

From: Glennis Dolce [mailto:glennisd@me.com]

Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 12:41 PM

To: Robert Garcia <Robert.Garcia@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>

Cc: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Item #22-QUEEN MARY-Vote No!

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Decision Makers and City Clerk,

Please enter this comment into the record.

Let's check the timeline for a minute. Just FRIDAY afternoon residents were informed by Mayor Garcia (with great relish and pride) that we, the residents of LB, had "regained" control of the QM (please read [this](#) and see if you agree with the city spin on that what actually happened in court. Is "regaining" really the honest depiction of what happened?

Just Friday afternoon an item #22 appears on the agenda for today. Is that really giving residents time to understand, even find out, what you are trying to get passed today?

Please check your internal "honesty/integrity-meter" if you have one.

Moving on...

What is the rush? The QM is not going anywhere. It continues to rust and deteriorate as it has done for 40 years under your (and your predecessors) care. You can't wait a week or two? Why the bums rush on this? Hoping that more and informed citizens don't hear about it in time to call, email, and raise objection to this expenditure?

Again, please check your honesty/integrity meter.

Rushing into ANOTHER contract for up to one year mere days after the city has been forced to take back the lease on the QM with nary a chance of recovering any substantial monies from the bankruptcy outcome of Urban Commons, has idiocy written all over it! Granted, \$2.5-\$5 million may not seem like a lot to you spendthrifts down there but out here (in the districts you represent) we see all kinds of things we'd like to see funded before that idea sets sail. Yes, I know it's Tideland Funds but there are many other uses even for Tideland Funds (infrastructure and environmental projects that will benefit all-not just the favored tourists that visit the city).

Did you know that the steel that the QM is made of is considered "low background steel"? It is a valuable and diminishing commodity

needed for many and various scientific uses. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Low-background_steel

While this might not be the ultimate solution for the QM, I mention it because I'm pretty sure not one of you is aware of this. I know I wasn't until someone else mentioned it. What else are we not aware of? What other possibilities for the QM exist out there? Why the need to rush millions of \$\$ onto TODAY's agenda?

As Council members, you are not doing yourselves any favors by trying to rush controversial decisions past the people. Give the issue some time to air out. Let people know and comment in a timely manner. Talk to your constituents.

What are you afraid of? Do you want the people to trust you?

Vote item 22 down and let's make GOOD public decisions regarding the QM from here on out.

Vote no on 22!

Regards,
Glennis Dolce

-----Original Message-----

From: Anne Proffit [mailto:anne.proffit@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 11:37 AM

To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Item 22

-EXTERNAL-

Please make sure these comments are read by all nine council members, mayor and city manager.

It's that important.

Thank you.

To decision makers:

STOP! JUST STOP! Rushing into another QM contract with a company that's only been in business since 2011 just shows how stupid you are. The whole world really is watching and you look like you're on the ship of fools. Can't this wait until you use the best resources you've got - the people who live in this city - to decide what to do with the ship? You've managed to make us look like a laughingstock by pushing this can down the road for four decades and NOT TAKING RESPONSIBILITY. How very GQP of you! STOP. JUST STOP.

Anne Proffit
East Village Arts District

From: diane rush [mailto:rush534@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 2:48 PM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Tonight's Agenda Item #22 Queen Mary

-EXTERNAL-

To:

Monique De La Garza, City Clerk

For inclusion in tonight's City Council Meeting regarding Agenda Item 22:

Mr. Mayor, city council and staff,

My name is Diane Rush, I reside at 12732 Christy Lane in Rossmoor, CA.

In considering tonight's agenda item, please keep in mind the Queen Mary's structural condition. Critical repairs and maintenance have been deferred since the early '90s. I urge the council to set forth a realistic budget to address these needs.

The Queen Mary is a world-famous time capsule of the 1930s with historic significance as a WWII troop transport vessel. Marketing has been aimed at low-information, young locals, not those who appreciate the unique authenticity of the Queen Mary as a world-class icon that defines Long Beach.

As always, I urge Long Beach to keep and preserve their treasure of Art-Deco marine architecture, the Queen Mary.

Thank you.

From: Jim Sarantinos [mailto:jsarantinos@yahoo.co.uk]

Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 3:55 PM

To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Comment on Item #21 (Council Support of National Health Insurance Program) - City Council Meeting Jun 8 2021

-EXTERNAL-

Healthcare as a basic human right is a hallmark of EVERY developed nation except for the United States. EVERY health economics study has concluded that a national health insurance program will save us money and insure every citizen. Our current insurance based system is designed to deny claims, provide opaque pricing, and generate as much profit as possible to give their executives obscene pay rises.

California's tax base subsidizes this to the tune of 71% of every health dollar spent with poor health outcomes. A sick patient is a paying patients. A treated patient is not. LA City currently spends almost \$1 billion on health insurance premiums each year alone, excluding additional costs. Previous studies have shown that bulk negotiation of drug prices and health services, removal of the insurance model (they are the unnecessary middleman/woman) can save up to 18% on these premiums - that's around \$180 million. We pay 2-3 times the cost of healthcare of other developed nations.

James Sarantinos

-----Original Message-----

From: Dianne Sundstrom [mailto:dianne.sundstrom@verizon.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 12:45 PM

To: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@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>; thomas.modica@longbeach.gov; John Keisler <John.Keisler@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Comments on Queen Mary on Council Agenda 6-8-2021

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

I wanted to share some of my thoughts regarding the Queen Mary. I recognize it's an iconic ship with a storied history. I've read a number of articles in the LA Times, the Grunion Gazette, and the LBPost as well as listening to an interesting conversation with Larry Mantle on his NPR program Air Talk.

The City has owned this ship since 1992/1993 and has overseen the deterioration through many different operators. Now, when the ship is at risk of flooding and even capsizing, Mayor Garcia has said the ship should "absolutely be preserved." As you know, in 2016 the City issued \$23 in bonds (much of which cannot be accounted for) and now another \$23 million is needed in urgent repairs. One report, a 2017 study, indicates \$289 M is needed for renovation and repairs. And now another \$2,000,000 is requested for a 6 month management contract and \$500,000 for an engineering review.

According to comments by Edward Pribonic (on NPR), the ship's disrepair is from "stem to stern" and includes "plumbing, electrical wiring, structural deterioration of the side shells." He indicated damage is extensive and that anything is possible but the big question is "who will put up the money?"

On the same program, John Keisler had a very upbeat tone, saying the City is committed to historic preservation of the ship and is "ready to go." When asked where the funds would come from he wasn't very specific indicating there are many sources, including all revenues on ship or land, Carnival passenger fees, and the Tidelands Fund. That fund, the Tidelands, doesn't have enough money to complete the pool project and there's no indication that the price of oil is going to surge.

So, my question is, how can the City afford to take on rebuilding the Queen Mary when it can't keep our urban forest alive and we are in need of much more infrastructure repair? Significant tax dollars have already been spent seemingly with no or minimal positive outcomes; I cannot support spending more on the Queen Mary.

Thanks for considering my comments and I hope you look at all facets of this proposal and consider the significant financial cost and risk to the City. The City should have been more responsible in their management of this asset; had that been the case the Queen Mary wouldn't be at risk of sinking to the bottom of the ocean.

At the very least, this issue should be brought to the citizens of Long Beach through a ballot process.

Regards,
Dianne Sundstrom