



South Coast Interfaith Council

(formerly South Coast Ecumenical Council)

759 Linden Avenue
Long Beach, California 90813
Phone: 562 - 983 - 1665
Fax: 562 - 983 - 8812



Rev. Ginny Wagener, Executive Director
revgwagener@yahoo.com

- Dr. Reinhard Krauss, President,
St. Luke's Presbyterian, RHE
- Rabbi David Lieb, Pres.-Elect,
Temple Beth El, San Pedro
- Rev. Marlene Laughlin, V. Pres.,
Wayfarers Chapel, RPV
- Don Tambini, V. Pres.,
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- Gretchen Krutz, Secretary,
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- Dr. Darrell Hartley, Treasurer,
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- Al Albergate,
SGI-USA Buddhist South Bay
- Rev. Terry Bushart,
Riviera UMC, Redondo Beach
- Fr. William Connor,
St. Joseph Catholic, Long Beach
- Rev. Charles Ensley,
Bay Shore UCC, Long Beach
- Carl Farrington,
St. Philomena Catholic, Carson
- Rev. Jane S. Galloway,
Immanuel AME, Long Beach
- Conrad Housley,
Unitarian Universalist, LB
- David Howard,
St. Peter's/Sea Presby., RPV
- Phyllis Johnson,
St. John Baptist, Long Beach
- Dr. Willie Jones,
First UMC Compton
- Anthony Manousos,
Walteria UMC, Torrance
- Elie Morrissy,
Baha'i of Lakewood
- Rev. Feleti Ngan-Woo, Chaplain
LB Memorial Medical Center
- Guia Olin,
St. Lucy Catholic, Long Beach
- Cantor Sam Radwine,
Congregation Ner Tamid, RPV
- Ahmed Saafir,
Masjid Al-Shareef, Long Beach
- Deacon Craig Siegman,
St. Margaret Mary, Lomita
- Sr. Diane Tillman,
Brahma Kumaris, Seal Beach
- Dorlane Tippet,
Pacific Unitarian, RPV
- Lietta Wagner,
Los Altos UMC, Long Beach
- Dottie Wine,
First Congregational UCC, LB

July 26, 2004

Councilmember Bonnie Lowenthal
1st District
333 W. Ocean Blvd
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Councilmember Lowenthal:

On behalf of the 140 member congregations of the South Coast Interfaith Council, I would like to indicate our **support for the proposed Transitional Shelter** for homeless single men and women.

This will come as no surprise to you, since you are aware, I'm sure, that most major religions have a bias in favor of support for hungry, homeless and marginalized people as a core community value.

Having heard the presentation about the shelter, my only disappointment is that it will not be able to handle more people. Certainly, it is much needed and long overdue.

We urge your positive vote when this comes before the City Council on or about August 3rd.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this matter!

Celebrate Life!

Rev. Ginny Wagener
Rev. Ginny Wagener



"Cheryl Perry"
<perry351@hotmail.com>
m>

07/30/2004 03:45 PM

To: lowenthal@longbeach.gov
cc:
Subject: IURD Glendale facility

Dear Councilmember Lowenthal:

After attending the meeting at the Multi Service Center in April at which the proposed "shelter" on Oregon Avenue was discussed, I went to visit the Project Achieve Glendale facility which is operated by IURD, the same group that is proposing to operate a Long Beach facility.

I assumed the facility would be clean, since it was not a surprise visit, but I must say I was impressed not only by how exceptionally clean the facility was (both inside and outside) but also by how well organized it was. I was surprised that it really was just a "sleeping facility". I spoke to staff there and they explained the routine that is followed by the residents and reviewed the "contract" that each individual must sign in order to be accepted into the program.

While I was there, a woman who had completed the program several months ago came in to see her counselor. We asked if we could speak to her and asked her to tell us about her experience with the program. She related that she had come from an abusive relationship, had no job, no money, no family, and no place to live. She said the program saved her life. Her counselor, on admitting her into the program told her she had two weeks to find a job – she found one in 1 week. She said the support she received through the program gave her the self-confidence to get a job, get an apartment, and to go back to school. While she was a resident there she saved all the money she earned so that she could get a good start when she left.

I also spoke to the owner of a printing company whose business was directly across the street from Project Achieve. He said his business had been there for many years and they have never had any problems with the facility. I noticed that there was no one in the parking lot or hanging around on the street while we were there and I asked him if he ever saw individuals hanging around the building and he said that he never did. He said everyone was always very quiet and you hardly knew they were there.

After that visit, my husband drove out to the El Monte and the Pomona facilities. He was there in the early evening. He did not go inside but walked all around the buildings. There was no one outside either facility. The parking lots were extremely clean and there were viable businesses open all around both of them.

IURD appears to operate a very professional and highly regimented program. If they are allowed a permit to open a sleeping facility at the proposed site on Oregon, I would hope that it be on the condition that if they are no longer going to manage the program that the site not be allowed to serve any other social service program without going through a complete review process again.

I still have concerns about the number of social service programs that are operating in the 1st District and would like to see it more evenly balanced throughout the City, but if I had to pick one to be in my neighborhood, then based on what I have seen so far, this one would be my preference.

