R-22 Correspondence – Christiane Badgley

From: Christiane Badgley [mailto:christianebadgley@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 1:56 PM

To: CityClerk < Council District 3 < District3@longbeach.gov">District3@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Jeanne Badgley < jeannebadgley@verizon.net >

Subject: Proposed housing bond

Dear City Council members and City Clerk:

We are writing to voice our opposition to the proposed \$298 million bond issue.

We are not opposed to public/homeowner support for infrastructure and housing. However, Long Beach has been in the midst of a housing crisis for more than a decade that city leadership has refused – until recently – to acknowledge. In fact, city policy has exacerbated the affordable housing crisis and until we see any change in city policy vis-à-vis renters, affordability and property development, we see no reason to support a bond issue. This bond puts all the burden on property owners – and in a majority-renter city, landlords will likely pass on the property tax increase to their tenants – and lets city leaders off the hook for their past (and ongoing) housing mismanagement.

Robert Garcia has been a tireless supporter of high-end retail and luxury property development, to the detriment of affordable housing. We remember Garcia responding to questions at public campaign event during his first run for office. Asked if he supported affordable housing initiatives, he responded that he did not, explaining that wasn't his concern. According to Garcia, Long Beach needed to increase its tax base and high-end development was the way to go.

Garcia has repeatedly refused to support rent control, refused to stop the transformation of multiple SRO buildings downtown into luxury condominiums, refused to impose an affordable housing component to new property development, refused to favor housing over commercial development when given the chance. Furthermore, even with a General Plan that calls for thousands of units of affordable housing, the city has only permitted construction on several hundred.

As a <u>December 2018 article in the OCWeekly</u> pointed out:

In an interview with the *Long Beach Business Journal* in August 2017, Garcia, while admitting the city needs more affordable housing, also embraced the notion that construction of market-rate housing will eventually trickle down to those in need. "The only way to address affordable housing is to build housing of all types. . . . We're building a lot of market-rate housing because you get folks into those homes, which then open up other homes that can be affordable," he said.

The "filtering theory" has been directly challenged by researchers, most recently at UC Berkeley's Institute for Policy Government Studies, which noted that in a city such as San Francisco, it would take at least 30 years for "filtering" to produce anything considered affordable. Additionally, the researchers argue, massive construction of market-rate housing would immediately accelerate rent increases in urban areas, adding that their analysis shows "subsidized housing has double the impact of market-rate development" in mitigating displacement. In short, new housing built for the more affluent doesn't help poorer renters who are in need of assistance today.

Nothing much has changed. We need smart policy first. Then we can talk about how to pay for improvements.

R-22 Correspondence – Christiane Badgley

Thank you for your consideration.

Jeanne Badgley, Long Beach 3rd district resident for 65+ years, retired teacher

Christine Badgley, daughter of Jeanne Badgley, born, raised and priced out of Long Beach

R-22 Correspondence – Don Boland

From: Don Boland [mailto:dfboland@hotmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 7:09 AM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: Proposed Housing Bond

Absolutely opposed. Enough is enough!

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

R-22 Correspondence – Sarah Brinton

From: Sarah Brinton [mailto:smbrintonlb@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 3:09 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: CD9 - 2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment

Dear City Clerk, Suzie Price District 3 and Stacy Mungo District 5

My husband and I are opposed to the Bond Measure CD9 Housing Measure/ Affordable Housing Act, and request a NO vote for this measure.

Creating affordable housing is not the solution. We just had a solicitor come by our home who was "selling magazines". I said we weren't interested. He told me he is an EX Gang Member from Memphis TN who came to long beach to start over and it sucks that no one will help him. I am not sure if this is true or not, but having lived in the southern US (Georgia, North & South Carolina) for years my first thought was- WHY try to start over in LONG BEACH? It is expensive here. When I couldn't afford to live in So Cal or near water- I didn't. I moved all over the country because I followed the jobs- not because I wanted to, which ultimately made it possible to live back in Long Beach. My husband and I own two houses (one in District 3 and One in District 5) {ay over \$24k in property taxes a year and are owners in two Long Beach Based Businesses. We employ 11 people. some of who own homes and live in LB. We love the diversity of Long Beach and small town feel with big city options. But even we have discussed what our threshold is for moving on. Taxes are high and Laws are not enforced. It is common knowledge Stop signs on Vista, Appian, Bayshore, Broadway and the Toledo are "optional". Transients walk down 2nd street or the bike path with open canisters of beer & Liquor uncovered. We cannot use the bathrooms at marine stadium or on the bike path for fear of walking in on a drug deal or chop shop- and definitely don't let our child. Belmont pier is dubbed the "pee pee corner" by the kids because of the clear smell of human feces when you come down the bike path. My husbands truck has been shot - by a bullet in the Pierpoint Landing Parking Lot while he was at work, and since then hit twice by street racers in the same lot. Multiple neighbors on Claremont Ave have experienced theft and most recently a neighbor was walked in on by a man who "had the wrong house" (you can see my Nextdoor post in crime and safety) There is sadly a sense of lawlessness. If we call non emergent police number most of the time the police never respond, sometime dispatchers are rude (There was a naked man in the road at 2nd & PCH I called and was asked if her was homeless? I responded I didn't stop to ask him, does it matter- he is naked & in the road) Crime has become common enough now that all our neighbors just call each other and don't report crime. And if you mess up God forbid and leave something unlocked- it is assumed it is your fault when it is stolen (Grand theft Auto of my car from my house. First question police and insurance asked was " Was it unlocked?" It was not- so my response was- if it was does that mean it was ok to take something that is not yours?). When I asked an officer how to protect my property and child after a man was peering in windows and stole a bottle of water off our porch he responded "Big stick or move" A detective who is using our ally camera footage in a current robbery trial where a neighbors gun was stolen went on for 30 minutes about how the legislation has tied the hands of law enforcement and there is not much they can do anymore.

I have been told by LBPD the paperwork on a murder is less that on a petty theft. It is discouraging to hear that the law enforcement officers hands are tied and even they are frustrated. I only imagine an EX Gang Member from Memphis comes to Long Beach, our city because the word is out. There are not enough Law enforcement officers to enforce the laws and the pickings are easy. Who would want to be a police officer anymore when their hands are tied and no one respects them? So the money you seek should not be for affordable housing for those that cannot afford to live withing miles of the beach, but for safety and protection of those of us who already pay to live here. If we leave (as you see on 2nd street) who will remain? not tax paying citizens who believe and love this city.

R-22 Correspondence – Sarah Brinton

City Clerk and all Council members, my point is this- instead of having bonds for affordable housing we should be focused on keeping those of us that already pay the taxes through the nose and love living here safe. That would be our preference. Please Vote no on this bond. Thanks

R-22 Correspondence – Kathleen Brunner

From: Kathleen Brunner [mailto:ktbbmom@verizon.net]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 6:32 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>> **Cc:** Suzie Price < <u>suzie@suzieaprice.com</u>>

Subject: CD9 - 2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment

Dear Council Persons:

Re: CD9 - 2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment

My husband and I bought our first home in Long Beach back in 1990. It was much more expensive than homes in Riverside, San Bernardino and even neighboring Cypress. However, we wanted to live in Long Beach so we "bit the bullet", bought our home with our savings and lived frugally to be able to keep and improve our home. We worked in Los Angeles and could have purchased a home closer to work. But we wanted Long Beach for many reasons. We knew we were buying into a "beach city". However, at no time did we ever consider that the City of Long Beach should ask the seller to lower the asking price to accommodate our desire to live in Long Beach. Nor did we ask the City of Long Beach to help us out when the real estate market crashed in 1991-92 (approx.) In essence, this is what the proposed measure is doing: it is asking property owners (aka people) to help finance the housing needs of those who want to live in Long Beach. Why are we being punished for choosing to live in Long Beach?

Non property owners may think they are safe from this punishment but property owners will need to pass along this expense by raising rents. I am aware that the new state law AB 1482 caps rental rates. However, this new tax will likely be the reason rents get raised to the maximum allowable under AB 1482 rather than seeking a middle ground increase. This measure does not take into consideration the long hours, sacrifices and hard work many put into their job in order to be able to call Long Beach home. Instead, it sends the message that if you want to live in Long Beach, you can and "other people's money" will pay for it.

'Other people's money" is so easy to spend. However, if the fires, floods and rising tides do not get us to move, the constant increase in our taxes will. What will Long Beach do then — when "other people's money" is no longer available. The council needs to consider the long range implications of this measure not the short "this feels good" reaction. Well intentioned people often come up with recommendations that are not feasible in the long term. Please do not let Long Beach be among that statistic.

- Kathleen Brunner

R-22 Correspondence – Debra Carey

From: Debra Carey [mailto:debracarey4@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 11:26 AM

To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Suzie Price < Suzie@suzieaprice.com>

Subject: Housing Bond

NO!

