

AGENDA ITEM #13 20-0585 July 7, 2020
REZONING TO ACCOMMODATE HOMELESS INSTALLATIONS

CITY COUNCIL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT:

I am opposed to re-zoning for homeless installation. There has by no means been enough community outreach or impact research done on this issue. It is not fair to the existing or future residents of Long Beach to allow such sweeping changes in zoning or to invite people to live in their cars within the city of Long Beach. It is also not fair or compassionate to those experiencing homelessness to allow them to continue living on the streets or in a car. Those renting or buying property in Long Beach have a right to know what type of neighborhood they are purchasing/renting in and to not have sweeping changes to the landscape of already established neighborhoods. The homeless deserve having the issues that are keeping them on the streets addressed rather than just getting a bed or a parking space. Hiding the problems throughout the city is not going to help anybody.

“Safe Parking”: This invites people to come to Long Beach and live in their cars. The city will ultimately be responsible for the health and safety of those individuals. At the same time, the surrounding areas will have an influx of transient residents who may be dangerous or unable to care for themselves which could ultimately lead to crimes being committed in the surrounding area as well as self-harm by mentally ill individuals.

The quality of life and safety of the residents of Long Beach should be a top priority of the Mayor, council and every city department. By not addressing the underlying issues of a large portion of the homeless population and ignoring the basic need for safety and quality of life of the residents, the actions of this council continue to have minimal benefit for either.

Increased health risks

Decreased property values

Loss of life

Loss of quality of life

Increases in crime throughout the city: murder, suicide, burglary, rape, child abuse, domestic abuse, assaults, driving offenses, weapons charges, 5150's, j-walking, etc.

Increased drug abuse and alcohol abuse

Tax dollars will be needed to provide staffing, safety measures, healthcare, restrooms, clean-up, lighting, utilities, water, trash disposal, traffic impact, impact on schools and school safety, increased policing issues.

As a resident of Long Beach it is very frustrating to feel as though the “leadership” is not listening and does not care to hear the ideas and/or concerns of the residents who they are supposed to be serving. It is especially irresponsible of this council to keep moving forward with agendas that directly impact our quality of life at a time when we cannot have our voices heard or even see the faces of our mayor and council as they make their decisions. At the very least

this agenda item should be delayed until the restrictions on our lives from Covid are lifted, and at the most it should be opposed by this council because it is a bad idea that lacks common sense and places residents in harm's way while wasting resources.

For The Record:
Retta Ekstrom

From: Annie Greenfeld [<mailto:shorti2448@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 3:45 PM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Re: Council Agenda Item No. 13

-EXTERNAL-

Recommendation to receive supporting documentation into the record, conclude the public hearing, and find the project consistent with the previously adopted Negative Declaration ND16-19; Declare ordinance amending Title 21, Zoning Regulations, of the Long Beach Municipal Code to: (1) add a definition for 'interim housing' and establish related operating standards; (2) repeal the definition of 'shelter;' (3) amend the definition of 'emergency shelter' and expand the zoning districts where emergency shelters may be permitted; (4) amend the definition of 'transitional housing' and expand the zoning districts where it may be permitted; (5) add a definition for 'safe parking,' establish the districts within which a 'safe parking site' may be permitted, and adopt operating standards; and, (6) amend the term 'social service office' to 'social service facility,' and expand the zoning designations where it is allowed, read the first time and laid over to the next regular meeting of the City Council for final reading

My name is Annie Greenfeld and I am representing Magnolia Industrial Group and Westside Business Association of Long Beach in this agenda item.

While I concur that it is not a crime to be homeless and see the great need for housing for homeless people, it is with great trepidation that we write this and hope that you will consider it.

We have read all the attachments to the agenda item and would like to address them in a brief statement as follows: We realize that nothing we say in this email statement is going to sway the City Council to do anything other than what they want to do and that it will be approved anyway; but the prudent thing to do is to address our issues.

