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**East Yard Communities  
for Environmental Justice**

# Fax

To: City of Long Beach Mayor Foster From: Angelo Logan

Fax: 562-570-6538 Pages: 1 + cover

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 11-5-13

Re: \_\_\_\_\_ CC: \_\_\_\_\_

- Urgent  
  For Review  
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Please see attached letter.

**East Yard**  
**Communities**  
 For Environmental Justice

*Fighting for Life*

East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice - 2317 Atlantic Blvd. Commerce, CA. 90040  
 11-4-13

Long Beach City Council

Honorable Mayor and Council Members

Civic Center Plaza

333 West Ocean Blvd., 14<sup>th</sup> floor  
 Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mayor Foster and Members of the City Council:

I'm writing on behalf of East Yard Communities For Environmental Justice (EYCEJ). EYCEJ is an environmental health and justice non-profit organization working towards a safe and healthy environment for communities that are disproportionately suffering negative impacts of the built environment. EYCEJ works to achieve environmental justice, insuring that all people have a healthy environment where works, live, learn, pray and play.

We are writing in regard to the community's platform for inclusion in the upcoming Housing Element. We stand with Housing Long Beach and other faith, labor and community groups in urging you to adopt a Housing Element that includes a Mixed Income Housing Ordinance, identification of local funds for affordable housing and a Rent Trust Account Program. We believe it is in the interest of Long Beach communities for the Planning Commission and City Council to adopt these essential yet modest policies to ensure quality housing for our workforce and residents, and to improve the overall quality of life for everyone in our city.

Housing is a central building block of community health. With 47% of Long Beach renters (130,000 people) spending more than 35% of their income on rent, we must work together to provide opportunities for Long Beach families to have access to affordable, safe and healthy homes. This can only happen when we do two things: 1) Increase the stock of affordable housing and; 2) Improve the existing stock of housing. Adopting the community's platform for inclusion in the 2014-2021 Housing Element will create new opportunities for families to lead healthy lives, and will in turn improve education, safety, economic and health outcomes for all Long Beach residents.

EYCEJ and our hundreds of members believe that community health and justice is priority for Long Beach and that the community platform and proposed housing element is a key mechanism to achieve this goal. The city is made up of resident and the health and well-being should be a the center of policy making. We urge you to stand by this principle and support the community platform.

Thank you for your time and consideration,



Angelo Logan

Executive Director, East Yard Communities For Environmental Justice

Cc: Pat West, City Manager