Cheryl Perry

Don't just search. Find. Check out the new MSN Search!

08/03/04

Good Evening

Honorable Councilmember Lowenthal:

I am writing to inform you of my disappointment with the City Council to argue and not move forward quickly with a decision in reference to the Homeless Transitional Shelter.

These are people, whom at one time lived in neighborhoods of Long Beach. These people are somebody's friend, mother, brother, sister or father, who have fallen on hard times.

Long Beach's homeless population is estimated at 6,000. The shelter at 1368 Oregon is slated for 59 Bed's in an industrial area.

Are we asking these people to become 2nd class citizens? I hope not!

I'm asking all of you to vote yes with Councilmember Lowenthal to give these people the opportunity to return back to productive citizens within the community.

Thank you.

Mike Ashfall
730 Pine Avenue
Long Beach, CA

cc: Mayor
City Councilmembers

August 3, 2004

Councilmember Bonnie Lowenthal
333 W. Ocean Blvd, 14th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

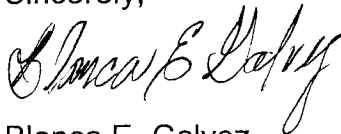
Dear Councilmember Lowenthal,

I am writing this letter to urge you to uphold the Planning Commissions' decision, and deny the appeals on the proposed transitional housing.

Having lived in the first district for the past couple of years, I am aware of the high number of homeless in the first district. Many of the homeless in the area are in fact the working poor, and just need a little boost to get back on their feet. I feel that this transitional center is the first step to improving the quality of life in the area.

I encourage you to do what's right, and to stand up for those first district residents that are usually overlooked or forgotten.

Sincerely,



Blanca E. Galvez
1127 Loma Vista Drive
Long Beach, CA 90813

CC: Mayor O'Neill
Councilmembers

August 3, 2004

The Honorable Dan Baker, Councilmember, 2nd District
Long Beach City Hall
333 West Ocean Blvd., 14th Flr.
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Councilmember Baker:

We are writing to urge you to support the homeless shelter being proposed for 1388 Oregon Avenue by denying the appeals from the Planning Commission.

I am very much in support of the proposed shelter. As a business owner in the downtown area, I am faced with homeless individuals every day. I don't have to elaborate on the homeless hangout at Lincoln Park, which is an unwelcoming sight for customers and visitors to our City. These homeless individuals would greatly benefit from the services that are being proposed. This is a major concern and this is the time to make an attempt to solve it! To ignore such a problem simply unconscionable!

I am appealing to your wisdom to do the right thing by voting to allow the shelter to operate so that these homeless individuals could get the services they need to allow the business in the downtown area to operate profitably, without reluctance and anxiety. We realize that although the proposed shelter is not going to solve the problem of the entire homeless population in Long beach, it is a great start and a much-needed one!

I thank you for your consideration.

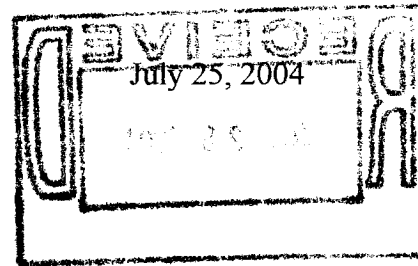
Sincerely,



Danny Vong
Business Owner, Kiriram Jewelry
1635 E. Anaheim Street, Ste. A
Long Beach, CA 90813

CC: Councilmember Bonnie Lowenthal, First District
Councilmember Frank Colonna, 3rd District
Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell, 4th District
Vice Mayor, Jackie Kali, 5th District
Councilmember Laura Richardson, 6th District
Councilmember Tonia Reyes Uranga, 7th District
Councilmember Rae Gabelich, 8th District
Councilmember Val Lerch, 9th District

Councilmember Bonnie Lowenthal
Long Beach City Hall - 14th Floor
333 West Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach, CA 90802



Dear Councilmember Lowenthal:

I am a member of California Heights United Methodist Church who lives in your Council District, and I urge you to vote for approval of the Year-Round Shelter to be located at 1368 Oregon Avenue.

In answer to concerns expressed, one of the most significant aspects of the operation of this shelter is that the people served will be bussed to the location and not allowed to arrive in any other way; and that while they are there--between 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 a.m.--they will not be allowed to leave the premises of 1368 Oregon Avenue. This plan has been made by the Shelter's experienced operator, Institute for Urban Research and Development, in order to respect the needs of the industrial business owners in the immediate neighborhood and to honor the concerns of those who live two blocks and more from the facility's location.

With the new shelter, 59 single women and men at a time will have a bed, two meals a day, bathrooms and showers, and a safe place to store their belongings, plus social services on site for a maximum of 90 days. This will allow them to focus on finding work and a place to live permanently instead of having to find food, a bathroom, and a place to sleep each day.

For nearly 20 years housing for all citizens of Long Beach has been given high priority by the City's Housing Action Plan, Community Development Action Plan, and Continuum of Care. Our City does much to provide for these needs; yet Long Beach currently has nearly 6000 who are homeless, many of them families with children. The money is already allocated for this shelter. We need to approve it.

I urge your support.