We acknowledge that there is a homeless issue that must be addressed. However, we do not understand why it is only being addressed on the Westside and in North Long Beach. I am familiar with the other industrial areas which are Planned Developments, but if you can change the zoning to allow Emergency Shelters and the like on the Westside, then why not protect the Westside at the same time? Why do you allow the homeless people to camp on private and public property and then either make the property owner or the City to clean up after them? This is at great cost to the property owner/tenant and takes away from City services for those who contribute via taxes.

Btw, just as a point of reference, the Westside is the largest contributor of sales tax in all of the City.

We request that any emergency shelter be dealt with as a drop-off and pick-up location and that no one be allowed to come in off the street. We also request that since parking is at a premium and since we have "No Parking" signs that were installed by this City through previous City Council representatives, and that this issue has NEVER been enforced. City Council representatives should meet with whomever is affected by these changes prior to it going to the Planning Commission and to City Council. This is only fair. There are so many issues in our areas and previous City

Council representatives did not address these issues and nothing was ever done to help us in this regard.

It would be wonderful to know that this City Council is hearing our concerns and will address them. Every night, there are homeless living in our area and no one from homeless services has been out to address this. With Covid 19 looming, we should be receiving these services to not have to have our owners/tenants clean up after the trash left behind or ask people to move along and not sleep on private property. If the City wants to put shelters in our area, then the City must deal with our issues.

Please, please, please hear us and help us. We have put up with this for over 20 years and in a pandemic, it will only get worse for our business owners/tenants and employees.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this matter.ou

Annie Greenfeld

"Never, never be afraid to do what's right, especially if the well-being of a person or animal is at stake.

Society's punishments are small compared to the wounds we inflict on our soul when we look the other way."

From: Long Beach Accountability Action Group [<mailto:updates@laag.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 3:12 PM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Agenda item number 13 20-0585 on July 7, 2020

-EXTERNAL-

The public is unaware that homeless installations can be put up in or near residential neighborhoods, schools etc. without any public input if this passes. Please delay voting on this proposal until a public outreach activity (should be townhalls available across the city) has been performed.

I support much of the plan as long as it helps to remove homeless from the SG River - but not the lack of public input or participation and the inability of the public to comment. I also don't think they should be putting in "low-barrier" installations near residential neighborhoods. I think this is another issue the Mayor wants to push through while COVID is hampering public engagement.

Long Beach Accountability Action Group "LAAG"

A California Non Profit Association | Demanding action and accountability from local government
[main LAAG website](#) | LAAG on [Twitter](#)

"The most important political office is that of the private citizen". - Louis D. Brandeis

read the LAAG Privacy Notice [here](#) and our Mission Statement [here](#).

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From: Janet West [<mailto:jayjay76511@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 3:57 PM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Comment on Agenda Item #13

-EXTERNAL-

I object to this update to zoning regulations based on the following:

The public was not notified that Housing First Policies in state law require:

Tenant screening and selection practices promote accepting applicants regardless of their sobriety or use of substances, completion of treatment, or participation in services. Also, applicants are not rejected on the basis of ... criminal convictions ... or lack of "housing readiness."

The public was not notified that expansion of areas in which these housing services and housing developments are allowed also increase the possibility of neighbors who are using alcohol and/or drugs, without attending rehabilitative services, and neighbors who are convicted criminals and may not be housing ready.

The public was not informed that the target population requirement for Supportive Housing will be eliminated. The public was informed incorrectly. From the public outreach material: "The current definition does not specify a target population for supportive housing." From the current Long Beach Regulations: "Supportive housing" means housing with no limit on length of stay, that is occupied by the target population." ... The Target Population is defined in the next section.

The public has not been informed that Supportive Housing is under the category of Special Needs Housing and subject to taxpayer funding.

The public was not informed that Supportive Housing, under the umbrella of low income housing, will be available for large Density Bonuses and up to four incentives.