R-22 Correspondence – Don Carrico

From: Don Carrico [mailto:don.carrico@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 1:02 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>> **Subject:** Housing Bond being proposed

City Clerk,

As a property owner and property tax payer in East Long Beach for nearly 40 years, I appreciate the good intentions of the Council in this regard. The Measure may be a good solution as well as funding with General Bond, however the payment source coming from existing property tax payers will most likely cause unintended consequences of worsening the underlying problem. Any increase in property taxes will definitely put upward pressure on rental rates as well as home prices.

I'm opposed to this measure until a better funding sourced is determined. Thanks...Donald Carrico

R-22 Correspondence – Kathy Choate

----Original Message-----

From: Kathy Choate [mailto:kathychoate@icloud.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 1:26 PM To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Homeless bond

Not another tax on homeowners. Why punish people for achieving something. We already pay high taxes. What happened to all the Prop H money. Have not seen a single improvement. We need to see some accounting on where this money has gone before you even consider another tax/bond. This must NOT go one step further.

Kathy Choate

From: george.ciceri@gmail.com [mailto:george.ciceri@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 5:37 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Cc: Council District 3 < <u>District3@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: Proposed housing bond

Dear City Clerk,

This is to let you know that I am strongly opposed to the proposed bond measure for affordable housing.

We have already appropriated money for this through Measure H (LA county).

Property taxes in Long Beach are already insanely high and loaded with additional direct assessments and bond measures.

-this on top of very high sales taxes in Long Beach.
-this on top of the highest State Income tax in the US.
-this on top of another 20% increase in my health care premium for 2020 due to new State laws.

Enough is enough. I don't mind paying my fair share of taxes but if the city and the State keep taxing the middle class, we will be moving to another State soon, simply because we cannot afford to live here anymore.

Politicians need to understand that all the money they want to spend needs to be earned by someone first!

Thank you for registering my opinion.

Best, Juerg Ciceri

Juerg "George" Ciceri

R-22 Correspondence – Lynne Clarke

-----Original Message-----

From: Lynne Clarke [mailto:lynne.clarke@me.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 11:18 AM To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Housing Bond

I am adamantly opposed to the Housing Bond being proposed on 7 January Lynne Clarke

R-22 Correspondence – Anne Cramer

-----Original Message-----

From: Anne Cramer [mailto:tishtusko@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 2:40 PM To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Housing Bond Proposal

I am totally opposed to this! We pay enough taxes and we don't need any more!!!!

Anne Cramer

Sent from my iPhone

R-22 Correspondence – Douglas Cringean

From: HenrikTheCat [mailto:henrikthecat@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 12:50 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: Proposed Housing Bond

Dear sir/madam,

I am writing to you regarding the proposed housing bond that is to be discussed in front of council tomorrow, Tuesday the 7th of January. I live in the 3rd District and I am opposed to this tax. I do not believe it is fair or right to further tax home owners to take money that would be used to address "homeless" issues that the city is experiencing. The city is inundated with people who are living under the radar of their own volition. It is not a housing crisis we face, but a people crisis. We are directly experiencing issues with people who have been released from prison early, not sent to prison, or who do not face charges at all. This is all directly caused by Prop 47.

Please do not punish home owners further for the incompetence of the current state government. It's entirely unfair and punishes hard earned success, and will reward criminals with utter disregard for the law.

The current "housing crisis" is a hoax. What is happening now is a mental health, drug addiction and no respect for the law crisis.

Yours sincerely,

Douglas Cringean

R-22 Correspondence – William Davidson

From: William Davidson [mailto:william@thedavidsongroup.net]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 6:45 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Cc: Suzie Price (<u>suzie@suzieaprice.com</u>) <<u>suzie@suzieaprice.com</u>>

Subject: Proposal to but Low Income Housing Bond on November Ballot

To: City Clerk and members of City Counsel

Homelessness in Long Beach is a many faceted problem. It is the result of such diverse factors as mental illness, drug addition, short and long-term economic failures, and, in an unknown number of instances, of lifestyle choice. Raising taxes to enable additional affordable housing addresses only a small segment of the problem.

There is no question that homelessness is a problem for our city, our state, and our country. As such, it is a problem for everyone. If homelessness is everyone's problem then the solution should be everyone's responsibility and burden. The proposed bond measure puts the burden of addressing the problem on the backs of property owners. While the proposers of the issue may believe they are only placing the burden on "rich" home owners, the reality is that the burden will also be placed on the backs of every person in Long Beach who rents as the added cost to the property owner will certainly be passed on to all renters in Long Beach.

Before we decide to spend more on the issue of homelessness, we need to look first at all the causes. We then, based on these realities, need to look at what solutions go to the heart of each of these various causes. Subsidizing more housing may not be the best answer to most of the causes of homelessness, nor the best use of our citizen's assets.

Finally, the City Council needs to recognize that for the first time in its history California is losing residents due, in significant part, to the cost of property ownership and all other taxes. If Long Beach continues to tax and tax it will increase this exodus. Then nobody will be left to fund the City's needs. While homelessness creates many personal tragedies driving out the rest of our citizenry would be even a greater tragedy for our City.

It is time to recognize that we cannot just keep increasing tax burdens on the people of our City.

Respectfully,

William Davidson

R-22 Correspondence – Steve Demos

From: Steve Demos [mailto:demoshomes@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 8:57 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: Housing Bond

I reject additional property taxes to help pay for affordable housing. Property taxes are high enough.

Thanks,

Steve Demos

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
To see all homes for sale click the search bar at:
Demoshomes.com
BRE#01201132

R-22 Correspondence – Margaret DuBrock

-----Original Message-----

From: MarJean [mailto:marjeandubrock@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 9:52 AM
To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Housing tax for the November ballot

I am strongly opposed to this. I don't think there is enough oversight on the taxes that are presently collected to address homelessness in the city of Long Beach. When a private citizen works with Quality of Life police officers in helping get homeless off the streets or returned to their out of state residences has to establish a fund for incidentals instead of being able to draw on existing funds, something is horribly wrong! Until Laura Doud publishes an audit on the existing funds for transparency, count me as a strong NO!

Margaret DuBrock

R-22 Correspondence – Charlene Edwards

From: Charlene Edwards [mailto:charlyster1@yahoo.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 3:48 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: Housing Bond tax

The report should be prepared prior to any bond being approved. The report should identify specific plans to address the homelessness problem, rather than first approving a bond as identified, which amounts to a blank check for generic homelessness solutions to be determined at a later date. The report should also identify the current specific expenditures of city funds for dealing with homeless issues, and how effective (or not) efforts to date have been.

I am absolutely against this bond and the tax increases being put on home owners here in Long Beach.

More spending accountability is needed from the city council.

Sent from Charlene's iPhone (

R-22 Correspondence – Roger Ernest

-----Original Message-----

From: Roger Ernest [mailto:rcernest@hotmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 7:22 AM
To: CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>
Subject: Housing Bond for November Ballot

Absolutely not! This is an insult for the city government to continue to tax homeowners to solve the problems it has helped create. Instead of spending millions on big buildings, the city should be focused on the homeless situation. The Democrats have totally ruined California. As a native, it is sad to see what has become of our once beautiful state. Government at every level in the state needs to figure out what happened and why. Putting another tax on homeowners is not the solution. Do your job!!

Roger and Jenny Ernest

R-22 Correspondence – Stephanie Espeleta

From: stephanie espeleta [mailto:slespeleta@yahoo.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 4:43 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>> **Subject:** Housing Bond for Homeless

Dear City Clerk

Suzie Price has encouraged her constituents to voice their opinion on a housing bond to raise funds for the homeless. Please share my opinion below with City Council members.

No. Absolutely not. My understanding is that there are millions of dollars from the state available to local municipalities. This is money taxpayers have already paid and continue to pay. What is Long Beach doing to access that funding?

https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4102

Taxpayers have done their part by funding this need. It's time for elected leaders to do their job and use it wisely instead of squandering the money and then ask for more. Any COLA I get goes straight to existing bond measures, so while my income and taxes go up, my standard of living goes down.

Do not put this bond on the ballot.

Stephanie Espeleta

R-22 Correspondence – Sue Foat

From: Sue Foat [mailto:suefoat@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 3:27 PM
To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov >
Subject: New Bond Issue for Homeless

Here is my issue, the bond proposes additional property taxes to build these units but the City is not doing all that it can. With the new "DAU", not sure what the acronym means but it is an additional small unity on an R1 property. When someone decides to do this to house a family member it becomes prohibitive to build as the building permits are the same amount as building a large home. Let's bring all of the city fees in line with encouraging new smaller (and less costly) housing.

Sue Foat

R-22 Correspondence – Arlene Freeman

-----Original Message-----

From: Arlene Freeman [mailto:arlene@2ndstbeauty.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 1:10 AM
To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Money for new funding for housing.