Sincerely,

Page Hardin

350 CEDAR #208

Long Beach, CA 90802

August 3, 2004

The Honorable Dan Baker, Councilmember, 2nd District
Long Beach City Hall
333 West Ocean Blvd., 14th Flr.
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Councilmember Baker:

We are writing to urge you to support the homeless shelter being proposed for 1368 Oregon Avenue by denying the appeals from the Planning Commission.

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I am appealing to your wisdom to do the right thing by voting to allow the shelter to operate so that these homeless individuals could get the services they need to allow the business in the downtown area to operate profitably, without reluctance and anxiety. We realize that although the proposed shelter is not going to solve the problem of the entire homeless population in Long beach, it is a great start and a much-needed one!

I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Richer and Sithea San
Business Owners, Sithea Salon
500 E. Broadway Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90802

CC: Councilmember Bonnie Lowenthal, First District
Councilmember Frank Colonna, 3rd District
Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell, 4th District
Vice Mayor, Jackie Kell, 5th District
Councilmember Laura Richardson, 6th District
Councilmember Tonia Reyes Uranga, 7th District
Councilmember Rae Gabelich, 8th District
Councilmember Val Lerch, 9th District



សមាគមខ្មែរនៅទ្វីបអាមេរិក
CAMBODIAN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
A Nonprofit Human Services Organization

July 28, 2004

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The Honorable Patrick O' Donnell
Long Beach City Council-District 4
333 W. Ocean Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90802

Re: Year-round Homeless Shelter

Dear Councilman,

I can state without hesitation that I write this letter on behalf of the majority of Cambodian-Americans. I wish to, once again, congratulate you as the newly elected Councilperson representing District 4 where many Cambodian Americans reside.

A good number of our people have supported you for your understanding, care and compassion toward your constituents and other residents of Long Beach. They are very hard working, but just a paycheck away from being homeless. They have been hit by high costs of housing, low paying jobs, perhaps job loss, or other causes, and all they need is a helping hand and a brief stay in a shelter to become once again tax paying citizens of our city.

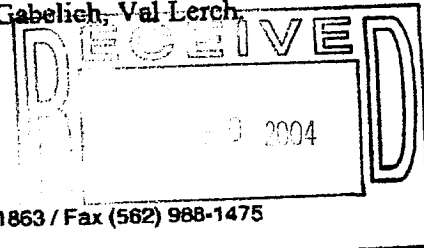
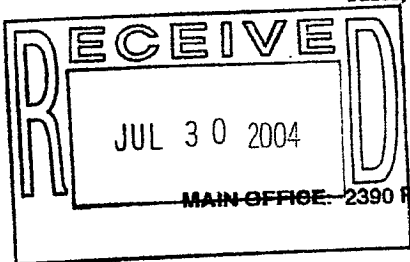
I know you are a compassionate person, and it was this kind of compassion that allowed us refugees to become stable and enhanced our ability to contribute to the Long Beach Community. The refugee community has experienced the hardship and the struggle to obtain a foothold after a total loss.

I urge you to help the needy people and support the year-round homeless shelter. I hope you will do the right thing which is passing this resolution for the well-being of the people of our district and all of Long Beach.

Sincerely,

Him Chhim
Executive Director

CC: - Mayor Beverly O' Neill
- Other Councilmembers: Bonnie Lowenthal, Dan Baker, Frank Colonner, Jackie Kell, Laura Richardson, Tonia Reyes Uranga, Rae Gabelieh, Val Lerch



Goodwill

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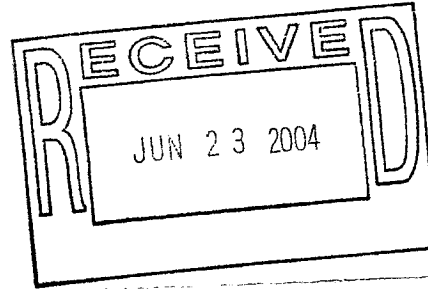
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Development Committee

June 22, 2004



Mr. Craig Chalfant
Project Planner – Zoning Division
Department of Planning and Building
City of Long Beach
333 W. Ocean Blvd. 7th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

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Dear Mr. Chalfant:

This letter will serve to advise you that the board of Goodwill Industries of Long Beach and South Bay (Goodwill) has taken no position with respect to the proposed homeless shelter to be located at 1368 Oregon Ave, in the city of Long Beach. However, you must note, that Janet McCarthy, our President and CEO, has full authority to speak and act on behalf of Goodwill and has expressed support of the shelter with the provisions that said property is deemed appropriate for said use.

Please understand that the only reason the Goodwill board of directors has not taken an official position, is that it has not been formally presented to them. Further, you should be aware that individual members of the Board of Trustees have expressed support for the proposed shelter and I am certain that when, or if, the matter is presented to the board, it would receive board approval.

Additionally, Goodwill has not entered into, or discussed, any arrangements for services with the operators of the proposed shelter. As always, Goodwill will provide services, as appropriate, to any one who presents themselves and qualifies, for our assistance.

