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Subje City Council Hearing Proposed Amendment to the North  
ct Project Area (Item H3)

Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers,

I have been a member of the North Long Beach Project Area Committee (North PAC) almost from its inception in 1996. North PAC consists primarily of homeowners, but also includes renters and business owners. According to the guidelines of our strategic plan we recommend projects and improvements in the North Long Beach Project Area to the redevelopment Agency Board.

Since 1996, we have held meetings monthly that are open to the public held the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm at the North Long Beach Police Substation. In addition, there are public meetings held when specific projects are being proposed and considered. Public input is extremely important and sought for every action - North PAC expects public involvement in project activity.

After listening to and watching the video of the Redevelopment Agency Board I am troubled by the public testimony. These folks are very concerned about losing their property due to eminent domain but it has everything to do with the way in which the notice was written. I felt the same way when I read the notification and I am fairly well informed of redevelopment activity in North Long Beach.

In fact, any properties under consideration in North Long Beach are located primarily on our major corridors and sit specifically in the path of development according to the North Long Beach Strategic Plan. Further, there is only so much development that will occur in North Long Beach. Redevelopment funds are limited and are severely compromised by the city's need for funding

and public infrastructure improvements. As large as North Long Beach is, there is truly very little redevelopment that can occur.

In addition, North PAC has a property acquisition policy that points acquisition to properties on the corridors and are currently for sale, according to the North Long Beach Strategic Plan. As homeowners and property owners ourselves, we want to make every effort to avoid eminent domain. We want to protect our properties and ensure higher property values as well. We want North Long Beach to be improved and be a wonderful place to live and shop. We live here too.

I am unable to attend the meeting tonight due to illness. Please include this as public testimony for the hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Angel  
Member of North PAC  
President of the North Long Beach Community Action Group