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**Sent:** Monday, September 2, 2019 11:40 AM  
**To:** CityClerk <[CityClerk@longbeach.gov](mailto:CityClerk@longbeach.gov)>; Robert Garcia <[Robert.Garcia@longbeach.gov](mailto:Robert.Garcia@longbeach.gov)>  
**Cc:** diana lejins <[dianalejins@yahoo.com](mailto:dianalejins@yahoo.com)>  
**Subject:** Council meeting Sep 3, 2019 Agenda #28

Dear Councilmembers and Mayor

I am a taxpaying constituent protective of my rights to address you and your City Council colleagues when the Council agenda includes items that affect my neighborhood, my tax dollars and our city. Regarding Agenda Item 28 at the Sept. 3 City Council meeting,

I ask that you amend the draft ordinance text section C1 to strike the text that "the speakers list for said agenda item will be closed" and replace it with "the Mayor shall inquire if other members of the public wish to speak on the agenda item and call those who wish to do so."

Although I appreciate the digital opportunity to communicate with you, there are no substitutes (including "e-comment" or social networks) for my right to speak at public Council meetings on matters affecting me, my neighborhood and our city. I urge you to make the modest text amendment requested above.

May I remind you that, according to the California State Brown Act, the public does NOT have to register, sign in, nor give any other information in order to attend or participate in a public meeting.

**The Public has the right to attend and speak at noticed public meetings under the Brown Act.**

As referenced in Gov't Codes §54950 –54963 (1953):        "The people of this State do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them.

The people in delegating authority do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created."

The Ralph M. Brown Act of 1953 "guarantees the public's right to attend and participate in meetings of local legislative bodies," according to a pamphlet published by the California Attorney General's Office in 2003.

I am also asking that you expand the 90 second rule to at least 2 minutes. Not everyone is a polished public speaker. Many who speak at the podium have never done so but feel strongly enough about a particular item to address it. Your message to them is we really don't care about what you have to say, and we'll do everything in our power to infringe on that right. So, please

do the right thing and adjust the time. Concurrently, the ADA time should be adjusted to 4 minutes.

Thank you.

Diana Lejins  
Long Beach Resident