Sincerely,

Theodore Horn
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Cc: Bonnie Lowenthal, 1st District Council Member
Mr. Ed Van, Magnolia Industrial Group

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COMMISSION ON

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646 W. PACIFIC COAST HWY.
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90806-5239

- *Property Management*
- *Community Associations*
- *Real Estate Brokerage*

June 24, 2004

Planning Commission
City of Long Beach Department of Planning & Building
Craig Chalfant, Project Planner, Zoning Division
333 W. Ocean Blvd, 7th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

Re: Proposed Homeless Shelter at 1368 Oregon, Long Beach, CA

Dear Commissioners:

I am would like to state my personal viewpoints regarding the above proposed homeless shelter. Even though I am on the board of directors of the Magnolia Industrial Group, Inc., (MIG), it is important to clarify that these are my personal viewpoints and do not represent the board of directors as a whole.

At first I was opposed the homeless shelter being located in the MIG Area. But then I chose to take a more open-minded look into the long-range aspects of the shelter that would affect individual MIG property owners. I also felt that the shelter might act as a tool and an opportunity for the city to get involved on first hand basis with a growing problem "homeless population".

In addition, my understanding was that certain "health and safety issues" in the form of improvements might be performed to benefit the MIG area, specifically having some dirt alleys cemented in and having some long overlooked curbs and gutters installed. I have curbs and gutters in front of my business but many of our business owners in MIG do not.

This issue seems to have the intensity of a final Lakers/Pistons basketball game. So it appears that we will have to let the planning commission and the city council review the facts and decide what they feel is best for the area and the city in general.

In closing, I personally do support the permanent shelter project. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Van", is written over a horizontal line.

Ed Van, Owner/Broker
Vanco Property Management

*Property Management Office (562) 437-4000 or (800) 771-2900 Telecopier (562) 602-1929
www.vancoproperties.com or info@vancoproperties.com*



League of Women Voters

Long Beach Area

Organized 1924

15 April 2004

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- Social Policy
- Thelma Teitle
- Speakers Bureau
- Anita Angel
- Telephone Tree

Bonnie Lewenthal, Councilmember
 Chair, Long Beach City Housing Authority
 City of Long Beach,

Dear Council member,

I agree we have a housing crisis in our city impacting on the lives of thousands of people living on the edge -

At a recent community forum representatives from the various agencies highlighted the critical situation of the housing needs of the disbled, mentally ill, and very low income in our city -

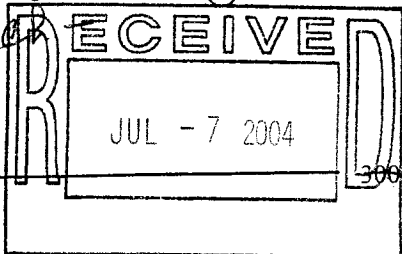
Your active support and leadership in educating and motivating the Long Beach City Council in taking a position of concern and commitment that will follow with more and greater community support in addressing the needs of many residents who supported and encouraged -

is an effort beyond description to see the many new high rise condominiums along Ocean Boulevard while little affordable housing is developing elsewhere.

The League of Women Voters, after in-depth study, has a long standing position of support of a housing policy that recognizes the need of affordable moderate income housing as well as supporting development participation -

Thank you for your understanding and willingness

Sincerely
 Frank L. Skoger
 member



League of Women Voters
 Long Beach Area
 6381 Rochelle Lane
 Long Beach, CA 90805
 Phone: 800-285-3477

3001 Arolite Avenue Long Beach CA 90808-4409

ROBERT HILDEBRAND

555 Maine Avenue #306
Long Beach, California
90802 - 1167

Phone (562) 436-4656
Fax (562) 436-6665

July 31, 2004

Honorable Bonnie Lowenthal
City Council
City of Long Beach
333 Ocean Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Bonnie:

I am writing to you to express my strong support for the homeless shelter to be located on Oregon Avenue and operated by the Institute for Urban Research and Development (IURD). After many years of inaction, it is now time for the City Council to take this first modest step in developing the shelter system for the homeless that Long Beach so direly needs. This 59 bed facility is a mere beginning and I will be looking to you to continue your leadership in the fight to add to the number of shelter beds that will help the 6,000 homeless in our city.

As a member of the Sponsoring Committee (local governing board) of the Long Beach Inter-faith Community Organization (ICO) and an active member of our First District community, I look forward to working closely with you in the coming months/years to bring additional homeless shelter beds to Long Beach.

Please do not hesitate to call on me, if I can be of any help.

Sincerely,

Bob

Robert Hildebrand



The First Congregational Church of Long Beach

An Open & Affirming, Just Peace Congregation of the United Church of Christ
affiliated with

The Center for Progressive Christianity, Progressive Christians Uniting and The Westar Institute
241 Cedar Avenue • Long Beach, California 90802 • (562) 436-2256
fax (562) 436-3018 • email revjstinson@aol.com

August 2, 2004

CLERGY

Jerald Stinson
Senior Minister
Libby Tigner
Minister for Education
and Parish Life
Ed Bloomfield
Minister of Visitation
Mary Ellen Kilsby
Senior Minister Emerita
Sarah Halverson
Ministry Intern

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Councilmember Bonnie Lowenthal
333. W. Ocean Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Bonnie:

Because I am teaching a class on Tuesday night, I may not be able to stay long enough at the Council meeting to speak about the homeless shelter.