We are not in for taxing money for more housing. Where did all the money go when we were taxed before?

R-22 Correspondence – Michelle Gabriele

From: Marco Gabriele [mailto:gabriele.marco@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 10:41 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: Proposed housing bond

To whom it may concern,

Absolutely opposed to any bond for affordable housing. We are taxed enough, and our housing is not affordable for us either. We make sacrifices, we work hard, buy used cars, don't but new clothes, skip vacations, raise our toddlers while working full time alternating our work from home days to avoid childcare, and pay our ungodly mortgage with obscene property taxes and required flood insurance. If people want affordable, they can find it in lowa, because that's where we'll have to start looking to move if we keep getting squeezed to death in taxes. There's a price to pay to live in prime costal real estate, it's not a God given right and even for me, someone born and raised in Long Beach, it's looking like it may be time to look elsewhere.

Sincerely,
Michelle Gabriele
Belmont shore home owner

R-22 Correspondence – Janet Gallup

From: Janet Gallup [mailto:janet.l.gallup@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 4:52 PM **To:** CityClerk CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Bond on housing

Suzie Price is my council member and wanted input on this bond. Please let her know that I support any and all solutions that help people who are homeless to find shelter, services and ultimately a permanent home. We are in crisis and it calls for a crisis response to help our neighbors who desperately need our help.

Janet Gallup

R-22 Correspondence – Jennifer Gill

-----Original Message-----

From: Jennifer Gill [mailto:jengill@earthlink.net]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 8:22 PM To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject:

Absolutely opposed to the new measure that would tax us again for the homeless crisis! If it keeps going this way, we all will be homeless because of all the taxes! We all endure an increase in property tax yearly anyway and many of us are on fixed incomes. Please do not confuse our need for wanting to fix the problem with our voting no on this. We have not seen the efforts from the city from the last tax increase! What more do the politicians need to see- 2nd street is failing, shops and businesses are closing, and what is your answer?? Tax the very people that are giving it any life! They are building like crazy for residential property in downtown but for what? There are no companies that are coming to Longbeach to provide work. Get it together Long Beach

Sent from Jen's Awesome iPhone (2)

R-22 Correspondence – Joan Gustafson

From: jwg221@aol.com [mailto:jwg221@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 2:01 PM

To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov >

Subject: Bond issue on agenda for Tues. Jan. 7

Here we go again. Solving problems with a bond for the tax payers to pay. Please consider solving homelessness in a different manner, community meetings come to mind. Also, share with the community how previous bond money was used to serve the homeless. Learn from other communities how they have handled those same problems. I am afraid we look the other way and when a solution is needed, we look for another tax.

Joan W. Gustafson Tax Payer & Voter Home Owner for 50 years

R-22 Correspondence – Norm Halbert

From: Norm Halbert [mailto:nhal@earthlink.net]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 1:18 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: No new Taxes.

How can the public make it any clearer. No new taxes, No more taxes. We don't see the benefits for the taxes we are already paying. Norm Halbert

From: Steven Hansen [mailto:swhlaw@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 2:58 PM

To: Council District 5 < District5@longbeach.gov>; Stacy Mungo < Stacy.Mungo@longbeach.gov> Cc: Mayor < Mayor@longbeach.gov>; City Manager < CityManager@longbeach.gov>; Tom Modica

<Tom.Modica@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov> Subject: Agenda item 20-0019 2020 Affordable Housing Assessment

see attached

Long Beach City Council
Stacy Mungo (5th Dist) district5@longbeach.gov, stacy.mungo@longbeach.gov
The Mayor mayor@longbeach.gov
City Manager CityManager@longbeach.gov, Tom.Modica@longbeach.gov
City Clerk CityClerk@longbeach.gov

Date submitted: January 5, 2020

Re: Written Comments in Lieu of Public Comments at City Council meeting

Meeting Date: Jan 7, 2020

Agenda item: 20-0019 2020 Affordable Housing Assessment

Dear City Council and Mayor:

Due to the fact that my time is valuable and public comments were limited to 90 seconds by the council in August 2019 I am submitting my written comments below regarding the above matter to be inserted into the written record as if made in person at the meeting.

This proposed tax and related ballot measure is totally unacceptable. Property taxes go up yearly, as do the direct assessments and the "voted indebtedness" and on top of that Proposition 13 may soon be abolished in the state.

Gov. Gavin Newsom has put \$500 million into his January 2020 budget proposal to shore up financially struggling board and care homes. https://ktla.com/2019/12/31/500m-from-gov-newsoms-ca-budget-could-keep-l-a-s-most-vulnerable-from-becoming-homeless/

Homeless issues are issues that are statewide and the budget pain needs to be shared by all statewide. We can't have a tax just on property tax in one city. As this is a statewide issue this needs to be paid for by everyone in the state. NOT just property owners. Otherwise this is sure to pass as renters will see this as no cost to them. Use "other people's money" to solve my perceived problems.

We also have the county wide measure HHH passed in Nov 2016 and now the expenditure of that money is already being scrutinized as likely wasted.

https://laist.com/2019/10/08/prop hhh homeless housing audit.php

County officials also estimated the average property tax rate required to repay these HHH bonds to be \$9.64 per \$100,000 in assessed property value It is not clear at all what percentage of those HHH funds are provided to Long beach each year (for Long Beach to spend as it wishes) or what percentage of those finds are spent on or in Long beach each year with respect to the homeless.

LA City also passed its own separate Measure H in March 2016 (authorizing a 0.25 percent county sales tax for 10 years in order to fund homeless services and prevention.) just before HHH was passed. Again same effect.

There is no accounting of all the NGO, Federal, State and county money currently spent or directed to the city of LB that impact homeless, drug addicted etc. There is also no accounting as to what Long Beach's current level of spending it on these and related issues. This needs to be clearly presented to taxpayers. No mention of it in the memo from Councilmember Rex Richardson, or any staff report. And Im sure it will not mentioned clearly in the ballot measure as

Written Comments in Lieu of Public Comments at City Council meeting Page 1 of 3 Meeting Date: Jan 7, 2020 | Agenda item: 20-0019 2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment

government entities do all they can to obfuscate the real costs to taxpayers in these bond measures.

We can't force people to take free housing. Even when we do they can't stay in it. See LA Times article https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2019-12-29/street-within-broadway-place-homeless-los-angeles This is really not a housing issue. It's a crime/bail issue (helped along with things like proposition 47). It's a mental illness problem. (see proposition 63) It's lack of healthcare. It's a human nature problem. Some people clearly like living on the river bed and other places as they have all been offered help and housing by the city numerous times and refused it (that's why I'm told the city "won't" "move" them from their tents). Why? They don't want to follow rules. This just goes on and on.

https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelshellenberger/2019/09/12/why-california-keeps-making-homelessness-worse/#60a587825a61 A tax or bond in Long Beach will do NOTHING but make existing fixed income homeowners more unable to stay in their homes or perform upgrades to their homes.

Half our (general fund) budget now is for police. Half!! So that roughly \$557 million dollars each year is really spent on homeless when you think about it. So we need to put more onus on the police to dial in this problem.

As I recall LB was not even part of the Supreme court amicus challenge to Martin v. City of Boise, 902 F. 3d 1031 - Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit 2018. https://www.lbreport.com/news/sept19/martin2.htm Either way it does not matter. You are over extending the holding of the case and using it to defend non police action in all circumstances. You are also using it as an excuse to build very costly free homes for homeless people. https://www.lbreport.com/news/dec19/boiseprice.htm

The law that was attacked by the ACLU in Boise was an "anti camping" law. That is all it addressed. The holding was narrow. Its states in full:

"Our holding is a narrow one. ... "we in no way dictate to the City that it must provide sufficient shelter for the homeless, or allow anyone who wishes to sit, lie, or sleep on the streets... at any time and at any place." Id. at 1138. We hold only that "so long as there is a greater number of homeless individuals in [a jurisdiction] than the number of available beds [in shelters]," the jurisdiction cannot prosecute homeless individuals for "involuntarily sitting, lying, and sleeping in public." Martin v. City of Boise, 902 F. 3d 1031, 1049.

It does not say "no trespassing" signs cannot be enforced in areas where humans should not be like in the Eldorado nature center or under bridges crossing the river where we have public safety issues. Re do the signs like Lakewood did here at Carson St. and SG River https://photos.app.goo.gl/dgZaJc7cN2ACRvSB7 The Boise case does not say you cant arrest or cite or move people due to other crimes like drugs or theft. Its specifically says you can. Also the informal policy of leaving people in posted "no trespassing" areas if they don't want to go to an available bed is a failed policy. How can that ever work? What constitutes a "bed" under case law? A 500k home or a tent in a lot? No trespassing means NO trespassing by ANYONE homeless or not. This is why the fires were started by the homeless in the nature center. No trespassing laws were NOT enforced with predictable results.

