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Cc: <robert.shannon@longbeach.gov>, "Larry Herrera" <Larry.Herrera@longbeach.gov>, <doug.haubert@longbeach.gov>
Subject: FW: june 212st lobbying ordinance

I just read, (June 21st council agenda item #12) where the City Clerk wants to increase our, (lobbyist) fees over 100% to offset his department's costs, but these fees wouldn't have to be increased if the city clerk, city attorney and city prosecutor pursued those that should be registered under the current ordinance, (just see council members calendars and cross check as one example) and if the city attorney/council amended the current ordinance to include non-profits that lobby the 13th and 14th floor that would also help to recover the City Clerk's costs. I know that each department has different responsibilities with this ordinance, but for the sake of making it just and fair all three need to work together to ascertain who is lobbying city officials and staffers.

In addition, I know that organizations (with some being paid by 3rd parties) are reaching out to elected officials and senior staff on the downtown community plan and advocating a position that would negatively impact my developer clients and I can't figure out how that is not direct lobbying of an elected official or senior staffer. At least make it a level playing field.

When the council enacted this ordinance about year ago it was also stated that they would look at the impact of the ordinance and whether it was truly effective; I would submit that only a few are registered and that lobbying continues by those that want to circumvent the ordinance by not registering. I have no problem listing my past and current clients and paying any and all fees, but why should a few of us carry the burden of what clearly others are doing for free.

I am asking that you consider directing the City Attorney to come back with an amended ordinance that would A: incorporate those non-profits that are advocating to change or create legislation/policy in the City of LB and if burdensome on fee make it a nominal amount; B-reach out to those that are clearly lobbying and have them register before approving this agenda item. If you have any questions or want further input please feel free to call me.

Regards,

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