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**Sent:** Tuesday, September 13, 2016 3:38 PM

**To:** Maria Garcia <[Maria.Garcia@longbeach.gov](mailto:Maria.Garcia@longbeach.gov)>

**Cc:** Michael Mais <[Michael.Mais@longbeach.gov](mailto:Michael.Mais@longbeach.gov)>; Charles Parkin <[Charles.Parkin@longbeach.gov](mailto:Charles.Parkin@longbeach.gov)>

**Subject:** Brown Act protest/objection (Budget Oversight Committee meeting, Sept. 13)

**Importance:** High

Under the CA Brown (open meetings) Act, the undersigned protests and objects to voted action on item 2 on today's (Sept. 13) Budget Oversight Committee agenda.

In an online dispatch last night (Sept. 12) on Press-Telegram.com (article URL here:<http://www.presstelegram.com/government-and-politics/20160912/long-beach-budget-committee-wants-to-increase-funding-in-these-5-areas>) hich reported that Budget Oversight Committee chair / Councilwoman Stacy Mungo disclosed a "tentative list of recommendations" and said its release was "to increase transparency in the budget process and to allow community members a chance to share their thoughts on the suggested spending priorities." The PressTelegram story cited five items purportedly from this list and reported:

[begin quoted text]

"The recommendations will be discussed Tuesday by the oversight committee...

"Although Price and Austin did not have a chance to discuss these recommendations with Mungo, both said they would like to see more money for public safety initiatives, homelessness and added parks programs.

"The committee and the chair have really worked to provide balance in terms of budget priorities," [Committee member/Councilman] Austin said, -- and I believe what she has released reflects the priorities of the council."

"[Committee member and Councilmember] Price also conveyed her strong support for adding Sunday hours at a fourth city library, a pilot program that was first rolled out at the Bay Shore Neighborhood Library in 2014."... [end quoted text]

It's reasonable to conclude that the list by the Chair and its items have been discussed stemming from the list in written form or verbally among at least two and possibly all three of the Committee members.

This morning, the undersigned cited CA Government Code setcion 54957.5 (a) in requesting a copy of the document from the Councilwoman's Chief of Staff, cc'd to LB's Assistant City Attorney. As of 3:15 p.m., we've received no response and the document doesn't appear online where it can be accessed by members of the public.

For the reasons stated above, the undersigned believes that any voted action on item 2 on today's Budget Oversight Committee agenda is at minimum problematic and potentially would violate the Brown (open meetings) Act by the City of Long Beach and the Council members taking part in the action.

s/ Bill Pearl, publisher  
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