Written Comments in Lieu of Public Comments at City Council meeting Page 2 of 3 Meeting Date: Jan 7, 2020 | Agenda item: 20-0019 2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment

Since Long Beach failed to get the Boise case taken up by Supreme court just create a new case with news fact that the ACLU can loose!. Start rousting people in trespassing areas and let the ACLU sue again then you can revisit the limited ruling in the Boise case. Stop being so passive. We will never have enough beds in LA county to solve this problem. Ever.

Look at how Utah avoided running afoul of the Boise case: https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2019-12-22/homeless-salt-lake-city-utah-shelter

This is a bottomless pit. It's a regional and statewide issue. The more money LB gives out the more homeless will come to Long Beach. This is documented. Its that simple. In the years since Measure HHH and H have passed homelessness has increased. I think you have a cause and effect problem. But if your goal is to add more city employees to the payroll (Richardson's memo says at p. 3: "It would also likely require significant additional investment in staffing and programs to effectively manage the resulting expanded affordable housing program") and reward NGO campaign contributors them by all means add more taxes onto the backs for struggling homeowners. The exodus from CA is starting to become apparent and is going accelerate for the next 20 years. That's for sure. The middle class will be gone. It will be elites, high income people, overpaid government workers and homeless or zero income (read not paying taxes) people.

Speaking of homelessness and NGO's Katie Hill the U.S. Representative for California's 25th congressional district from January to November 2019, was the former executive director of People Assisting the Homeless (PATH). Word on the street is that Hill was making 150k a year at PATH where she made the contacts to get her seat. PATH pays 52% of the (tax) money it gets as payroll. This is at the heart of the problem with homeless funding. Its an emorphoes problem with many causes and many solutions. Exactly the kind of problem where money is thrown at it wil very little success. Just look at PATH as an example. https://www.guidestar.org/profile/95-3950196 and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Katie Hill (politician)

I am also attaching a copy of the entire thread (226 comments as of today) on this subject from nextdoor.com regarding this issue and as you can see all of the comments were negative. The direct link to the thread (login required) is https://nextdoor.com/news-feed/?post=133260938&comment=325958381

Please vote against adding this Affordable Housing Assessment to the ballot.

Signed: /Steve H/ 5th District Property Owner Registered Voter Taxpayer

Cc: mail@LBreport.com, editor@gazettes.com

Written Comments in Lieu of Public Comments at City Council meeting Page 3 of 3 Meeting Date: Jan 7, 2020 | Agenda item: 20-0019 2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment

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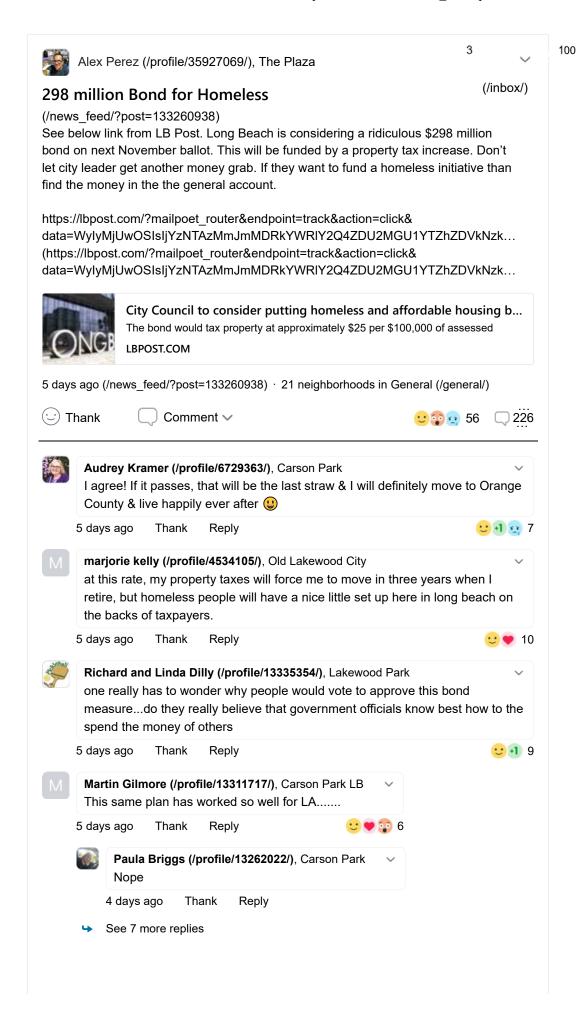
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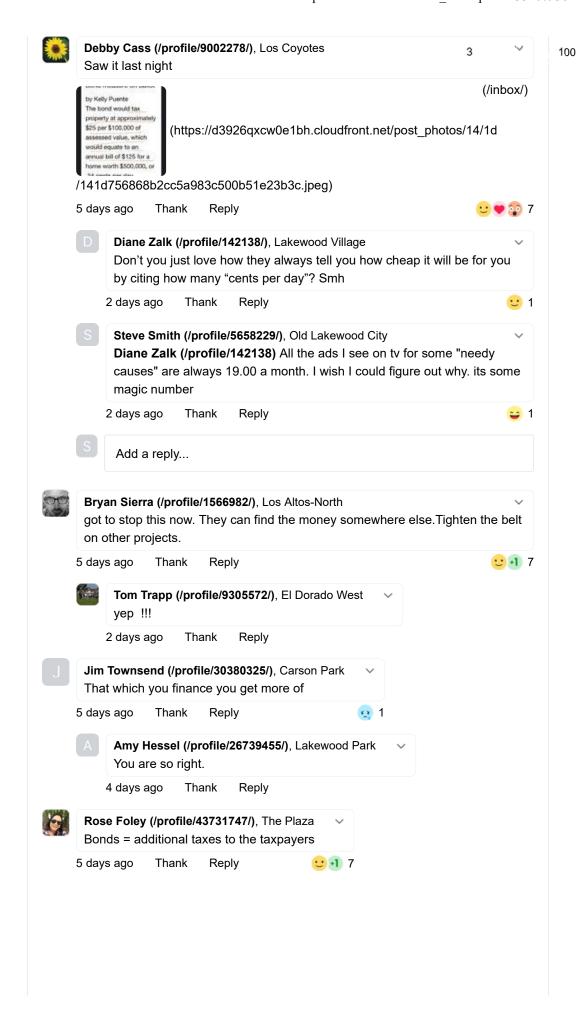
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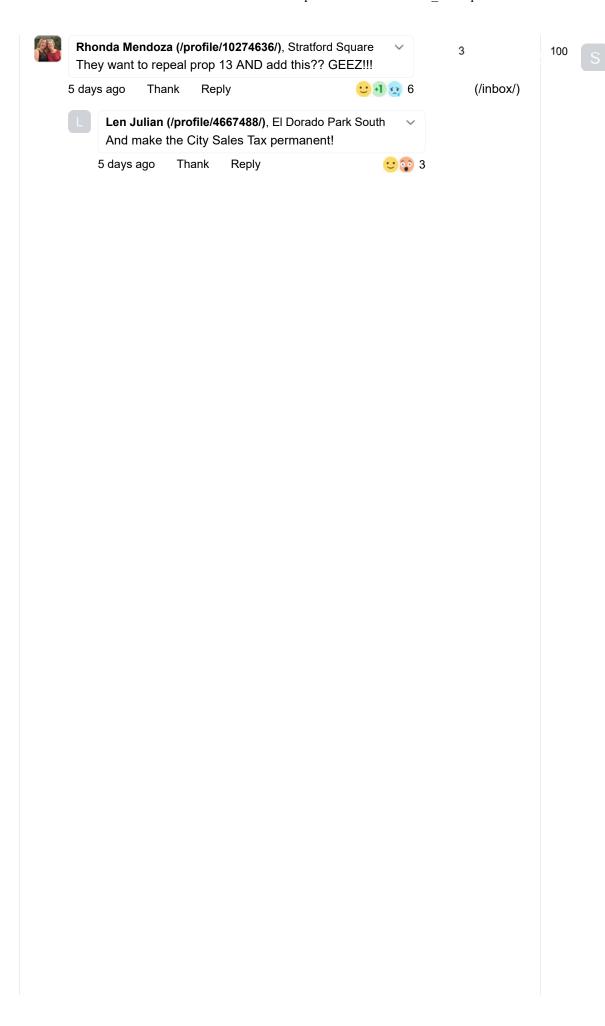
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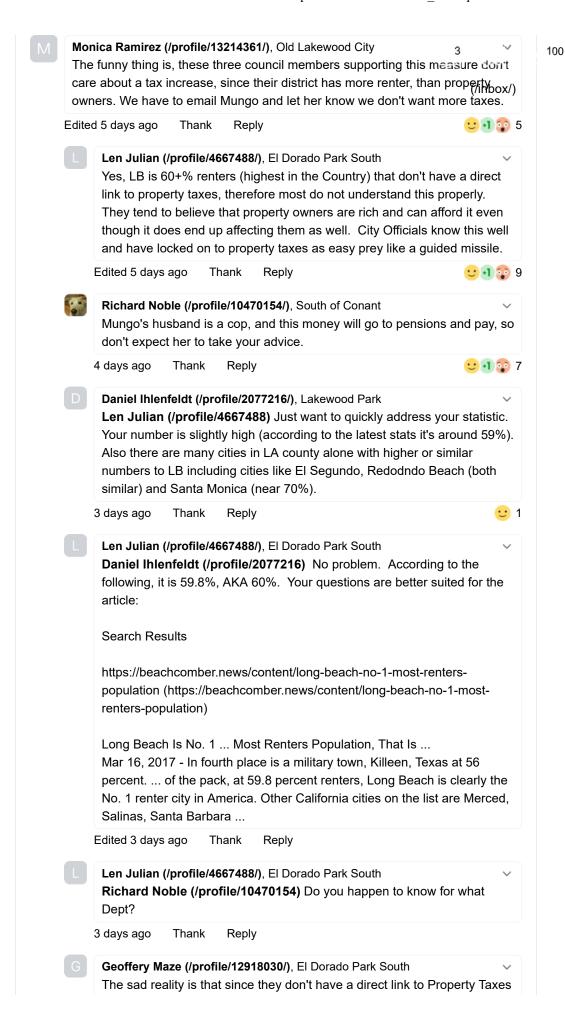
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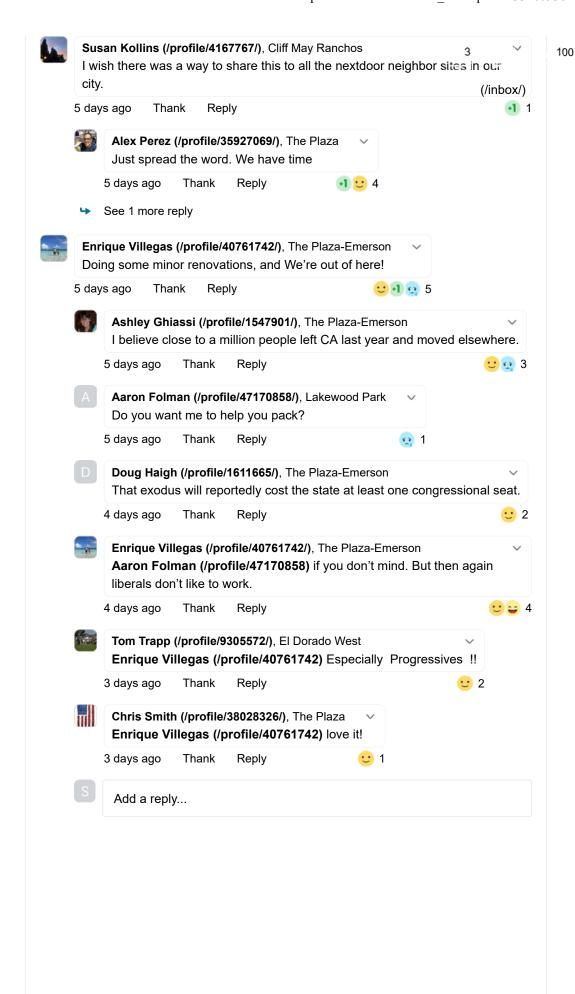


