

**eComments Report for City Council Meeting Agenda of September 8, 2020**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	<b>Street</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Zip</b>	<b>Comment</b>	<b>Received</b>
CITY COUNCIL MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 ISSUED BY GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM	Michelle Baker	michellebaker199@gmail.com					What is the update on video meetings?	9/7/2020
CONTINUED BUDGET HEARING:	Wendy Henning	wrhenning@earthlink.net					We oppose the mayor's \$250,000 legal fund.  Wendy and John Henning	9/8/2020
CONTINUED BUDGET HEARING:	mike murchison	mike@murchisonconsulting.net					Item 13. On behalf of SPOA and the Apartment Association, we are asking that you remove Mayor Garcia's line item to allocate \$250K to tenant rights groups for purposes of litigation against landlords. These funds could be better spent on programs that have been cut in the city budget that impact all of the residents in Long Beach. Please do not vote to support this item...Mike Murchison	9/8/2020

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CONTINUED BUDGET HEARING:	Sandra Kroll	sdkroll10@gmail.com					<p>Several nights ago, my home was broken into in the middle of the night, where I was sound asleep, the sole occupant. Fairly soon it became clear to me that the woman who was cowering before me was hallucinating her own situation, and had come into my home for refuge. This was made clear to the dispatcher at 911. Nevertheless, only uniformed officers showed up – eventually 8 of them! Of course, I declined to press charges, and instead asked several times if the police could get her some help. One of the officers explained that the woman had a warrant on her, so they would arrest her. When I repeated my question, the response, delivered with a small smile, was that she’d be undergoing a "natural detox," in her cell. I repeated my question several times, but that was the sole response.</p> <p>Here’s a situation where yes, a uniformed officer was called for. But 8 of them? And no mental health worker? Are we "protecting and serving"? Or simply perpetuating problems?</p>	9/5/2020
13. (20-0831) Recommendation to receive supporting documentation into the record, conclude the public hearing, and take the actions necessary to adopt the Fiscal Year 2021 budget as listed in Attachment A. (Citywide)	Ray Mehler	raymond.d.mehler@gmail.com					<p>We oppose the Mayor’s line item in allocating \$250K to tenants for legal services. We oppose the city funding tenants to litigate mom-and-pop housing providers. Ray and Suzette Mehler</p>	9/8/2020
14. (20-0895) Recommendation to receive and file a presentation from the People's Budget Coalition on the People's Budget Proposal FY 2021.	Ray Mehler	raymond.d.mehler@gmail.com					<p>We oppose the People's Budget. Ray and Suzette Mehler Long Beach</p>	9/8/2020

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14. (20-0895) Recommendation to receive and file a presentation from the People's Budget Coalition on the People's Budget Proposal FY 2021.	mike murchison	mike@murchisonconsulting.net					On behalf of SPOA and the Apartment Association we do not support and ask that it not be inserted into the city's budget line item 4 in the "people's budget" asking for a citywide rental housing division. This is not necessary and a waste of gov't resources not to mention how it will be paid for.	9/8/2020
14. (20-0895) Recommendation to receive and file a presentation from the People's Budget Coalition on the People's Budget Proposal FY 2021.	Savannah Benton	savannah.m.benton@gmail.com					I support adoption of the People's Budget for Long Beach City. For too long, the leaders of this city have put the police department above vital programs such as health and human services, youth/senior programming, libraries, and public works. The people demand the city budget reflect our priorities.	9/8/2020
15. (20-0896) Recommendation to receive and file a presentation on various Mobile Crisis Intervention Service Models designed to address homelessness, mental health, 911 and non-emergency medical calls.	Ellen Hartwick	ellenhartwick@rocketmail.com					As a social worker in Long Beach for over two decades, I have witnessed people who are in distress and at risk of harming themselves or others. Those working in mental health, social services, and medical care know that PD is expected to respond to mental health crises requiring octane levels of trauma informed training and skill. LBPD's mental health response team matches a police officer with a mental health worker. The model is effective because the expertise matches the trauma informed need. Social workers have also partnered with law enforcement to support people with risk of domestic violence. We are most effective at supporting safety when we use partnerships to intersect skill sets. It's frightening to have police do a mental health assessment. For Black, Indigenous, and People of Color who have history of their communities being harmed by law enforcement, it can be TERROR. We need to endorse collaborative responses as a model to promote safety and wellness in Long Beach.	9/7/2020

