

To Councilmembers of the City of Long Beach Related to:

City of Long Beach City Council Agenda

Tuesday, January 26, 2016

333 W. Ocean Bld.

Council Chamber, 5:00 PM

Departmental Communications:

2. 16-0067 Recommendation to request City Manager to report back to City Council in 90 days on the feasibility of establishing a percent for arts policy as an ongoing funding source for public art in the City; and report back on similar models cities across the nation use to fund public art programs.

Dear Long Beach Councilmembers:

Please give conscious consideration of voting FOR the Arts proposal placed on tonight's Agenda. Though our great City of Long Beach has undergone many cuts in programs in the recent past due to California's economic challenges, I believe that it is now an optimal time to seek new ways of providing a portion of the City's budget back to the ARTS.

Several Artists in our community, including myself, have collaborated in groups through nonprofit Arts Organization such as *Cultural Alliance of Long Beach* to promote many of our art works over the past several years. The proposed additional funding to the Arts from City government will assist Artists more readily in the creation and recognition of their Art forms in spaces for audiences of Long Beach to experience and appreciate.

I also speak on behalf of my two daughters that attended public schools here in Long Beach, and who are now young women that have gone on to pursue careers in the field of Art. There's no doubt that younger generations of artists will benefit from the establishment of a percent for arts policy as an ongoing funding source for public art.

Thank you for your consideration,

Paula McColm

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