From AB 1763: "The bill would also require that a housing development that meets these criteria [low income housing] receive 4 incentives or concessions under the Density Bonus Law and, if the development is located within ½ of a major transit stop, a height increase of up to 3 additional stories or 33 feet. The bill would generally require that the housing development receive a density bonus of 80%, but would exempt the housing development from any maximum controls on density if it is located within ½ mile of a major transit stop."

The public was not informed that AB 1763, which is very impactful, is also one of the bills which should have been considered by Development Services when forming their recommendations.

The public was not informed of the parking impacts which will result from new developments based on these new ordinances. There are minimal parking requirement in State Law and Local Ordinances.

The public was not informed that there is no indication that these housing options will be directed towards Long Beach residents or Long Beach area residents.

The public has not been informed that people classified as in “risk of homelessness” will qualify for Supportive Housing. This will include people who relocate to our area from lower “cost of living” areas.

The public was not informed that a person may be designated as “homeless” if they make an oral statement that indicates a possibility of future homelessness which will qualify someone to get housing in a Supportive Housing Development which is permanent housing.

The public outreach material contained deceptive wording. On-site management may be present at all times during the operation of the facility. Deceptive wording. Why wasn't it worded as “On-site management is not required to be present at all times during the operation of the facility.”

The public was not informed on what the requirements are for “an appropriate level of security? The material states: “An appropriate level of security shall be provided at the interim housing facility.” What are the designations for “an appropriate level of security.”

The public was not informed on how the Neighborhood Compatibility component will be regulated. There are no requirements for on-site staff. From the material: “Neighborhood Compatibility. All programming shall take place on site, and not permit any queueing or loitering adjacent or abutting the site.”

Janet West
4th District

Thank you,
Janet West
4th District

From: anngadfly@aol.com [<mailto:anngadfly@aol.com>]

Sent: Saturday, July 4, 2020 2:37 PM

To: LBDS <LBDS@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 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Charles Parkin <Charles.Parkin@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Tom Modica <Tom.Modica@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Re: Now Available: Public Hearing Notice for July 7 City Council Meeting

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Decision Makers:

I question the short notice time for this item, especially on a holiday weekend. As far as I am aware, there have been no public meetings for this very important zoning change which will affect the entire city.

Please postpone this hearing until the public has more time to become educated on the ramifications on their homes and neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Ann Cantrell

-----Original Message-----

From: Long Beach Development Services <linklb@longbeach.gov>

To: anngadfly@aol.com

Sent: Thu, Jul 2, 2020 4:27 pm

Subject: Now Available: Public Hearing Notice for July 7 City Council Meeting

[View this email in your browser.](#)

For COVID-19 (coronavirus) updates, visit: longbeach.gov/COVID19.

The public hearing notice for the July 7, 2020, City Council meeting is now available.

[View Notice](#)

You are receiving this email because you've signed up for the Long Beach Development Services Zoning Administrator and Commission Hearing Meeting Agendas and Public Hearing Notices email list.

Long Beach Development Services | 411 W. Ocean Blvd., 3rd Floor, Long Beach, CA 90802

[Unsubscribe annadfly@aol.com](mailto:unsubscribe_annadfly@aol.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by linklb@longbeach.gov

From: Padric Gleason Gonzales [<mailto:padric.gleason@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, July 2, 2020 6:03 PM

To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Public comment for Agenda Item #13 for 7/7 City Council Meeting re: emergency shelters

-EXTERNAL-

Hello, my name is Padric Gleason Gonzales. I'm a resident of District 1 in beautiful downtown Long Beach! I'm writing in SUPPORT of this motion to expand the locations for future development of emergency and supportive housing. Too often, cities talk a big game about the need for homeless services and supportive housing, then they regulate them out of existence on unfounded fears of crime and vagrancy. We need an all-hands-on-deck approach to expand housing options for our unhoused neighbors. Shelters should be located in every district of the city, providing widespread opportunities for people to access assistance. Please support this motion to amend zoning rules and build more housing. Love the homeless.

