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To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Public comment for Agenda Item #14 for 9/1 City Council Meeting re: NACTO funds

-EXTERNAL-

The Open Streets initiative is essential for providing public spaces for residents seeking relief from coronavirus cabin fever. Loneliness and isolation are two negative consequences of social distancing that can be mitigated by providing safe and clean outdoor recreation areas. I hope the Open Streets initiative has shown people that city streets can, and should, be designed for more than auto traffic. I know I've very much enjoyed eating out at local restaurants because they now have outdoor seating. Please support this motion to expand the parklets program, particularly in Central, West, and North Long Beach. I also encourage the Council to consider making some portion of these new parklets a permanent feature of Long Beach's outdoor economy.

Padric Gleason Gonzales