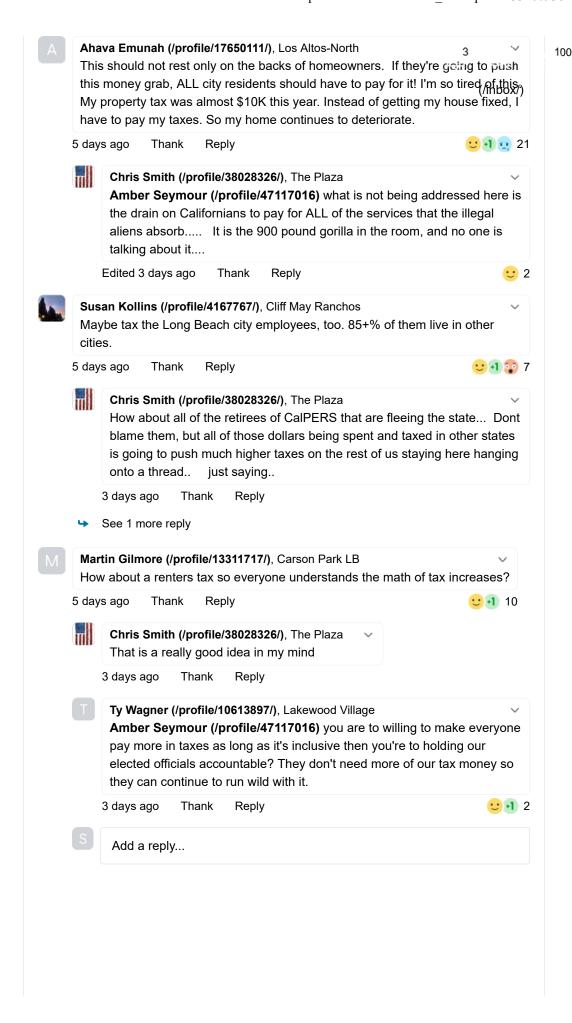




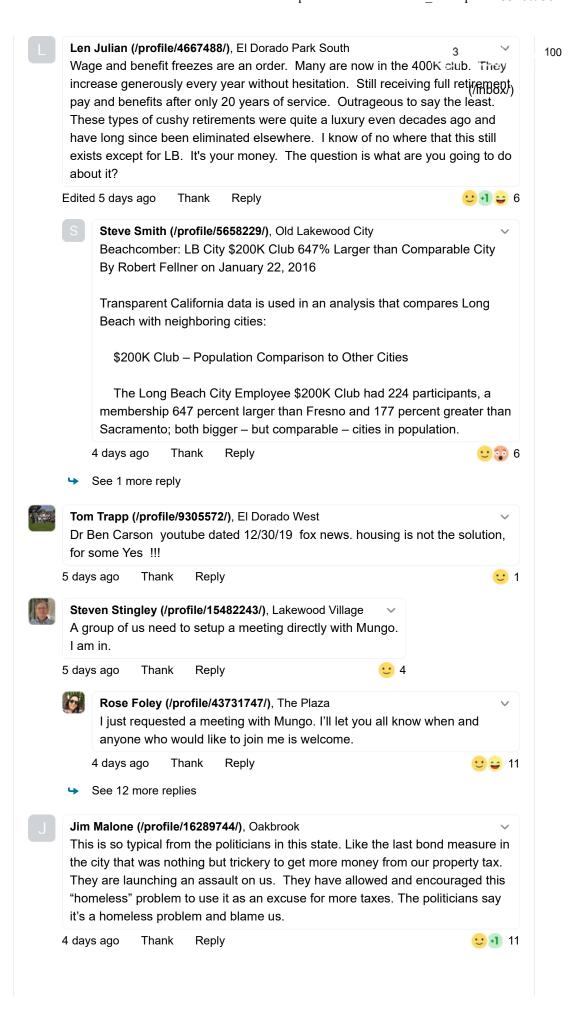
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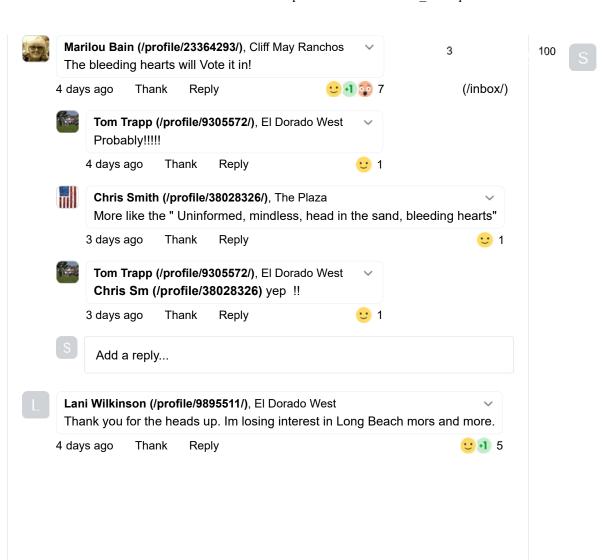


