

Public Comments for 5/28 Sustainable City Commission

RE: Climate/Program Announcements for today's Sustainable City Commission Meeting's Public Record, submitted by Dr. Jenny Lentz on 5/28 at 3:31 p.m.

Dr. Jenny Lentz, formerly the Education Coordinator for climate resilience and community science projects at the Aquarium of the Pacific, was recently appointed to become the Program Manager at the Coalition for Clean Air (CCA), which is a California based non-profit organization that has been working to protect public health, improve air quality, and prevent climate change throughout California for almost 50 years.

Through her position she will be running their Community Learning Enhances Air Resources (CLEAR) program which works with schools and communities throughout California (prioritizing at risk, environmental justice communities), to increase their awareness of how air quality impacts health, deploying additional air quality monitor sensors to key areas, helping community members to get alerts in real time for hazardous air conditions, and ultimately empowering them to advocate for improved conditions. CCA has done a number of projects at schools throughout Long Beach in the past, and recently applied for a grant to develop a STEM based curriculum around air quality that would be flexible enough to be run in school or from student's homes, which if funded would be run as a pilot in at least one Title-1 school in Long Beach. She'll also be deploying additional sensors in West Long Beach, along the 710 corridor over the next year.

CCA is also actively working to prevent emissions regulations from being rolled back due to budget cuts resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, and working to raise awareness about the connection between air quality and respiratory health, which is a key factor in the severity of COVID-19 cases.

Dr. Lentz will continue to keep this committee apprised of the climate and sustainability-related projects being done in Long Beach, the results from them, and community events related to them.

Additional information about CCA and their CLEAR program can be found online at: ccair.org/ and ccair.org/clear/, and through social media @CleanairCA on twitter, instagram, and facebook.

Thank you for your time.

RE: Protecting nesting birds, nesting sites in Long Beach and in the Coastal Zone, submitted by Anna Christensen on 5/28 at 3:13 p.m.

Due to significant losses in bird populations due to loss of habitat, changes need to be made to existing policies regarding public trees and open spaces within the City of Long Beach. Due to recent illegal trimming of palms in the median of Ocean Blvd, the City is working with the California Coastal Commission staff and CA Fish and Wildlife Enforcement to address the loss of birds and habitat and to improve existing protections for the Great Blue Herons Colony of Alamitos Bay and other at risk populations. Sierra Club makes the following recommendations and requests that the Sustainable City Commission support them. We also ask that the Commission take on the role of advocating for the preservation of natural places and wildlife as no other City Commission has done so and we cannot remain or become sustainable otherwise.

Anna Christensen, Conservation Chair, Long Beach Area Group, Sierra Club, Member, Los Cerritos Wetlands Task Force

RE: Request that the Commission hold an *informational update/study session on CAAP for Long Beach, submitted by Dave Shukla on 5/28 at 3 p.m.

It is heartening to see the Commission reassemble after the cancellation of the March meeting due to Covid-19. There is no doubt that 2020 priorities and anticipated schedules and cycles in local government have been altered due to pandemic response efforts.

At your December 4th 2019 meeting, action on climate change was highlighted as one of the Commission's priorities in the coming year, 2020. As the principal advisory body to the Long Beach City Council, maintaining a focus and priority on climate action has only grown in importance. In the past six months, there has not been a single update or forum for community input on the draft version of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) by any official body or institution in the City of Long Beach. As a part of the Land Use Element adopted by the City of Long Beach in 2019, the CAAP is scheduled for adoption this year. Also over the past six months, there has been no formal presentation on the Feasibility Study: Community Choice Aggregation for the City of Long Beach (FS) released publicly on December 2nd 2019.

Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) programs have documented gains in emissions-reduction, electricity reliability, competitive rate structuring, local programming, and customer service over incumbent investor-owned utilities. At an informal online forum on 'Human Resiliency to Covid-19 and Climate Change' hosted by Councilwoman Jeannine Pearce's office on May 13th, 2020, staff from Long Beach Development Services did present some findings on potential pathways for meeting the greenhouse gas emissions-reduction targets to be finalized in 2020 for the CAAP. The estimated annual reductions from a CCA program were 3 times as impactful as Recycling/waste diversion, 4 times as impactful as current green rate options from the incumbent utility, and over 9 times greater than the Port

of Long Beach's vaunted Clean Trucks program. More communication with city staff is needed on data sources and targets, but this brief and informal updated information is very encouraging.

As one of the co-founders of the Long Beach Alliance for Clean Energy, I urge the Commission to hold a study session at your next meeting on the CAAP, on updating CAAP targets and options in light of Covid-19, and specifically on how CCA programs can help us achieve our sustainability and environmental performance goals.

Dave Shukla

RE: Community Choice Energy Working Group, submitted by Clay Sandige on 5/28 at 9:09 a.m.

Dear Long Beach Sustainability Commission, on behalf of the Long Beach Community Choice Energy Working Group, we are respectfully requesting that the Commission sign on to our petition for the City of Long Beach to create a stand-alone Community Choice Energy program, join an existing Community Choice Aggregation program and file an implementation plan with the California Public Utilities Commission. Please see the attached petition in the hyperlink.

In keeping with the City of Long Beach's goals and objectives in the Climate Adaptation Action Plan (CAAP), we request the Long Beach sustainability commission sign on to our petition from the Long Beach Community Choice Energy Working Group to urge the Long Beach City Council to approve the formation of a Long Beach Community Choice Energy (CCE) program. The purpose of CCE is to allow the City to assert control of how and where the electrical power that runs our homes and businesses is generated. The petition further urges the City to file a Community Choice Aggregation Implementation Plan with the California Public Utilities Commission no later than December 31, 2020. If the City doesn't submit by this deadline, no work can start on CCE for another two years at the earliest. We encourage your members to read the petition and join us in signing so that this work can continue, with its enormous potential to speed the transition from fossil fuels to renewable power sources such as solar, energy storage, and other types of renewable power. Please click here to read and sign on:

<https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/bring-community-choice-energy-to-long-beach-without-delay/>