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Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2022 2:00 PM

To: Teresa Gomez <Teresa.Gomez@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Gaby Hernandez <ghernandez@lbirc.org>

Subject: LiBRE Community Comments on Surveillance Technology at Equity & Human Relations Commission

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of the Long Beach Residents Empowered LiBRE to voice our serious concerns about surveillance technology currently being utilized by the LBPD and considered for future use.

LiBRE's work for housing justice here in Long Beach consists of work with our BIPOC communities who, like the majority of Long Beach residents, are renters. While our communications and work focus on housing rights and justice, literally every week we hear from renters about their negative experiences with the LBPD. Harassment on neighborhood streets, in local parks, while driving, swarming responses by multiple police cars, LBPD connections to ICE, etc. are daily realities.

Our experience and the experiences of our LiBRE members consistently shows us that the seemingly ever-expanding use of surveillance technology by the LBPD is NOT making our neighborhoods safe, much less safer. Surveillance has become another tool for harassment, baseless warrants and other assaults on our rights.

LiBRE asks the Commission to take a strong stand to STOP the use of these racist, inherently abusive surveillance tools. This is NOT how we want our tax monies spent. This technology does NOT make our neighborhoods and our homes safe.

LiBRE and our members look to the Commission to provide leadership on this issue.

Leanna Noble
LiBRE Program Director