

eComments Report for City Council Meeting Agenda of August 3, 2021

Item	Name	E-mail	Address	Comment	Received
IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL HYBRID CITY COUNCIL MEETING PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER N-08-21 ISSUED BY GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM	Michelle Baker	michellebaker199@gmail.com		Its not hybrid because you aren't allowing residents to speak on the phone. We don't feel safe in the chamber when you are not requiring vaccinations for city staff.	8/3/2021
9. (21-0724) Recommendation to authorize City Manager, or designee, to execute all necessary agreements, and any subsequent amendments, with Volunteers of America Los Angeles, to accept and expend Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Round 1 funding, in an amount not to exceed \$600,000, to provide job readiness and employment opportunities for people at-risk of and currently experiencing homelessness, for the period of August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022, with the option to renew for an additional one-year period, at the discretion of the City Manager. (Citywide)	Michelle Baker	michellebaker199@gmail.com		What kind of jobs are they offering? Why aren't you training people at the animal shelter as jobs with animals are in high demand.	8/3/2021
10. (21-0727) Recommendation to authorize City Manager, or designee, to execute all documents necessary to amend Contract Nos. 35020 and 35022 with Azteca Landscape, of Corona, CA, and Parkwood Landscape Maintenance, Inc., of Van Nuys, CA, for the provision of grounds maintenance services, to increase the annual aggregate contract amount by \$859,580, for a revised total annual aggregate amount not to exceed \$6,044,839, at the discretion of the City Manager. (Citywide)	Michelle Baker	michellebaker199@gmail.com		Azteca is fantastic	8/3/2021
10. (21-0727) Recommendation to authorize City Manager, or designee, to execute all documents necessary to amend Contract Nos. 35020 and 35022 with Azteca Landscape, of Corona, CA, and Parkwood Landscape Maintenance, Inc., of Van Nuys, CA, for the provision of grounds maintenance services, to increase the annual aggregate contract amount by \$859,580, for a revised total annual aggregate amount not to exceed \$6,044,839, at the discretion of the City Manager. (Citywide)	Laurie Angel	lcangel2012@gmail.com		The city should not allow trucks to drive in the parks as a part of the contract. The trucks are heavy and compact the soil which makes it extremely difficult for the soil to drain and grass to grow. There are gator vehicles with balloon like tires that allow for mobility through the park without damaging the grassy areas. I use several parks and am discouraged to see deep tire groves in the grass that damage the grass and run the park. These deep tire treads are scars on the landscape and need to be eliminated. The overall cost of maintaining each park will be reduced and will require less serious remediation to the soil and grass. I worked as a Business Manager for Facilities and Physical Planning for 13 years at CSULB. We had extremely strict rules about this to keep costs down while retaining the functionality and attractiveness of green space and athletic fields significantly longer..	8/2/2021

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CONTINUED BUDGET HEARING:	Michelle Baker	michellebaker199@gmail.com		We need park rangers at Bixby Park and more money for clean up. Also, why are there not enough resources for the animal shelter. There is a three week waiting to get a voucher. There are dogs not fixed in LB, we need more community education.	8/3/2021
16. (21-0731) Recommendation to conduct a Budget Hearing to receive and discuss an overview of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget for the Capital Improvement Program. (Citywide)	Laurie Angel	lcangel2012@gmail.com		Pretty difficult for the public to comment when there are no attachments provided for the item. You might be surprised to know how knowledgeable some of your constituents are on these matters, Posting presentations before the meeting could also dramatically improve the understanding and discussion on the itme.	8/2/2021
16. (21-0731) Recommendation to conduct a Budget Hearing to receive and discuss an overview of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget for the Capital Improvement Program. (Citywide)	Bri Price	briprice77@gmail.com		<p>The past year of the COVID-19 pandemic and Black Lives Matter uprisings against police brutality have awakened more people to the value of community and humanity. With hundreds of millions of federal and state dollars coming into Long Beach, our communities need a just recovery a People's Recovery that puts Black lives at the center, prioritizes and protects marginalized communities, and fundamentally reimagines community safety.</p> <p>As a multicultural and multigenerational alliance, we are calling on you to: (1) adopt the People's Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 and (2) structurally reform the City budget process to enable earlier and deeper participation from marginalized communities who are most impacted by budget decisions. Black Lives Matter, and all our communities cannot wait any longer.</p> <p>DIVEST FROM THE LONG BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT REINVEST IN BLACK LIVES, COMMUNITIES OF COLOR, AND MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES ADOPT THE PEOPLE'S BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022</p>	8/2/2021
16. (21-0731) Recommendation to conduct a Budget Hearing to receive and discuss an overview of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget for the Capital Improvement Program. (Citywide)	Marianne Cole	celticelle@yahoo.com		We need some repair of our streets. Instead of the city investing in so many expensive infrastructure building projects, how about starting with keeping our streets in decent paved condition? Too much money spent on pools and city halls instead of maintaining basic services makes for a poorly run city that caters to elitist projects.	8/2/2021

