



NB-31

Dee Andrews
City of Long Beach
Councilmember, Sixth District

Date: August 13, 2013

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Dee Andrews, Sixth District *DA*
Councilmember Steven Neal, Ninth District *SN*
Councilwoman Suja Lowentahl, Second District *SL*

Subject: Recognition of the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s
"I Have a Dream" Speech

RECOMMENDATION:

It is respectfully requested that the Long Beach City Council receive and file the Recognition of the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "**I Have a Dream**" Speech and adopt a motion encouraging residents to acknowledge the August 28th Anniversary.

DISCUSSION:

"I Have a Dream" is a public speech delivered by American activist Martin Luther King, Jr. on August 28, 1963, in which he called for an end to racism in the United States. Delivered to over 250,000 civil rights supporters from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, the speech was a defining moment of the American Civil Rights Movement.

Beginning with a reference to the Emancipation Proclamation, which freed millions of slaves in 1863, King examines that: "one hundred years later, the Negro still is not free". At the end of the speech, King departed from his prepared text for a partly improvised peroration on the theme of "I Have a Dream". In this part of the speech, which most excited the listeners and has now become the most famous, King described his dreams of freedom and equality arising from a land of slavery and hatred. The speech was ranked the top American speech of the 20th century by a 1999 poll of scholars of public address.

In a particularly memorable passage, King declared, "...When we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, 'Free at last, free at last. Thank God Almighty, we are free at last.'"

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no significant cost for this item.



City of Long Beach Memorandum
Working Together to Serve

REQUEST TO ADD AGENDA ITEM

Date: August 13, 2013
To: Larry Herrera, City Clerk
From: Councilman Dee Andrews
Subject: Request to Add Agenda Item to Council Agenda of August 13, 2013

Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 2.03.070 [B], the City Councilmembers signing below request that the attached agenda item (due in the City Clerk Department by Friday, 12:00 Noon) be placed on the City Council agenda under New Business via the supplemental agenda.

The agenda title/recommendation for this item reads as follows:

It is respectfully requested that the Long Beach City Council receive and file the Recognition of the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "**I Have a Dream**" Speech and adopt a motion encouraging residents to acknowledge the August 28th Anniversary.

Council District	Authorizing Councilmember	Signed by
6	Dee Andrews	<i>D. Andrews</i>
9	Steven Neal	<i>SN</i>
2	SUZA LOWENTHAL	<i>Suza Lowenthal</i>

Attachment: Staff Report dated August 13, 2013

CC: Office of the Mayor