach Lifeguards Association.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file report on 2010 Solar Grand Prix