I just wanted to share with you our experiences at the First Congregational Church where we have served as a rainy day shelter for the temporary winter shelter program. I know that the proposed new shelter will be run by a different organization, but their policies and procedures are similar to those used by the New Image Shelter with which we have worked.

On rainy winter days for the last two years, we have had 100-200 homeless people in our dining room from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. while the regular shelter was closed. They arrive and leave in busses, which I understand will be the case with the new shelter.

We have not had one single complaint from a neighbor or church member! To my knowledge, we have not had any problems whatsoever with having the shelter at our church. We were even able to have the folks sheltered in our dining room on a Sunday this last winter while our worship service was held upstairs in our sanctuary. Again, no one complained about anything! I say all of this in response to the fears being expressed by neighboring businesses and residents.

Once again this year, we intend to offer to serve as a rainy day shelter for the temporary winter shelter program and for this new shelter if they are interested in working with us.

I strongly support the new shelter and would urge the City Council to support the Planning Commission in its endorsement of this proposal and to reject the appeal.

Sincerely,

Rev. Jerry Stinson

Bonnie Lowenthal
Councilperson First District
City of Long Beach 14th Floor
333 W. Ocean Blvd.
Long Beach, Ca 90802

Dear Bonnie,


This letter is to let you know that I am 100% in favor of the proposal to provide a much needed transitional facility to help people to become self sufficient. I have read about the nature of the services and attended the meeting at the Planning Commission and there is no logical reason why these highly professional services should not be provided at the site proposed.

I have personally experienced the highly emotional overreaction to normal professional services, which are similar to the proposed program. The residents later admitted they were surprised to experience the professionalism and found the residents of transitional housing to be good neighbors.

I hope you and other members of the council can find it in your good judgement to help humanize the raging fears and provide the needed services to residents.

I appreciate the great leadership you are providing to the people of Long Beach. If I can be of any help let me know.

Sincerely,


Evelyn D. Knight

2521 Cota Ave
90810-3232





Department of Psychiatry and
Human Behavior

College of Medicine
UC Irvine Medical Center
101 The City Drive So.
Orange, CA 92868

July 30, 2004

The Honorable Rae Gabelich
Councilmember, 8th District
City of Long Beach Civic Center
333 West Ocean Blvd., 14th Flr.
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Councilmember Gabelich:

First and foremost, congratulations on your victorious election! My wife and I are thrilled to have a Councilmember who has proven her care for the concern of the 8th district residents.

I understand that on Tuesday, August 3, 2004, the City Council will hear an appeal on the homeless transitional shelter being proposed for 1368 Oregon Avenue. I urge you to deny the appeals and maintain the decision of the Planning Commission.

I am writing as a service provider—a medical director and attending physician at UCI Medical Center, Department of Psychiatry, in the City of Orange and as an 8th District resident. As a Psychiatrist, my patient population consists of a large number of homeless individuals, who are admitted to my ward just to be released to the street again because their conditions do not warrant an in-patient admission, and who would otherwise benefit greatly from services offered by a homeless program such as the one being proposed. As a Long Beach resident, I strongly feel that this is a much-needed service. Although I realize that the 59-bed facility will not solve the entire homeless challenges the City is facing; it is an excellent start!

I urge you to let your conscience and wisdom guide you in rendering the right decision. In the final analysis, the City of Long Beach would be wise to have such a program because the benefits are invaluable and immeasurable in the lives of these homeless individuals.

Sincerely,

Jody Mark Rawles, MD
Medical Director and Attending Physician
UCI Medical Center, Neuropsychiatric Center

CC: Councilmember Lowenthal
Councilmember O'Donnell
Councilmember Uranga

Councilmember Baker
Vice Mayor Kell
Councilmember Lerch

Councilmember Colonna
Councilmember Richardson



June 28, 2004

Craig Calfant
Planning and Building Dept
City of Long Beach
7th Floor, City Hall
333 W Ocean Blvd
Long Beach CA 90802

Re: Hearing July 1 regarding 1368 Oregon Avenue

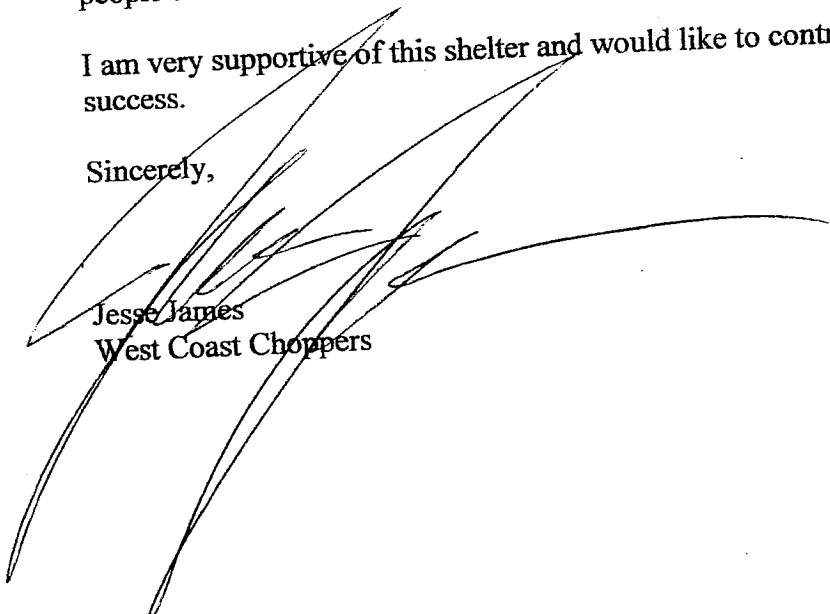
Dear Mr. Calfant:

