



City of Long Beach

Working Together to Serve

Memorandum

Councilmember Al Austin

Eighth District

NB-37

Date: May 24, 2016

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Al Austin, Eighth District *al*
Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez, First District *LG*
Vice Mayor Suja Lowenthal, Second District *SL*

Subject: **Feasibility of a meter donation program to help address homelessness**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Request the City Manager and the Department of Health and Human Services to study the feasibility in Long Beach and report back to the City Council on a meter donation program to raise awareness about the issues of homelessness, generate new revenues to help address the problem, and potentially reduce the amount of panhandling in our business corridors.

BACKGROUND:

Homelessness remains an ongoing issue in Long Beach and throughout the region. Many residents want to help address homelessness, but are not sure of how their monetary donations will best be utilized to help.

Some cities, such as Pasadena and San Diego, have in recent years tried a new approach to addressing issues associated with homelessness.

Pasadena's Real Change Movement and San Diego's Make Change Count program utilize repurposed parking meters to collect donations for homeless services, provide information about homeless programs and resources and to educate the public on how to provide real help to the homeless.

The voluntary donations that are raised from these meters go directly to programs that provide direct services to effectively address and reduce homelessness. The meters have also helped discourage panhandling.

As part of the City's Continuum of Care to address homelessness in Long Beach, we request the City Manager and the Department of Health and Human Services to study the meter donation program in other cities and report back to the City Council on the feasibility of implementing such a program in Long Beach.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact with this request.



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REQUEST TO ADD AGENDA ITEM

Date: May 20, 2016

To: Maria de la Luz Garcia, City Clerk

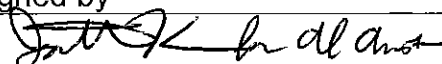
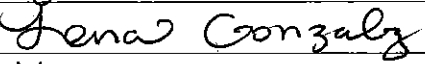
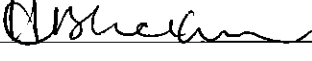
From: Councilmember Al Austin, Eighth District
Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez, First District
Vice Mayor Suja Lowenthal, Second District

Subject: Request to Add Agenda Item to Council Agenda of May 24, 2016

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:

Request the City Manager and the Department of Health and Human Services to study the feasibility in Long Beach and report back to the City Council on a meter donation program to raise awareness about the issues of homelessness, generate new revenues to help address the problem, and potentially reduce the amount of panhandling in our business corridors.

Council District	Authorizing Councilmember	Signed by
8	Al Austin	
1	Lena Gonzalez	
2	Suja Lowenthal	

Attachment: Staff Report dated May 24, 2016