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16. (21-0731) Recommendation to conduct a Budget Hearing to receive and discuss an overview of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget for the Capital Improvement Program. (Citywide)	Ron Bottano	ronald1b@aol.com		I understand the City has many ongoing capital improvements. Personally, I would be impressed if the City could complete some of the major capital improvements on the agenda in a timely manner. Our City seems to study items forever, taking away from active projects that just need to get done. Let's expedite some projects, please. The Belmont Pool, the Belmont Pier, the Colorado Lagoon open channel to Marine Stadium, which the Port approved back in 2019 with \$26MM in funds. Of course, we need a pool in North LB, but can we get some of these capital improvements moving. The Belmont Pool was demolished in 2013. The Trees in the Marine Stadium area have been removed at least 5-6 months ago. We really would appreciate seeing some expedited action on these projects. Perhaps the City needs more bandwidth to expedite the progress and construction on these major CapX improvements. Let's go!	8/2/2021
16. (21-0731) Recommendation to conduct a Budget Hearing to receive and discuss an overview of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget for the Capital Improvement Program. (Citywide)	Charles Thomas	cthomas4201@gmail.com		There have been lane closures at the intersection of PCH and second Street for months now, with no work whatsoever going on there. This is probably the busiest corner in Long Beach. To have lane closures at this intersection with no work whatsoever going on is extremely inconvenient and backs up traffic. Please take down the lane closure signs until or unless there is actually road work going on there. Charles Thomas	8/2/2021
17. (21-0732) Recommendation to receive supporting documentation into the record, conclude the public hearing, and find the project statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.9 and CEQA Section 15265(a)(1); Declare ordinance approving a Zoning Code Amendment (ZCA19-003) amending Title 21, Zoning Regulations, of the Long Beach Municipal Code to implement suggested modifications by the California Coastal Commission, read the first time and laid over to the next regular meeting of the City Council for final reading;	Laurie Angel	lcangel2012@gmail.com		I am so disappointed that this city has not done a better job of protecting our coastline and open spaces. Density is NOT the answer. You can not undo the damage all of this indifference will cause. Pretty sad to see that all of the very serious environmental issues we face right now do not motivate you to act in a more responsible and sustainable manner. We need more responsible leadership. The environmental issues we face are dead serious. You need to act like that is the case, You must act on behalf of the betterment of this city as if our lives depended on it. And truthfully, they absolutely do.	8/2/2021