--

Padric Gleason Gonzales
Long Beach, CA 90802

Fulbright Mexico '12
MBA, St. Mary's University '12
B.A., Wheaton College '10

To: City Council Members, Development Services, City Clerk, LBPD, City Manager

July 6, 2020

Re: Agenda item number 13 20-0585 on July 7, 2020

Public Hearing Notice Application Number: 1907-09 (ZCA 19-006) Application Date:
7/12/19 Zone Code Amendment

I'm glad to see there has been work done to launch the effort to seriously work the homeless crisis. Please don't take my commentary below as being opposed to working these issues. It is intended to be a healthy critique. I would hope to support those in the trenches that are working with this population. However, I also believe the public needs to be informed of the Everyone Home report, the plans for placement of homeless facilities, and have an opportunity to provide input on the plans, especially when their neighborhood is affected.

FOUNDATION

Homelessness is not caused by a lack of housing. 80-90% of those living on the street have mental illness or drug problems. That is information from interviews with those that work with the homeless. Giving them a set of house keys will not solve their issues.

Many from the homeless population are not capable of navigating bureaucracy. They cannot open a bank account, pay rent and utility bills. They cannot use a computer. We cannot build our way out of these problems.

SAFETY

The elephant in the living room is safety. The plans are conceived as "low barrier" facilities, which means there is no requirement for the clientele to be in a drug/alcohol program or committed to giving up substances. Mentally ill clients may be violent. If the concept is to spread homeless facilities across the city, what assurance do we have that the surrounding residences will remain unharmed? What plans are in place to protect the neighborhoods?

IS THERE A PLAN FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE?

While the plans make the facilities sound as if they are temporary, not permanent housing, I did not understand where the clientele would subsequently find permanent housing. The timeframe for their residence in interim facilities could be considerable – especially if permanent housing is unavailable. Do we plan to establish a permanent support structure for everyone that would like to live in Long Beach? What does the outcome of our plans look like?

FUNDING

There is at least one bill that is structured to provide funding for affordable housing and homeless issues and my recollection is that SB2 provides \$500,000 per year. Other grants and funding are available, but can they be counted on as a stable source of income? What happens when we open facilities, bring the homeless in and the funding runs out? Do we put them back out on the street? *We have this situation right now with Project Room Key.*

MOBILITY/TRANSPORATION

Homeless folks lack money and transportation. Housing them in centralized facilities should make it easier for social services to help them, but only if the social worker is required to travel there. There is a major disconnect in our services today because the homeless are expected to transport themselves and they do not have cars or money for the bus. They also do not want to leave their belongings. Homeless people steal from one another and they have nowhere to lock up their belongings.

Example of the transportation issue:

- 1) All services require a valid California ID (a trip to the DMV in Long Beach).
- 2) A California ID requires an expired ID or a birth certificate (trip to the County Clerk in Norwalk) or social security card (trip to the Social Security office downtown Long Beach).
- 3) To obtain a Cal Fresh card (food stamps) requires a visit to the Multi-Service Center (a trip to the Long Beach Port area) where they will assist you in filling out documentation and provide guidance on other services and programs.
- 4) Medi-Cal cards require all the documentation above be provided to Social Services. What homeless person do you know that has stamps and envelopes? To pursue this they must go to the Post Office or engage someone to enter their data into a computer. County social workers (in my experience) do not return phone calls, so it is best to go to the office (trip to Compton).
- 5) For all of the above, the client needs a place to receive mail. The Multi-Service Center offers that service (trip to the Long Beach Port Area to receive mail every week).

The process for getting the homeless into services is daunting, just based on the transportation issues. Imagine doing all those trips without access to a car.

