



Memorandum

To: Mayor and City Council

May 6, 2008

From: Bonnie Lowenthal, Vice Mayor, First District *BL*
Suja Lowenthal, Second District *SL*
Tonia Reyes Uranga, Seventh District *TRU*
Rae Gabelich, Eighth District *RG*

Subject: Season for Nonviolence – Community Review

REQUESTED ACTION:

Respectfully request a report from the Season for Nonviolence Steering Committee on the activities and initiatives undertaken throughout our community during the *Season*, spanning January 30th to April 4th.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

A Season for Nonviolence, January 30 - April 4, is a national 64-day educational, media, and grassroots campaign dedicated to demonstrating that nonviolence is a powerful way to heal, transform, and empower lives and communities. Inspired by the 50th and 30th memorial anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., this event honors their vision for an empowered, nonviolent world starting with our city.

A Season for Nonviolence was co-founded by Arun and Sunanda Gandhi of the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence and a group of ten ministers forming the Leadership Council of The Association for Global New Thought, the organization that convenes *A Season for Nonviolence* on an annual basis.

It is our hope that each of the religious, spiritual and civic leaders and organizations in Long Beach embrace *A Season for Nonviolence* and bring their own events and activities to their members as a means of encouraging them to build a community that honors the dignity and worth of every human being. Organizations and city staff participating in *A Season for Nonviolence* in Long Beach reached out to various community groups for their involvement with the goal of encouraging them to contribute their own efforts to making the sixty-four days between January 30th and April 4th, a commencement for thoughtful discussion and foundation for exemplary action in all 365 days of the year.

The City of Long Beach and its residents, businesses and visitors should aspire to and deserve nothing less in our communities.