

11-15-11
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November 13, 2011

Mayor Foster,

There will be consideration of Occupy Long Beach this Tuesday. Speaking for myself, if I could appear and provide comment, this is what I would say,

As we go forward, we are each Occupation across the country; gathered, recognizing the corporate tyranny that grips this Nation. We gather, as is our right, set forth in the First Amendment to the Constitution; we assemble peaceably to petition our Federal Government for redress of grievances suffered.

In this regard, we exercise our right of speech, which the courts have shown takes many forms. You consider tonight, accommodation of the encampment. The encampment is symbolic; it speaks clearly to the emotional and physical dislocation that we for too long have endured as individuals and as a nation. It is my sincere hope that both sides can work together to find as have so many others a solution.

There is no measure to quantify the longevity of which tyranny is capable, therefore to place such limit on our, on a citizens right of peaceful assembly, whether by day or week or portion of the day, while tyranny continues cannot be justified.

We citizens of these United States have a constitutional right to continue in our assembly, pointing a persistent finger at tyranny while that tyranny continues, and to continue in our petition until that tyranny is ended; our grievances answered.

To oppose, to circumscribe us in this right, as when it is said, "You have made your point" (implied-now go home), to command, that we go home, while this nation continues to bleed at tyrannies hand would be tyranny of the basest sort!

Cities suffer out of the same reality that confronts individual citizens, there is a strangle hold on revenue that has occurred because unprecedented wealth has become concentrated in too few hands; with unprecedented wealth comes unprecedented power, under this reality, both city and citizen have been and are injured.

Therefore, it is in the very best interest of every city once occupied to work with the occupation and offer every reasonable accommodation. The occupation is speech of the purest sort, shining a beacon on our shared trouble, taking back by peaceful resistance the megaphone and the message.

In the end, we take back the framework for governance, the Constitution of the United States and place it once again in the service of the majority. It is a win-win for "We the People" and for local government and its ability to function in the service of its citizens.

With respect,

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