Note: For the past 6 months I have been assisting perhaps the best known homeless individual in Long Beach, [Jerry Pryor](#), with the added assistance of several Lakewood Village community members including the neighborhood association and Water Commissioner Gloria Cordero. The journey I have undertaken with Jerry through the process of gaining services and benefits for the homeless has been truly eye-opening and daunting, beyond what anyone who has not been through it could imagine. The information conveyed above is from direct recent experience.

POLICY THAT DRIVES RE-ZONING

Does the public support the policy of spreading homeless facilities into residential areas? The EVERYONE HOME initiative produced a report with recommendations. There are policy-type statements in that report. The re-zoning that is proposed is based on those policy statements. It is unclear if the content of that report was approved and adopted by Council. The question that begs to be asked is “What is the rationale for placing these facilities in proximity to residential neighborhoods?”

Most homeowners chose their home and location with zoning playing a major role in their decision. When you purchase a property, you purchase the zoning. Changing zoning is a major decision, and not one the public will overlook. The land use debacle was evidence of that. The Everyone Home report needs to be discussed with the public.

PUBLIC OUTREACH TO DATE (on re-zoning)

2 sessions were held in January, one at the Multi Service Center and the other at Mark Twain Library. I believe our Council should ask to see the attendance lists. I have to doubt there was a sizeable crowd, especially because there were conflicting meetings (The History of Water – eastside of Long Beach) on at least one of those dates. Both public sessions were on the west side of Long Beach. If the Notice did not include the word “homeless” those that did receive notification probably didn’t realize what the topic was about.

NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Hearing Notice for July 7th arrived Thursday July 2nd in the late afternoon in my email. Since Friday July 3rd was a holiday for the City, and the offices are closed on Saturday and Sunday, the phone number given for questions was inoperative, leaving only one day for inquiries (today - Monday July 6th). The notice directed the reader to look at the staff report on the city website, but did not give a link or directions on where to find the report. That report was 92 pages long. For something as major as zoning changes that will bring homeless facilities to your neighborhood, this was not adequate time.

COMMUNICATION ON RE-ZONING

The residential population living adjacent to commercial properties would be concerned to hear that homeless facilities may be placed there. How was the residential population in the city notified of these proposed zoning changes? Was a press release distributed? I didn’t see information in council members monthly newsletters and I receive 3 of them.

What is the communication strategy for this initiative? Right now, it feels like this:

“The City is putting in a homeless shelter/safe parking lot/or other kind of homeless facility down the street from you. You will have no say in this matter. Deal with it.”

ZONING MAPS

Commercially zoned areas are targeted for homeless shelters according to the Public Hearing Notice. The Planning Commission staff report and presentations from April 16, 2020 contain maps showing proposed locations for homeless facilities. The maps don’t match the Land Use maps that were approved in 2018.

Commercially zoned areas not on the map (district 5),

K-Mart property, Bellflower and Spring

The area known as the Bowtie, Los Coyotes/ Palo Verde

Stater Bros commercial area - Spring and Palo Verde.

Industrial zoned area on the map

The property behind Ralphs

This location is on the map showing zoned as industrial, while the Land Use Plan shows it as commercial. How would that location be treated with respect to interim housing plans?

I would doubt those commercial locations that are missing on that map are exempt from the zoning changes and those areas would be a huge concern to the neighborhoods.

THE ASK

- Delay this agenda item
- Carefully consider the wisdom of placing these facilities in residential neighborhoods.
- Use a roll out plan with town hall meetings across the districts to brief the EVERYONE HOME report, along with an explanation of the proposed re-zoning and maps that show where re-zoning will allow homeless facilities. Provide an opportunity for the public to discuss and give input.
- Engage the police to create plans and means to ensure public safety around the homeless facilities. Brief the public on those plans.
- Use a pilot program to roll out change. Collect real results, metrics and lessons learned to back up the plans to go forward. Provide feedback to the community on the pilot programs.

I hope to be a supporter of the efforts to reduce the pain felt by the homeless and to encourage meaningful communication with the residents about tradeoffs involved in moving the homeless population off the street.