I am writing to express my support for the establishment of a proposed homeless shelter in the Magnolia Industrial area. I have two businesses located in the Magnolia Industrial area: West Coast Choppers and Mighty Whitey LLC, comprising over 70,000 square feet. I have a financial stake in the success of this neighborhood and, in fact, have been renovating an additional building for expansion of West Coast Choppers.

I believe there is a critical need for the proposed shelter to be run by Urban Research and Development in this area. I believe it will be an asset to the area, and it will help get people off the streets and out of their cars and into permanent housing.

I am very supportive of this shelter and would like to contribute any way I can to its success.

Sincerely,


Jesse James
West Coast Choppers



TEMPLE ISRAEL

3538 E. Third Street • Long Beach, CA 90814 • (562)434-0996 • Fax: (562)434-0252

Howard O. Lalson, M.A., M.A.H.L., R.J.E.
Senior Rabbi

Steven A. Moskowitz, M.A.H.L., JD
Assistant Rabbi

Wolli Koelter, D.D.
Rabbi Laureate

Betsy M. Cheek
Executive Director

Sharon Amster Brown, M.A.J.E.,
R.J.E.
Educator

Marvin Finley
Cantor

David York
Organist

City Councilor Bonnie Lowenthal
333 West Ocean Boulevard, 14th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

July 30, 2004

Re: Appeal of Conditional Use Permit Granted to The Institute for
Urban Research and Development for Operation of a Homeless Shelter

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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Dear Bonnie:

We are writing in our personal capacity as rabbis committed to the ethical principles ingrained in the Jewish tradition to care for the vulnerable among us. For the past fifty years, the Reform Movement within Judaism, of which we are members, has been active at both the national and local levels in legislation and community action projects designed to address the need for secure, decent and affordable shelter for all citizens. For the most vulnerable members of our society, those who are entirely homeless, this means, at a minimum, safe and well-run temporary shelter as they work to obtain more permanent housing for themselves.

Here in Long Beach, it has been the City's admirable goal to provide our homeless with a shelter facility. Now is the time to do so. Recent studies show that there are approximately 6,000 homeless in our city. The application submitted by The Institute for Urban Research and Development (IURD), which was supported by City staff and approved by the Planning Commission, is a modest and well-designed step toward meeting that City goal.

We urge you to deny the appeal before you and to support the Planning Commission's decision in this matter. A vote to sustain the Planning Commission's decision will reflect both the compassion and the rational planning so necessary for a healthy urban environment. Without the IURD shelter, the homeless will continue to sleep in our streets jeopardizing the ongoing rehabilitation of our city and their own well-being.

Board Members

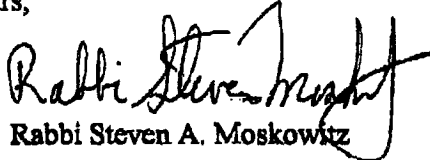
Rebecca Anderson
Cheryl Aviram
Melissa Cohen
William Gbor
Michelle Gordon
Chana Ham-Rosebrock
Beth Kagan
Susanne Levitt
Amy Lipelis
Joanne Ratner
Laurie Snyder
Janice Wood

David Becker
Foundation President

Thank you very much for your consideration of this very important matter.

Very truly yours,


Rabbi Howard O. Laibson


Rabbi Steven A. Moskowitz

Cc City Council
Mayor Beverly O'Neill



SunBridge

Harbor View Center 490 West 14th Street
Long Beach, CA 90813

562.591.8701
Fax 562.591.0235
www.sunh.com

Councilwoman Lowenthal,

My name is Gerald Strickland, and I am the Director of Social Services at the Harborview Adolescent Residential Treatment Center. We are located at 490 West 14th Street, Long Beach, 90813. We house and treat 50 children with mental illness referred from Department of Children Services, Department of Mental Health, and Probation.

Over time the homeless camps on and next to our property have become problematic. Health and safety concerns for our residents have prompted us on several occasions to request police assistance in abating public drinking and loitering.

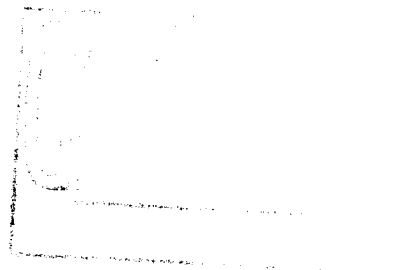
In seeking to effectively provide resources for the homeless, I met with the outreach team of the LB Multiservice Center, who have come to our facility and the camps, distributing printed resources to the homeless. In my subsequent conversation with Susan Price I learned that there would be a vote soon on the proposal for a multi-service shelter program.

