

From: Susana Sngiem [mailto:susana.sngiem@ucclb.org]

Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 5:06 PM

To: 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>; Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; City Manager <CityManager@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Chork Nim <Chork.Nim@longbeach.gov>

Subject: UCC Letter of Support Agenda Item 31

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers,

I urge you to support Agenda Item 31 to support funding and pre-planning to develop a vision plan for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park. Please see the attached support letter.

Best regards,

Susana Sngiem, MSW

Executive Director

United Cambodian Community

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UNITED CAMBODIAN COMMUNITY

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Susana Sngiem, MSW
Executive Director

April 4, 2022

Honorable Long Beach Mayor and City Councilmembers
411 W Ocean Blvd
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Dr. MLK Jr. Park Vision Plan - Support Agenda Item 31 – April 5, 2022 Agenda

Dear Honorable Long Beach Mayor and City Councilmembers:

On behalf of United Cambodian Community (UCC), I am writing in support of District 6 Councilwoman Suely Saro’s Agenda Item 31 to identify funding and begin pre-planning efforts to develop a park vision plan for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park. UCC’s mission is to elevate the Cambodian community through local engagement and leadership that embodies Cambodian cultural values. UCC co-leads the Cambodia Town Thrives collaborative that recently launched the Cambodia Town Vision Plan. A key priority for community members is green space and a healthy environment for families to thrive. Martin Luther King Jr. Park is one of the few green spaces in the neighborhood and it is vital to the health of our communities.

Martin Luther King Jr. Park offers green space, community programs such as the community Peace Garden, and is a source of cultural and historical significance to the Black/African-American community. The statue of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a civil rights leader who advocated for human rights, stands in the park, and every year the community comes together to host a festival following the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. parade.

The park has not seen improvements or renovations in over a decade. A vision plan for the Dr. MLK Jr. Park is needed to revitalize and upgrade our resources to improve the health and wellbeing of the residents in our community while honoring Dr. King’s legacy.

I urge you to support this item by voting yes on Agenda Item 31 to identify funding and begin pre-planning efforts to develop a park vision plan for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park.

Sincerely,

Susana Sngiem, MSW
Executive Director
United Cambodian Community