One concern remains. Even with our best efforts, the homeless are not obligated to accept our plans or our charity.

Respectfully,

Corliss Lee
President, Eastside Voice

DISTRIBUTION:

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Darryl Supernaw district 4

Stacy Mungo district 5

Dee Andrews district 6

Roberto Uranga district 7

Al Austin district 8

Rex Richardson district 9

Robert Garcia Mayor

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Beth Murchison [<mailto:mbmurchison@icloud.com>]

Sent: Monday, July 6, 2020 10:09 PM

To: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Agenda item number 13 20-0585 on July 7, 2020

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Mayor Garcia, Council-member Mungo, and Long Beach City Clerk,

I was dismayed to find such important issues being covered under Item #13 20-0585, being discussed in a forum where the public can not be involved or have input to the agenda item.

Since this has a large impact on our residential areas, I believe it to be in the city's best interest to table this agenda item for the time being, until the council meetings can be attended by the public.

I would really appreciate you reconsidering discussion at this time, as I'm afraid there might be considerable blow-back if the people possibly affected do not have a say in these issues and the ability to vote on such important matters.

Thank you for your time.

Most sincerely,

Mary E. Murchison

Sent from my iPhone

From: Regina Taylor [<mailto:rnewman1212@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 1:14 PM

To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; 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 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>

Subject: agenda item 13 20-0585 major zoning changes

-EXTERNAL-

Please include the following in the July 7 information to council members before the meeting today.

please reschedule a vote on item 13 until there has been sufficient vetting to the general public of these significant impactful changes to zoning which can alter future layout of our city. To my knowledge only 2 presentations have been made -- one at Mark Twain Library (which I attended) and one at Multi Service Center.

Placing this item on the agenda at this point in time under all the pressure of coping with the ramifications of the "virus" would be a great disservice to the public.

Regina Taylor
District 7

From: paul walsh [<mailto:walshpaul08@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 1:08 PM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Agenda 13 20-0585

-EXTERNAL-

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: paul walsh <walshpaul08@gmail.com>
Date: July 7, 2020 at 9:55:49 AM PDT
To: district5@longbeach.gov
Subject: Agenda 13 20-0585

Stacey,

This item number regarding Re Zoning for homeless facilities should be shelved.

Please take this in consideration during this evenings council meeting.

There needs to be more community input.

On a side note, I had tried to send in an e comment and was not able to.

Speak Up said that I had set up an account.

I was not able to reset it. I have contacted Speak Up for help to reestablish the account.

In the meantime my e comment was lost.

I called the district office and got your voice mail.

My message was abbreviated by time constraints.

It seems like at every turn the mayor and city hall albeit city council have put in place policies and tools to discourage resident participation.

Corliss Lee of eastside voice has submitted correspondence to the council which pretty much details what needs to be addressed before moving forward with this agenda item.

The apparent use of this current pandemic as cover to push this through without public participation is beyond words.

There is no doubt in my mind that the re zoning measure will resoundingly pass council

9-0. Prove me wrong.

Paul Walsh

3869 Ladoga Ave.

Long Beach,CA. 90808

734-652-6641

Sent from my iPadomment

From: Daniel D. Kelson [<mailto:kelson@carnegiescience.edu>]

Sent: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 2:54 PM

To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Letter to City Council for Zoning Ordinance; 20-0585 of Agenda for 7/7/2020

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor Andrews, and the City Council,

My name is Daniel Kelson and I reside in the sixth district of Long Beach. I have now been a Long Beach resident for just about twenty years, and have been fortunate to own a home in the Wrigley neighborhood for more than fifteen of them.

Over these years I have watched with concern over the limited options our neighbors and community has during times of housing stress and crisis. Now we are seeing a combined health and economic crisis due to Covid19. The economic conditions are unlike any other time I have seen in my lifetime and in any place that I have yet lived, from Illinois to Washington, D.C., to places across California.