I am interested in providing public comments prior to the August 3 vote, and am soliciting advice as to what you think may be the areas to highlight to best influence your fellow councilmembers. I wish to strongly advocate for the development of community resources to adequately address the basic needs provision in the homeless community. With your extensive experience in this area, you can assist me to determine how best to positively impact the council.

Thank you in advance for any advice you may be able to offer, and for your compassion with the homeless.

Sincerely,

Gerald Strickland, LCSW/DCSW
Director of Social Services
Harbor View Center.
1-562-591-8701x231.



July 30, 2004

Councilwoman Rae Gabelich
Eighth District
Long Beach City Council
Long Beach, California

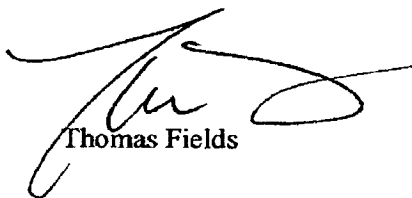
Dear Rae,

I am writing you as a private citizen. This is the first time I have ever written a letter to an elected official. I am compelled to do this because of the issue of the homeless shelter which will be coming before you at your next City Council meeting.

I would like to urge you to consider voting in favor of the homeless shelter. My reasons grow out of a personal understanding of this issue. A dear friend of mine has a brother who was once a gifted college student-athlete who is now homeless. His brother had the misfortune to be in a major car accident and suffer brain damage. He eventually recovered from his physical injuries but mentally he never was remotely the same loving individual as he was before the accident. Now, he is unable to keep a job and lives on the street due to circumstances which could have happened to you or me.

The problem of homelessness in our city cries out for a long term solution. The proposed homeless shelter is not the answer to our homeless problem but it represents a start and clearly meets a need in our city.

Thank you,



Thomas Fields

cc: BONNIE LONENTHAL



Rose Mary Thompson
<rosestan@verizon.net
>

To: <district1@longbeach.gov>
cc:
Subject: Homeless Shelter

08/02/2004 07:03 PM

I enthusiastically support the permanent homeless shelter on Oregon Avenue near Anaheim Street. I am a voter in District 1, and I'm active in First Congregational Church and ICO. Thank you for being a beacon of hope for this important issue.

Rose Mary Thompson
225 W. 3rd St., #332
Long Beach CA 90802
(562) 590-9049

Roger M. Holman

310 East Forhan Street
Long Beach, California 90805

August 3, 2004

Councilwoman Bonnie Lowenthal
Long Beach City Hall
333 W. Ocean Blvd
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Bonnie:

I am writing in regards to the item on tonight's City Council meeting agenda to appeal a homeless shelter in Long Beach. I fully support the idea of building this shelter in Long Beach and I am asking you to do so as well.

I have felt for a long time that we need to do more to help homeless people in our city to get "back on their feet" and more recently, I have attended meetings at both the City Planning Commission and at First Congregational Church of Long Beach on this subject.

I believe that the organization that has proposed the facility has a great track record & I'm sure they have a strong interest in preserving this status. The processes proposed for helping homeless people get back on their feet could not be better. It is also my impression that the business owners that are concerned about the effect the shelter may have on their industrial property are not looking at the whole picture, i.e. the track record of the organization that will be running the shelter and the procedures that will be used, not to mention the conditions the Planning Commission has required.

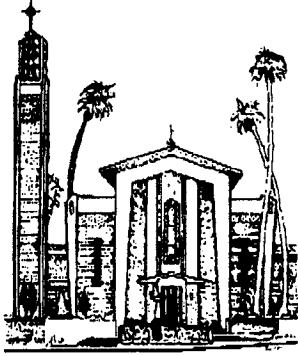
It is certainly appropriate to consider the difficulty that someone has while trying to get back into having their own home, and in my opinion, the proposed shelter could not be better.

I have personally known people who were in the "trap" of having to get rooms in motels and eating fast food because they were not able to afford a first and last month's rent on a home. This, in turn, made it impossible to save up enough money to get out of that vicious circle.

I had hoped to be there tonight to speak to you in person on this item, but unfortunately, I have another commitment that prevents my being there as well. I hope you can see the benefits of helping the homeless with this shelter & thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Roger M. Holman
Email: Coolidge-Triangle@vipmail.com
Phone: 562-628-2332
FAX: 562-628-2333



Our Lady of Refuge Church

5195 Stearns Street • Long Beach, California 90815
(562) 498-6641

August 3, 2004

Long Beach City Council,

I share my wholehearted support for the year around homeless shelter in Long Beach. As a resident of Long Beach since 1980 I've been at St. Anthony Parish and high school for 9 years, and at Our Lady of Refuge Parish for 16 years. My involvement with the Long Beach community includes: Long Beach Police Chaplain, working with the homeless, and alcohol/drug communities, as expressed through my work with the COA (3rd & Linden), The Men's 12 Step House, Salvation Army Rehab, etc. I like this program because it helps people help themselves and gives them an opportunity to grow & move on with life and not get stuck on welfare.

