




City of Long Beach

R-22

**Office of Gerrie Schipske
Councilwoman, Fifth District
Memorandum**

Date: April 5, 2011
To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske, 5th District 
Subject: AGENDA ITEM: Second Annual Solar Grand Prix

DISCUSSION

For over three months, 149 teams consisting of over 500 students from 20 different schools have been working to design and build cars powered by solar energy. On January 22, 2011, each student was required to attend a brief workshop on the basics of solar energy and how automobiles operate. Experts in the fields of engineering and solar installation conducted the workshop. Upon completion of the workshop, Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske gave each team a solar car kit that included a solar panel and a motor. Student teams are responsible for designing cars and will compete for prizes for the fastest and most creative solar cars. A panel of technical experts will judge the cars. Solar cars will be raced on two 20-meter wooden tracks constructed by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters.

A number of "solar and sustainability" exhibitors will also be on hand to demonstrate the latest items and provide information. Sponsors of the event include: Partners of Parks, United Brotherhood of Carpenters, IBEW Local Union 11, Southern California Edison, Progressive Power Group, Phat Energy, SA Recycling, P2S Engineering, Inc., Long Beach Lifeguard Association, AMECO Solar, Mr. Mike Walter, Commissioner, Port of Long Beach, Union Bank, Yellow Cab, Grand Prix Foundation of Long Beach, BP America, Inc.

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file report on 2011 Solar Grand Prix