

VIA EMAIL & HAND DELIVERED TO CITY OF LONG BEACH PLANNING DEPT

DATE: August 1, 2019  
TO: Dionne Bearden, Planning Dept Secretary  
FROM: Laurie Smith, Resident Bluff Park  
RE: Planning Commission Packet – August 1, 2019  
Concerns & Inconsistencies with Consent Calendar Agenda Item

Ms. Bearden,

Please include the following documents in the Planning Commission Packet for tonight's meeting.

Thank you for your assistance,  
Laurie Smith

PLANNING COMMISSIONERS:

I respectfully ask the Planning Commission to pull this agenda item from the consent calendar due to questions and concerns with the staff report.

The staff report does not provide enough details as to whether there are any inconsistencies with the CIP projects. As such, this report is not adequate to determine that each project to receive new funding has been reviewed for conformance with the goals and objectives of relevant elements of the General Plan.

In order for the Planning Commission to accurately perform their duties all elements of the General Plan need to be addressed by the staff reports before proceeding with a vote by the Planning Commission. It is reasonable for the Planning Commission to request staff to prepare a report that ensures all the elements of the City's General Plan have all been addressed.

The General Plan elements provide details about official policies and program that the City has adopted pertaining to each topic. **Policies established in any one of the elements must not conflict with policies established in other elements.**

According to LBMC Sec. 1002, It shall be the responsibility of the Planning Commission to review the City's long range capital improvement plan to ensure that it is consistent with the City's general plan".

[https://library.municode.com/ca/long\\_beach/codes/city\\_charter?nodeId=CH\\_ARTXPLCO\\_S1002PODUPLCO](https://library.municode.com/ca/long_beach/codes/city_charter?nodeId=CH_ARTXPLCO_S1002PODUPLCO)

Therefore, I ask Planning Commission to delay tonight's agenda item until an adequately determinative staff report is submitted.

An example of the report's inadequacy can be found in the portion detailed below:

<http://longbeach.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=7563572&GUID=4510B5A0-BF9C-448E-8CE2-7EA43427E2AD>

*“A narrative description is provided for each project that will receive new funding in FY 2020. Programs receiving new funding in the CIP are reviewed for conformance with goals and objectives of relevant elements of the General Plan.”*

*Based on this review of the goals and policies below, staff finds the proposed FY 2020 CIP consistent with the Long Beach General Plan.”*

### *III. Mobility*

*Bluff Park lighting improvements - upgrade to Smart Street Light Technology  
August 1, 2019*

*Application No.1907-03/CPC19-003 General Plan Consistency Findings Page 3 of 5  
General Plan Finding:*

*The Mobility CIP projects are consistent with the following General Plan goals, policies and objectives:*

- Land Use Element goals: Functional Transportation, Facilities Maintenance, Quality Services and Managed Growth,*
  - Mobility Element: Complete street policies (*
  - Bicycle Master Plan Objective “*
- .....

The narrative provided in the staff report, General Plan Consistency Findings for Fiscal Year 2020 Capital Improvement Program. “Bluff Park lighting improvements – upgrade to Smart Street Technology” is vague and without sufficient detail. “Bluff Park” can be construed to mean many elements of the city; Landmark Historic District, the greenbelt area and Ocean Blvd. Therefore, it is impossible to assess whether this item is consistent with the General Plan. Additionally, “lighting improvements - Smart Street Technology” does not address or detail what these are.

### Relevant General Plan Inconsistencies:

The staff report findings provided are not comprehensive of the many elements of the General Plan and the Local Coastal Plan. As you are aware, California law requires each local government to adopt a local General Plan, which must contain at least seven elements: Land Use, Transportation, Housing, Conservation, Noise, Open Space, and Safety. In addition, under the California Coastal Act of 1976, the City must have a Local Coastal Program, which is part of the General Plan. The City's General Plan also includes: Air Quality, Scenic Routes, and Seismic Safety.

### **LB GENERAL PLAN – HISTORIC PRESERVATION ELEMENT:**

[http://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/lbds/media-library/documents/planning/advance/general-plan/final-long-beach-historic-preservation-element\\_6-22-2010](http://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/lbds/media-library/documents/planning/advance/general-plan/final-long-beach-historic-preservation-element_6-22-2010)

One of the original elements of our city's General Plan is the Historic Preservation Element. Primary goals of the Historic Preservation Element are to better integrate historic preservation into City procedures and interdepartmental decisions, and to create a meaningful partnership with the community in order to implement the historic preservation program. "Streetscape features, such as trees or light standards, may contribute to the historic character of the district".

As the Bluff Park Neighborhood that it is a Landmark Historic District and registered with the State Historic Preservation Office, be advised that inconsistencies with the General Plan may lead to the State reviewing projects that are not consistent with established policies or adopts practices that violate the intent of the National Historic Preservation Act.

#### LB GENERAL PLAN – SCENIC ELEMENT

<http://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/lbds/media-library/documents/planning/advance/general-plan/scenic-routes-element>

#### BLUFF PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT ORDINANCE:

[http://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/lbds/media-library/documents/planning/historic-preservation/districts/bluff\\_park-ordinance](http://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/lbds/media-library/documents/planning/historic-preservation/districts/bluff_park-ordinance)

The Bluff Park Historic District Ordinance, adopted by the City July 29, 1982. Located along the ocean bluffs on Ocean Boulevard and 2nd Street from Junipero Avenue to Loma Avenue, this area was among the first to be designated by the City Council as a historic district in 1982.

Designated streets:

Junipero Avenue  
Loma Avenue  
Ocean Boulevard  
2nd Street

Due to the above detailed concerns I ask that you pull this agenda item from the consent calendar in order to address the inconsistencies of this staff report with the General Plan and a study session be done to so that the public can comment issues of concern.

Thank You.  
Laurie Smith