

PUBLIC COMMENT - MURCHINSON

From: Mike Murchison [<mailto:mike@murchisonconsulting.net>]
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 1:08 PM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: lobbying reform

-EXTERNAL-

Good Afternoon,

I would like my comments added to the non-agenda items for the Ethics Commission meeting scheduled for January 13th.

Good Afternoon Chair and Commissioners,

I hope all of you had a safe and healthy holiday season. I am following up on my request to have your commission agendaize in the near future an item to focus on lobbyist registration. There continues to be a problem in Long Beach whereby people are being compensated for their advocacy to elected officials, city management, and city departments and not registering as lobbyists, thus there is no transparency. This has to change as the public demanded back in 2010 for transparency especially with people speaking with city officials on projects or policy while being compensated by a third party. As you can see on the lobbyist reports that the City Clerk keeps on file there are very few registered lobbyists and yet, many of us see the communication going on between advocates and city officials that the public is unaware of. I am asking that you look into this and hopefully provide recommendations to the City Council to strengthen their lobbyist rules and regulations so that the City Prosecutor and City Clerk can work together to bring transparency to the public by forcing these individuals to register. Thank you for your time.

Best Regards,

Mike Murchison - "Mike 24-7"

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