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Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 1:23 PM

To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Item 14 - today's (Feb 16 2021) Long Beach City Council meeting

-EXTERNAL-

Item 14 - Long Beach City Council meeting, Feb. 16, 2021

Comment for the public record

Dear Council Members and Mayor,

I protest the gobbledygook staff report. **If I were in your place, I would require - in writing - a more credible and self-consistent account of the situation before approving this item.**

The staff report claims that 'old' City Hall is somehow both an 'asset' and a 'liability' concern. It claims in effect - without explanation - that the vacancy of the standing building somehow has got to be worse than the ensuing post-demolition vacancy. It decries vandalization of a building which anyhow is to be demolished.

The fact is that the building need not be vacant for months to come. It could be usefully (and even protectively) occupied by folks - often labeled 'homeless' - who need someplace, any place, to reside or anyhow camp out. Aren't these precisely the folks about whom we're supposed to be concerned about to the point of providing special 'service centers' and maybe even special bond-issue housing?

The building is most likely perfectly sound. This was proved by what City Management actually did with the building for three years- as versus what it claimed. Management claimed in 2016 (and maybe earlier) that the building was seismically unsafe, but I recall not a single management action, during the ensuing three years of continuing alleged unsafety, to relocate city employees, and Council and public meetings, out of that building.

The staff report brags of all the amenities to come in the new Lincoln Park - amenities which allegedly will meet great needs - and attract great use - by folks in downtown and indeed all over the city and region. And yet it claims that somehow it will be costly to 'program' sufficient use of the park.

Again, if I were in your place, I would require - in writing - a more credible and self-consistent account of the situation before approving this item.

Joe Weinstein

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