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**Sent:** Sunday, November 15, 2020 4:31 PM

**To:** CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

**Cc:** Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>

**Subject:** Public comment for Agenda Item #77 at upcoming 11/17 City Council meeting re: indoor dining

**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear Council,

While I sympathize with the urgency of getting the economy moving again and supporting small businesses like restaurants, **this motion is absurd** and our City Council and city staff should not waste time with this right now. First, consider that nearly 8,000 Californians are getting sick with coronavirus every day. 3,500 Californians are in the hospital due to coronavirus.

**The infamous "curve" isn't even curving anymore; it's shooting straight up!** Then, there's widespread and clear scientific evidence that **the most dangerous activity for covid risk is gathering indoors** with non-household members. That's because it's a respiratory disease, which means sitting in proximity to an infectious person- who may or may not exhibit symptoms- dramatically increases the air exchange you have with that person and you're likely to get sick.

**Indoor dining cannot be done safely in restaurants today.** That's why we need parklets and outdoor seating. I oppose this motion and I suggest to the Council that they better spend their time exploring how to expand outdoor and delivery options rather than debate this nonsense.

Regards,

Padric Gleason Gonzales