So I have watched with excitement the coming agenda item 20-0585 which is set to address some of the zoning bottlenecks in emergency and interim housing, and attendant social service facilities. These changes to zoning look to be good—or even excellent—first, necessary steps in the direction of alleviating the worsening problems of homelessness and housing stress. These necessary changes will allow our community to better provide the infrastructure necessary to help our unhoused neighbors back to more stability, better health, and more equitable participation in society. The large fraction of families in our homeless population who remain unsheltered is particularly disturbing and the increase in available land for interim housing and support services will be crucial in helping this subset of the population. It is a moral imperative that we do so, and it remains unbelievably appalling how little land in Long Beach can be devoted to serving the unhoused.

It has been frustrating to see these measures delayed from meeting agenda to meeting agenda, and I hope there is no longer any remaining civic or political bottleneck that keeps the council from making this important progress on zoning reform. Our less fortunate neighbors deserve more effort from us and more resources from us, and these are made possible by the proposed ordinance. It is in all our best interests to provide much more infrastructure to keeps our residents from falling out of healthy positions in society, and also helps to reintegrate folks back into easier positions as well as more productive roles Long Beach society and civic life. No doubt the Covid19 health and economic crises have simply made these needs more urgent and timely.

Please expand the City's ability to provide shelter, emergency or otherwise. Please expand the City's ability to provide interim housing. Please expand the City's ability to provide transitional housing, safe parking, and the additional social service facilities that are needed. The moral necessity of these changes has never been clearer or more urgent.

Thank you for your time,
Daniel Kelson, Ph.D.
The Carnegie Observatories

From: Daniel D. Kelson [<mailto:kelson@carnegiescience.edu>]

Sent: Saturday, July 4, 2020 9:46 AM

To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Sending Again: Letter to City Council for Zoning Ordinance; 20-0585 of Agenda for 7/7/2020

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor Andrews, and the City Council,

My name is Daniel Kelson and I reside in the sixth district of Long Beach. I have now been a Long Beach resident for just about twenty years, and have been fortunate to own a home in the Wrigley neighborhood for more than fifteen of them.

Over these years I have watched with concern over the limited options our neighbors and community has during times of housing stress and crisis. Now we are seeing a combined health and economic crisis due to Covid19. The economic conditions are unlike any other time I have seen in my lifetime and in any place that I have yet lived, from Illinois to Washington, D.C., to places across California.

So I have watched with excitement the coming agenda item 20-0585 which is set to address some of the zoning bottlenecks in emergency and interim housing, and attendant social service facilities. These changes to zoning look to be good—or even excellent—first, necessary steps in the direction of alleviating the worsening problems of homelessness and housing stress. These necessary changes will allow our community to better provide the infrastructure necessary to help our unhoused neighbors back to more stability, better health, and more equitable participation in society. The large fraction of families in our homeless population who remain unsheltered is particularly disturbing and the increase in available land for interim housing and support services will be crucial in helping this subset of the population. It is a moral imperative that we do so, and it remains unbelievably appalling how little land in Long Beach can be devoted to serving the unhoused.

It has been frustrating to see these measures delayed from meeting agenda to meeting agenda, and I hope there is no longer any remaining civic or political bottleneck that keeps the council from making this important progress on zoning reform. Our less fortunate neighbors deserve more effort from us and more resources from us, and these are made possible by the proposed ordinance. It is in all our best interests to provide much more infrastructure to keeps our residents from falling out of healthy positions in society, and also helps to reintegrate folks back into easier positions as well as more productive roles Long Beach society and civic life. No doubt the Covid19 health and economic crises have simply made these needs more urgent and timely.

Please expand the City's ability to provide shelter, emergency or otherwise. Please expand the City's ability to provide interim housing. Please expand the City's ability to provide transitional housing, safe parking, and the additional social service facilities that are needed. The moral necessity of these changes has never been clearer or more urgent.

Thank you for your time,
Daniel Kelson, Ph.D.
The Carnegie Observatories