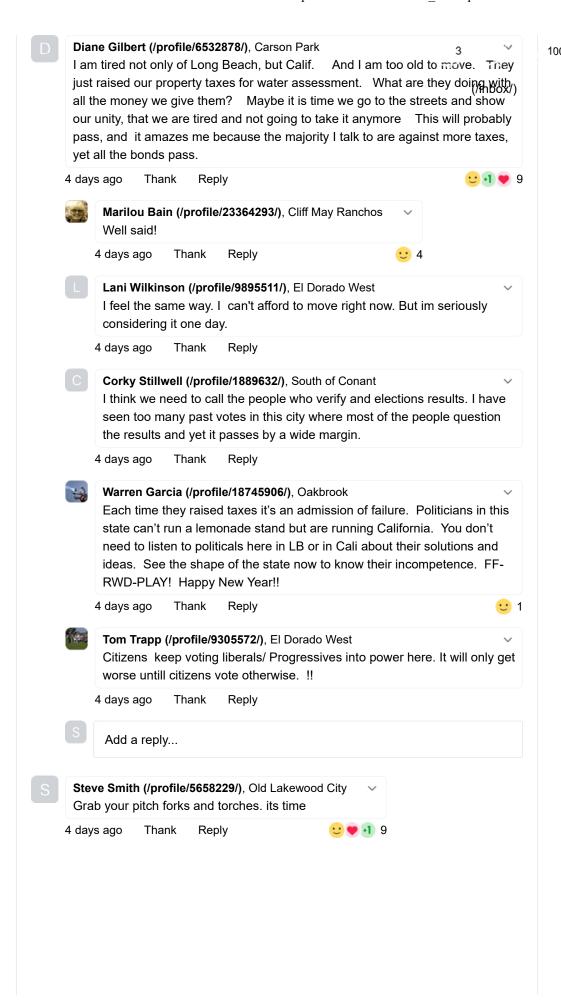




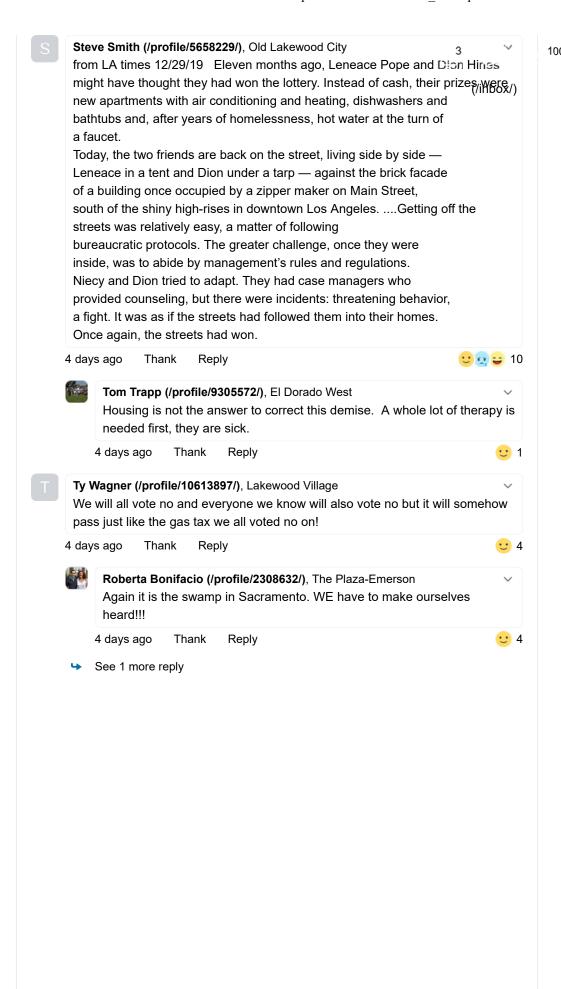
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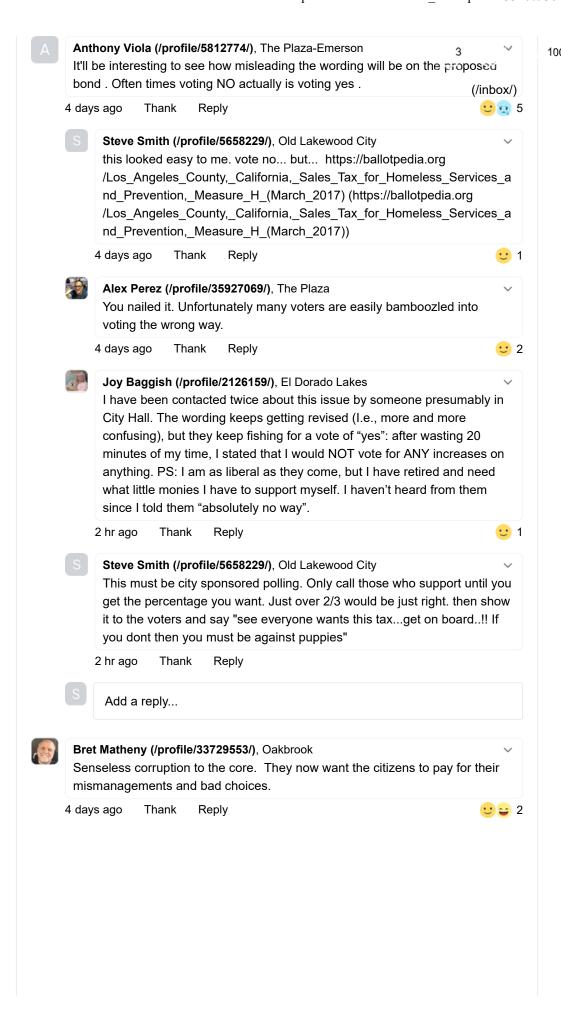




