

From: Michelle Baker [mailto:michellebaker199@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2021 6:05 AM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Cc: Wild <w_ild2000@yahoo.com>
Subject: Please put in written comment for item 21-0706 Safety

-EXTERNAL-

Good evening Councilmembers,

I am glad the city has 5 million in SAFE Funds. In a recent parks survey, safety and cleanliness came in #1 as things most important to the residents. They want safe parks/beaches and to be clean.

This is why you need to include a park ranger at Bixby Park and a weekend beach ranger by Junipero Beach lot.

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**DOWNTOWN
LONG BEACH
ALLIANCE**

July 20, 2021

Long Beach City Council
Civic Center Plaza
411 West Ocean Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Agenda Item #27; Long Beach Safety Recovery Plan

Dear Mayor Garcia and Honorable City Council Members,

Please accept this correspondence on behalf of the Downtown Long Beach Alliance (DLBA) Board of Directors and enter into the public record for the City Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 20, 2021, its support of the proposed Long Beach Safety Recovery Plan (Plan).

The proposed Plan includes programming impacting the Downtown Business Improvement District (BID), and DLBA believes the need to provide both support and further policy feedback. DLBA is in support of the Plan's one-time investments in entertainment and business districts, calls for service, neighborhood walks, and neighborhood safe streets programs. Proper implementation of these programs would greatly enhance public safety in the Downtown, particularly in areas experiencing persistent problems with crime and quality of life.

According to DLBA's 2021 Public Safety Survey, the overall perception of safety in Downtown has decreased over the past year. Reduced social and economic activity in the area created a more negative perception of health and safety, aggravating existing challenges such as illegal dumping, property crime, and homelessness. However, collection of monthly crime data within the BID reveals that overall crime has been trending downward since 2015. Increased deployment of neighborhood resources and calls for service would help to maintain the downward trend in crime while also bolstering the perception of safety in the BID.

Although DLBA supports the initial investments of the Plan affecting Downtown, there is still a need to better allocate program funding. Safety programs involving Long Beach Police Department account for over 90% of the total budget, whereas investments in community violence prevention receives less than \$500,000 in total funding.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our input regarding the proposed Long Beach Safety Recovery Plan, and we encourage the City Council to continue discussion on best practices for the project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kraig Kojian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kraig Kojian
President & CEO

cc: DLBA Board of Directors
DLBA Public Safety Committee



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President & CEO

cc: DLBA Board of Directors
DLBA Public Safety Committee

From: Marianne Drummond [mailto:72mdrummond@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2021 4:17 PM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: LB City Council Meeting Public Comment 07/20/21 - Items 26 & 27

-EXTERNAL-

Item 26

Despite the millions of dollars this city spends every year on policing, according to LBPD, crime continues to increase, disproportionately in the neighborhoods of BIPOC. If policing and imprisonment stopped violence, the US would be a utopia already...we would have long since 'arrived.' But alas, this is not the case. Instead, policing and imprisonment perpetuate harm on a mass scale, ensuring the cycle where police can continue to hold up a crime report and scare council members like you into handing over half of your budget (or more, some years).

One of the ways to move in this direction is to stop hiring police officers. Let the attrition shift the money to the resources we need. I understand police are fighting for their existence & to stay relevant; that is understandable. But there is only one way out of the quagmire policing created, and we cosigned. Stop hiring police officers. Divert that money to community resources.

Item 27

Covid disproportionately infringed on BIPOC to live in safety and peace. If we are looking to heal some of that harm, we need to disengage with institutions that cause harm and free up resources for solutions that are actually designed to create healthy, safe, sustainable communities. That means diverting this 5 million dollars to resources, not more policing.

There have been social costs to investing in policing, instead of investing in people and our communities. We have created a society conditioned to look to policing as the answer to our problems, both real and imagined, calling the police not only in emergencies, but also in response to white/affluent people's fears or annoyance in many situations where people of color are simply trying to live their lives. And we have created tenuous circumstances for a large portion of society in a resource desert. If we want different outcomes, we need to change our investment behavior.

Marianne Drummond