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15. (20-0896) Recommendation to receive and file a presentation on various Mobile Crisis Intervention Service Models designed to address homelessness, mental health, 911 and non-emergency medical calls.	Michelle Baker	michellebaker199@gmail.com					In the past couple of years, I have really tried to understand the different resources for the homeless because I want to help people I come across in my neighborhood. I don't understand what the HEART team does. I see them driving on the beach every day and they never stop to help people. When I call for medical attention for the homeless, a paramedic comes out, not the HEART team. Also, we need help on the weekends, not a 5 day a week program. I am very concerned if the Health Department takes over the HEART program because I think they are severely understaffed with Covid and the homeless shelters. They don't even have shuttles anymore to take the homeless to the shelters or the multi service center. The group that I have found most effective and responsive has been the QOL team. The East division team is great and really compassionate. Can we merge the Heart Team with the QOL and expand it to 7 days a week?	9/7/2020
15. (20-0896) Recommendation to receive and file a presentation on various Mobile Crisis Intervention Service Models designed to address homelessness, mental health, 911 and non-emergency medical calls.	Aarti Harper	ashastryharper@gmail.com					I am a District 3 resident and I encourage the Council, especially my Councilmember, to consider cost-savings, life-saving alternatives to 911 response like the CAHOOTS model for implementation in Long Beach. These types of models, along with reimagined public health based public safety approaches like the Californians for Safety and Justice's Blueprint for Shared Safety have been implemented in our similar jurisdictions resulting in savings in lives and dollars. These approaches are in alignment with our City's Framework for Reconciliation and would demonstrate actions in line with centering and valuing Black and Brown lives. Councilmember Price, please keep an open mind and heart and encourage my fellow CD3 neighbors to do the same.	9/7/2020

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13. 1 (20-0860) Recommendation to adopt the Mayor's proposed budget recommendations, as amended, to the Proposed FY 21 Budget. (A-1)	Kate Azar	kate@lbplfoundation.org					<p>The Long Beach Public Library Foundation urges the City Council to support Mayor Robert Garcia's recommendation to not reduce the Library's open days and hours and restore \$247,143 in proposed cuts to the Library's budget. The Library should receive funding to open all 12 public libraries at least 5 days a week and the Library already very lean budget should not receive additional cuts.</p> <p>Even as the Library's doors are closed, families struggling with the challenges of homeschooling, those affected by record unemployment, and those who are often left out of the political process rely on the Library to get their lives and livelihoods back on track. When it is safe for the libraries to reopen, they will receive more visits than ever, especially from those affected by our City's digital divide. Libraries will help reignite Long Beach's economy and increase civic participation. Your support of the Library's budget will help your constituents to succeed and participate in our democracy.</p>	9/8/2020
13. 1 (20-0860) Recommendation to adopt the Mayor's proposed budget recommendations, as amended, to the Proposed FY 21 Budget. (A-1)	Ray Mehler	raymond.d.mehler@gmail.com					<p>We oppose the Mayor's line item in allocating \$250K to tenants for legal services. We oppose the city funding tenants to litigate mom-and-pop housing providers.</p> <p>Ray and Suzette Mehler</p>	9/8/2020

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13. 2 (20-0861) Recommendation to adopt the Budget Oversight Committee's proposed funding recommendations, as amended, to the Proposed FY 21 Budget. (A-2)	Alex Vande Kappelle	alex@optimalgeneticsinc.com					<p>Hi my name is Alex Vande Kappelle. I am a legal cannabis operator in the City of Long Beach. I work in District 1. I am asking the City Council to VOTE NO on an increase on cannabis taxes. A cannabis tax will be a direct hit to patients and consumers, driving them to seek affordable prices on the unlicensed, untested market.</p> <p>While the legal, tested, and tax-paying above ground cannabis industry strives and struggles to sustain a legal, safe market, the underground market continues to thrive. An increase to cannabis tax will increase the underground market activity and decrease patient and consumer safety.</p>	9/8/2020
13. 2 (20-0861) Recommendation to adopt the Budget Oversight Committee's proposed funding recommendations, as amended, to the Proposed FY 21 Budget. (A-2)	Martin Gilberstadt	martin@optimalgeneticsinc.com					<p>My name is Martin Gilberstadt II. I am a legal medical cannabis manufacturer in the City of Long Beach. I am asking the City Council to VOTE NO on an increase on cannabis taxes. A cannabis tax will be a direct hit to patients and consumers, driving them to seek affordable prices on the unlicensed, untested market.</p> <p>While the legal, tested, and tax-paying above ground cannabis industry strives and struggles to sustain a legal, safe market, the underground market continues to thrive. An increase to cannabis taxes will increase the underground market activity and decrease patient and consumer safety.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration,</p> <p>Martin Gilberstadt II</p>	9/8/2020
13. 2 (20-0861) Recommendation to adopt the Budget Oversight Committee's proposed funding recommendations, as amended, to the Proposed FY 21 Budget. (A-2)	Michelle Baker	michellebaker199@gmail.com					<p>We are asking for a park ranger at Bixby Park. We need a full time presence in the park as it impacts everyone in District 2 &amp; 3 in the area. It pays for itself instead of wasting money on calls.</p>	9/7/2020

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24. (20-0938) Recommendation to allow City Council to participate in a work furlough program by a voluntary reduction in Councilmember effective pay by ten percent (10%), beginning with the pay period of September 26, 2020 and request all Elected City Officials and other City Officials not covered by a Memorandum of Understanding to also participate in the work furlough program in Fiscal Year 2021 by voluntary reductions in their effective pay by ten percent (10%), beginning with the pay period of September 26, 2020. (Citywide)	Michelle Baker	michellebaker199@gmail.com					There should not be increased and the furlough program should also include the mayor's pay. WHY are you adding a new position in the mayor's office when he already as 12 people?	9/7/2020