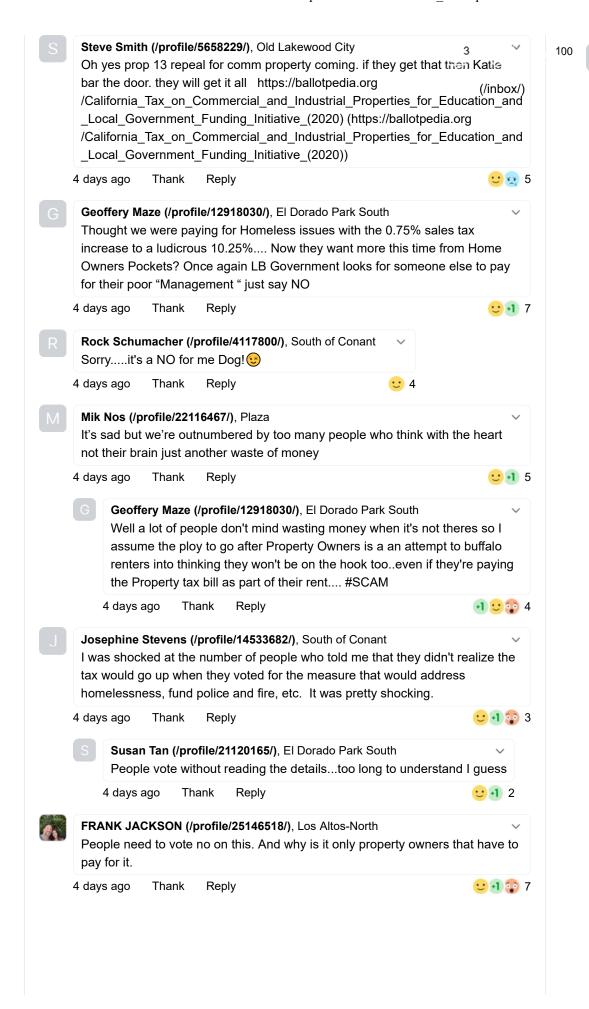


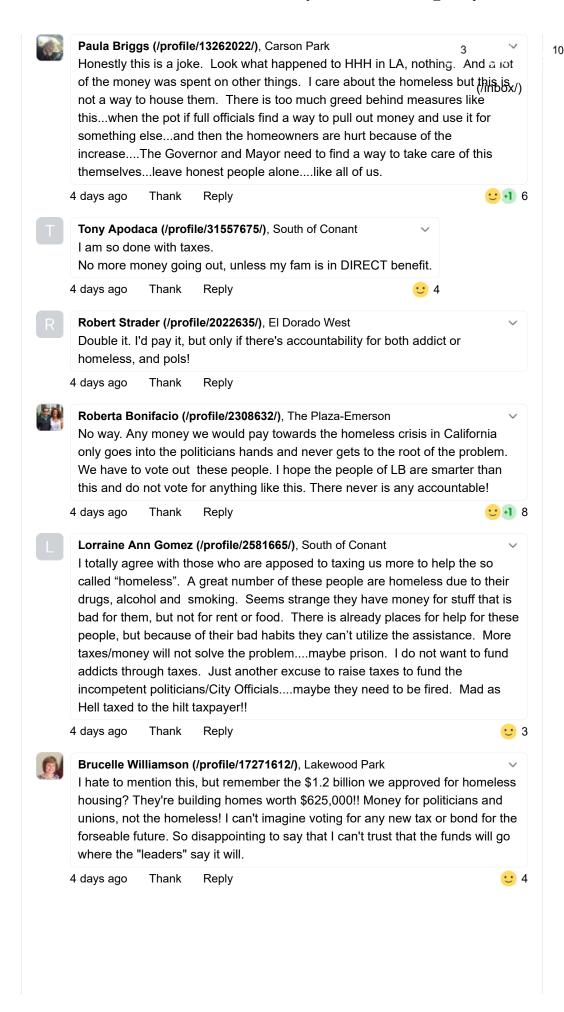
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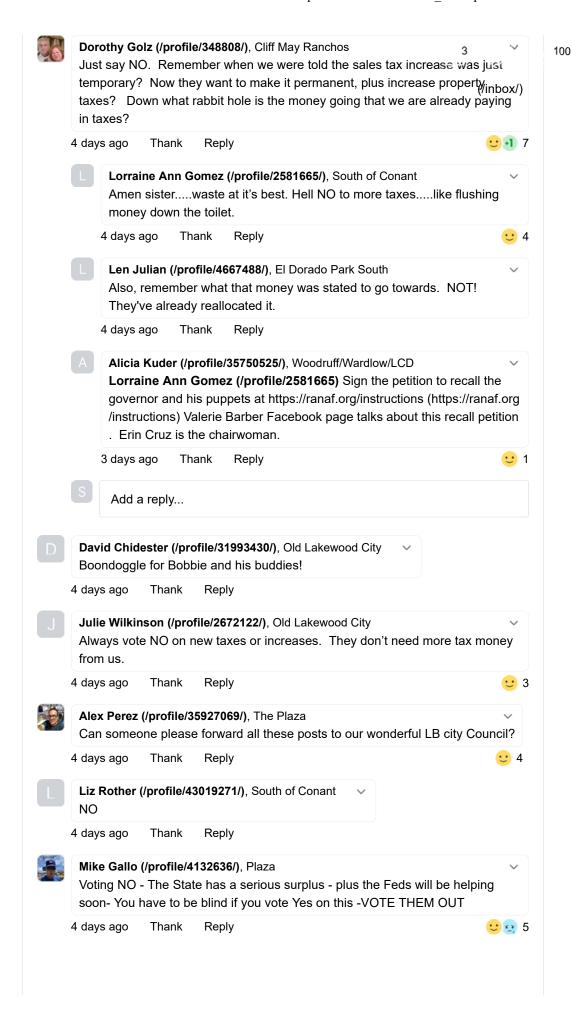




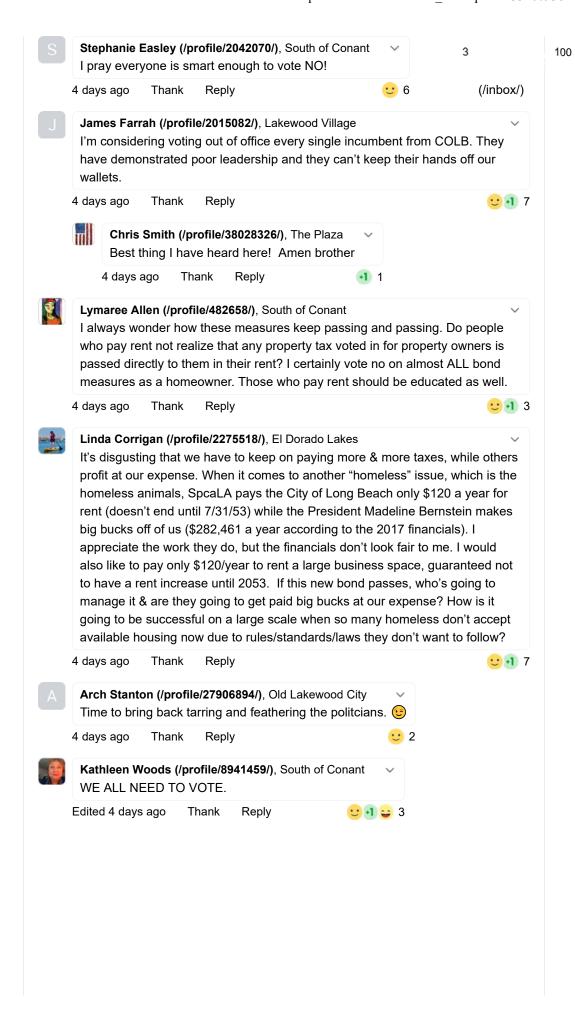
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Len Julian (/profile/4667488/), El Dorado Park South

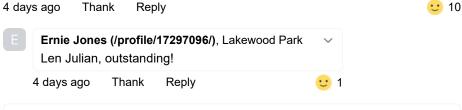
My Son has stated this in the past, but seems to be worth mentioning again.

LB leased the LB Town Center to Vestar Properties with a 100 year extraordinarily cushy lease. Why?

They have allowed the Queen Mary management, with I believe to be three different companies to date, to skate by with no consequences for allowing severe deterioration and lack of maintenance that they were legally accountable for to just disappear into the sunset with all of their profits. They are currently doing it once again as the ship is not salvageable according to the majority of experts again doing nothing to enforce the contract This current issue IS occurring with THIS current Council and Mayor. Why? This is beyond gross negligence on each and everyone of them.

And, we all certainly know about the abhorrent deal regarding the 4.5 (B)illion dollar nonsensical City Taj Ma Hall completely unnecessary deal over the next 40 years and giving away 3/4ths of the park land there to developers to develop and if I recall correctly, the City will not own the building at the end of the lease. This was Mayor Garcia's first born baby and, once again, the Current Council approved this. Again, beyond gross negligence and in my opinion criminal. Why are they doing this we all must ask. I would assume this goes so much further than pandering for future campaign contributions. That alone is just not believable.

I am one of the growing numbers of citizens who certainly believe that there should be intense legal investigations over these issues throughout all Council Members, the Mayor, Top City Management, and whom ever else is exposed to be involved, primarily the latter two issues of which are current. This Council seems to not care or has forgotten that the Mayor of LB is not their boss and holds NO power in this City except for what those will concede to him, other than some government appointments.



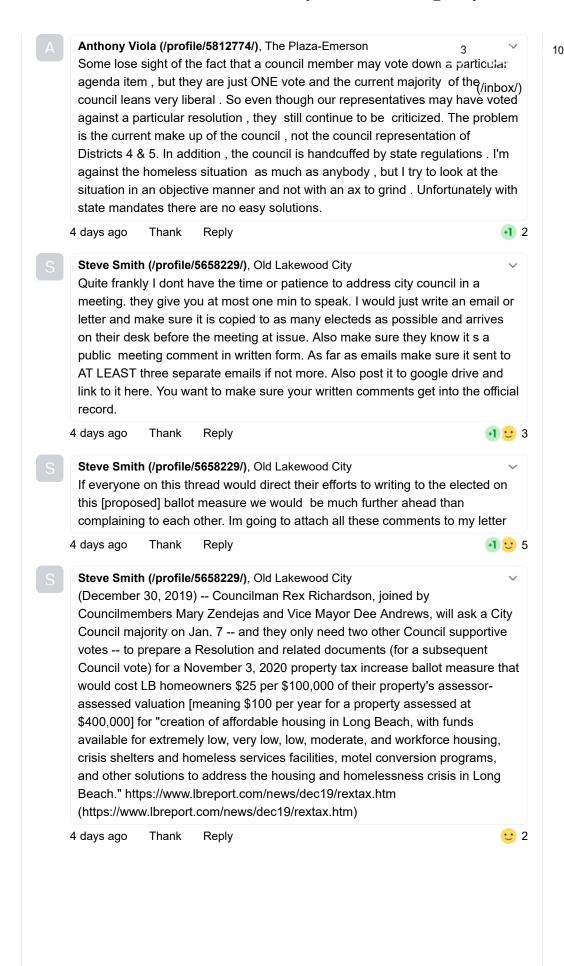


I don't vote for anything that says bond, funding, or revenue. Unless it makes sense. And I am still at zero in that department. Why don't politicians just take our pay checks and give us back what they don't need. Ok? (Sarcasm). I bet they would LOVE that. Happy New Year!!