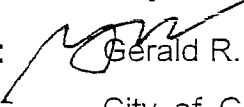
I'm taking time to send this fax because I believe strongly the words of Edmund Burke, "For evil to prosper it is sufficient that good people do nothing". Don't let us be part of the problem, but instead part of the solution.

Sincerely,

Fr. Al Scott

Fr. Al Scott



Date: August 3, 2004
To: Mayor and Members of the City Council
From:  Gerald R. Miller, City Manager
Subject: City of Glendale Comments Regarding the Institute for Urban Research and Development (Agenda Item H-5)

Attached please find a letter received from Madalyn Blake, Director of Community Development and Housing, City of Glendale, which relays Glendale's experience in working with the Institute for Urban Research and Development (IURD) on the implementation of a successful homeless assistance program not unlike the IURD program being proposed in Long Beach (Item H-5 on tonight's agenda).

In addition to the letter, I have personally spoken to Ms. Blake, whom I have known and worked with for over 20 years, and have learned that IURD is held in very high esteem by the City of Glendale and that the agency has provided excellent service to that community since 1996.

GRM:mmm
MCC re City of Glendale Comments Regarding the Institute for Urban Research and Development (IURD).doc
Attachment

cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager



CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA
Department of Community Development and Housing

141 North Glendale Avenue
Glendale, California 91206-4996
TDD (818) 247-9704 Fax (818) 548-3724
www.ci.glendale.ca.us

August 2, 2004

Corinne Schneider
Human and Social Services
City of Long Beach/Department of Health and Human Services
2525 Grand Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90815

Dear Ms. Schneider,

The City of Glendale Department of Community Development and Housing has enjoyed a positive working relationship with the Institute for Urban Research and Development (IURD) since they began the development of the Project ACHIEVE shelter in 1996. In 2000, City staff and members of the Glendale Homeless Coalition looked to consolidate the management of Glendale's access center and emergency shelter (located in the same building). The City and Coalition unanimously choose IURD as the lead agency. IURD took on this expanded role and has since worked tirelessly to improve the scope and quality of services available to homeless persons in Glendale.

From the start, IURD has worked to mitigate any potential concerns from their neighbors and over the last eight years they have continued to maintain a positive standing in the community. Recently, IURD hosted an Open House at Project ACHIEVE to allow neighbors and the community to view their facility and services. Neighboring businesses which had initially been skeptical regarding the impact of the program on the area attended the event, and offered continuing help and support for the program.

IURD works to partner in other ways in the community, serving as active participants of the Glendale Public Health and Safety Committee, the Glendale Homeless Coalition, the Glendale Committee to End Chronic Homelessness, and the Glendale Unified School District's Healthy Start Collaborative. The City helps fund Project ACHIEVE through the Supportive Housing Program, Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Shelter Grant, and Redevelopment funds.

IURD's Project ACHIEVE shelter and access center in Glendale is a program that is recognized not only in the community, but also regionally, for its quality case management and exceptional customer service. The shelter has consistently placed 70% of exiting clients into permanent and/or transitional housing.

The Institute for Urban Research and Development has made positive contributions to our city and to countless clients who have moved on to independent living. I feel confident that IURD will also play a constructive role in addressing homelessness in the City of Long Beach.

Sincerely,

Madalyn Blake
Director of Community Development and Housing

FROM : Panasonic TAD/FAX

PHONE NO. : 3106044720

Aug. 03 2004 02:57PM P2

August 3, 2004

The Honorable Laura Richardson, Councilmember, 6th District and
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, Councilmember, 4th District
Long Beach City Hall
333 West Ocean Blvd., 14th Flr.
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Councilmembers Richardson and O'Donnell:

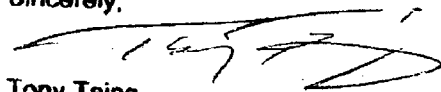
We are writing to urge you to support the homeless shelter being proposed for 1368 Oregon Avenue by denying the appeals from the Planning Commission.

I am very much in support of the proposed shelter. As business owner along the Anaheim Street corridor, I am faced with having to deal with homeless individuals every day. These individuals are in my business parking lot begging for food and money from my customers. As a result, my customers avoid or discontinue shopping at my store, causing loss of revenues for my and surrounding businesses. Moreover, homeless encampments along the sidewalks and alleys of Anaheim Street have made it impossible for businesses on Anaheim to operate after dark.

I am appealing to your wisdom to do the right thing by voting to allow the shelter to operate so that these homeless individuals could get the services they need to allow the business community to operate profitably, without reluctance and anxiety. We realize that although the proposed shelter is not going to solve the problem of the entire homeless population in Long beach, it is a great start and a much-needed one!

I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Tony Taing
Business Owner
Auto Express Sales
1147 E. Anaheim Street
Long Beach, CA 90813

CC: Councilmember Bonnie Lowenthal, First District
Councilmember Dan Baker, 2nd District
Councilmember Frank Colonna, 3rd District
Vice Mayor, Jackie Kell, 5th District
Councilmember Tonia Reyes Uranga, 7th District