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20. (21-0737) Recommendation to direct City Manager and the Parks, Recreation, and Marine Department to explore the feasibility of, locations for, and funding options for the construction of a public pool to serve the North Long Beach community and return to council with a report within 120 days.	Rae Gabelich	hoorae1@aol.com		One of the recommendations made by CARP during the BBAC lawsuit was to build at least two community pools in our disadvantaged communities, not simply a 102M pool that will primarily serve the east side. Regardless of whether an ethnic population is considered to be drawn to this amenity or not it should be provided for recreation and health improvements within these areas. When CLB leased the Will J. Reid pool (8th district) over 10,000 people enjoyed this activity in short summer sessions. Let's do the right thing and build at least two community pools in the north and the west side of Long Beach. It's time! You need 3-4 acres and a few million dollars. Certainly there are grant monies to assist if there is political will?	8/3/2021
20. (21-0737) Recommendation to direct City Manager and the Parks, Recreation, and Marine Department to explore the feasibility of, locations for, and funding options for the construction of a public pool to serve the North Long Beach community and return to council with a report within 120 days.	Lucy Johnson	lucyjohnson1@gmail.com		<p>I do support the addition of a pool in the 8th or 9th District, should money become available. My preference would be at Scherer Park in the 8th. Jordan HS in the 9th already has a pool open to the public, if only for 2 months per summer. There is nothing at all in the 8th. Also, I understand that Jordan is to have the next new pool as part of the LBUSD bond issue for capital improvements.</p> <p>The big issue is a failure of the LBUSD to enter into Joint Use Agreements with the City for use of ALL the high school pools. Pools are expensive to run and maintain. It is shameful that our high school pools sit unused for major portions of each day. Having additional revenue sources from public uses such as recreational and lap swimming, and rentals to teams for swimming and water pool (both youth and adult) would benefit LBUSD as much as it would the public.</p>	8/2/2021

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20. (21-0737) Recommendation to direct City Manager and the Parks, Recreation, and Marine Department to explore the feasibility of, locations for, and funding options for the construction of a public pool to serve the North Long Beach community and return to council with a report within 120 days.	Anna Christensen	annachristensen259@gmail.com		<p>Community Pools Provide Equal Access for ALL to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Swimming lessons and water safety instruction 2. Recreation and exercise 4. Aquatic programs all day, every day, year round 5. Skills needed for other aquatics programs, water sports, and jobs. 6. Safety at and enjoyment of local beaches 7. Affordable and sustainable aquatics - community pools are cost-effective to build and maintain, unlike large competitive venues <p>Long Beach, the 2nd most diverse city in the U.S. and the 7th largest in CA, has 0 public pools in 6 of it's 9 City Council Districts. LB has 3 community pools for 462,000 residents, Lakewood has 2 community pools for 80,000 residents - 4x as many.</p> <p>In the US, 4,000 persons die from drowning each year. 10 drown every day, 2 of these are children. Drowning is one of the top 3 causes of unintentional death for those under 30. @ 64% of black children, 65% of Asian American and Native American children, 45% of Hispanic children, and 40% of white children can't swim.</p>	8/2/2021
20. (21-0737) Recommendation to direct City Manager and the Parks, Recreation, and Marine Department to explore the feasibility of, locations for, and funding options for the construction of a public pool to serve the North Long Beach community and return to council with a report within 120 days.	Padric Gleason Gonzales	padric.gleason@gmail.com		<p>58% of Black children can't swim. Why? The lack of public pool access in North Long Beach is a strong example. When you deny equal services, or you require Black residents to travel 4+ miles to swim, that's racist policy. I recommend the Councilmembers read/listen to this NPR piece called "Racial History of American Swimming Pools" (link below) and vote AYE on this motion. Long Beach needs to invest in EQUITABLE infrastructure. That's public pools, zero-emissions transit, good schools, clean air and water, and affordable housing in every council district. But to repair historical harm, disadvantaged communities require priority investment. https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=90213675</p>	7/31/2021

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PUBLIC COMMENT:	Susan McKibben	susanmckibben@gmail.com		<p>Good evening. As the City Council considers the budget for approval this month, I urge the Council to reduce funding for the Long Beach Police Department and reinvest those funds into community initiatives and structures to care for our communities and reduce crime. These initiatives and structures must be separate from the PD, lead by the community. They could include drug treatment initiatives, graffiti abatement, a mental health response team, and expanded hours and staff for homeless assistance. To establish community trust and improve the execution of a re-imagined approach to public safety, the City must invest in robust, independent service provision separate from LBPD. Seeds of some of these services exist in the budget, but at minuscule levels. Long Beach needs robustly funded and independent public safety apart from and beyond police.</p>	8/3/2021