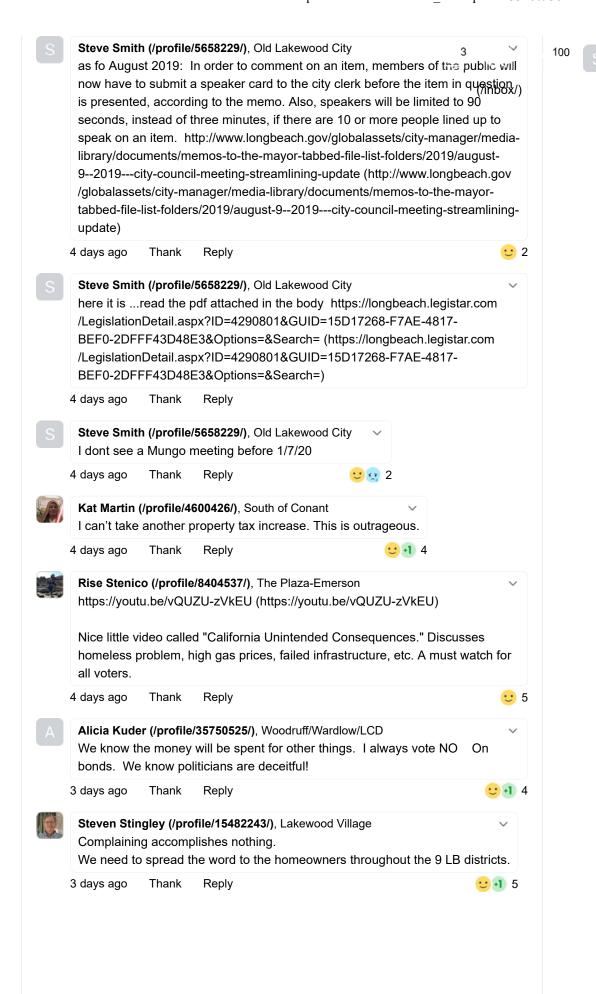
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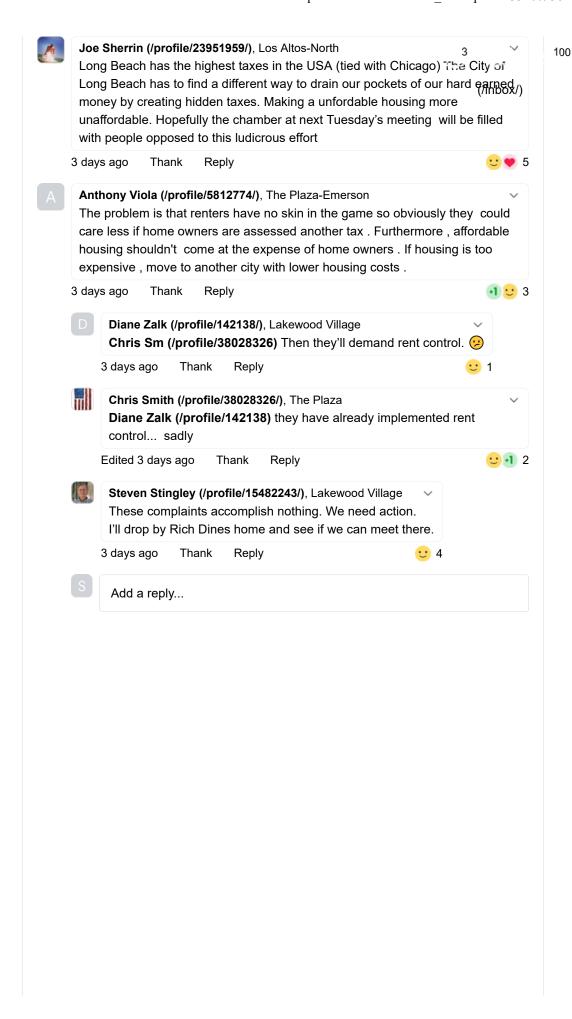
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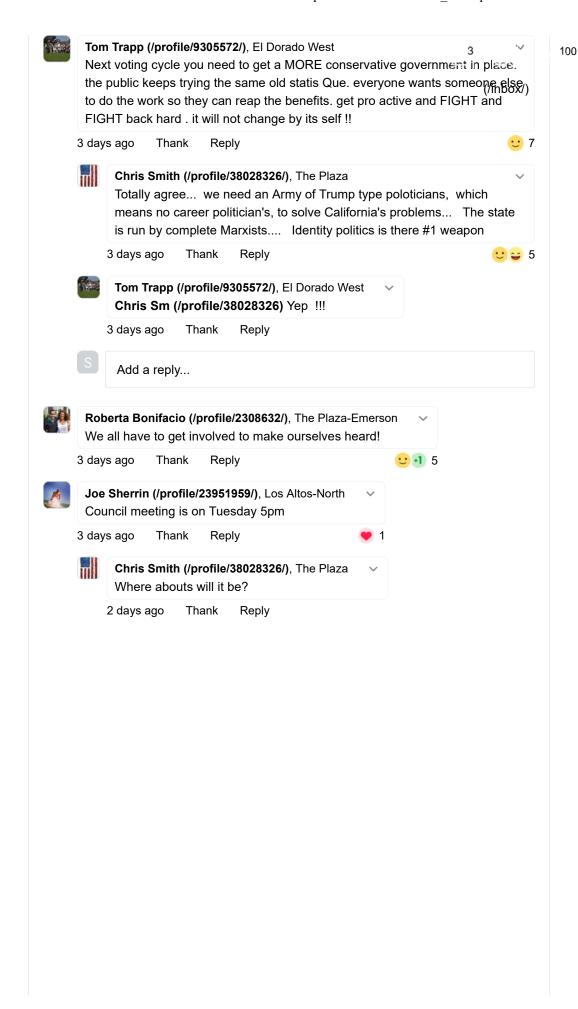
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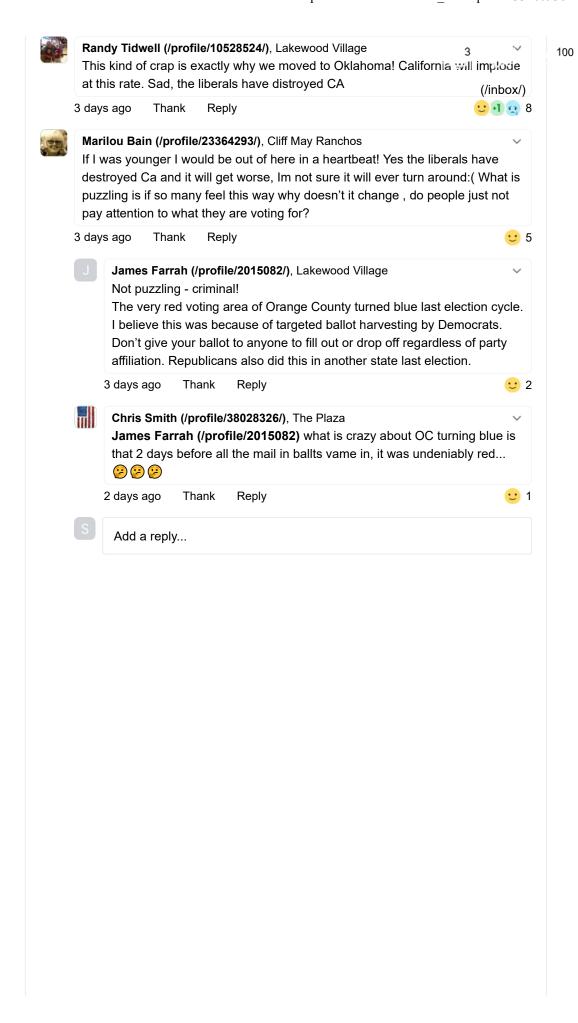
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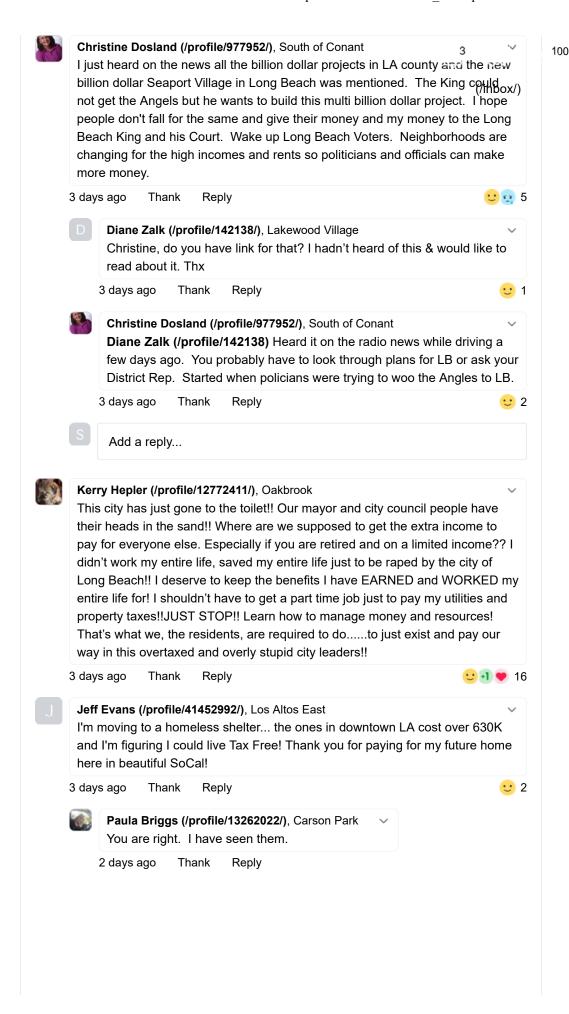


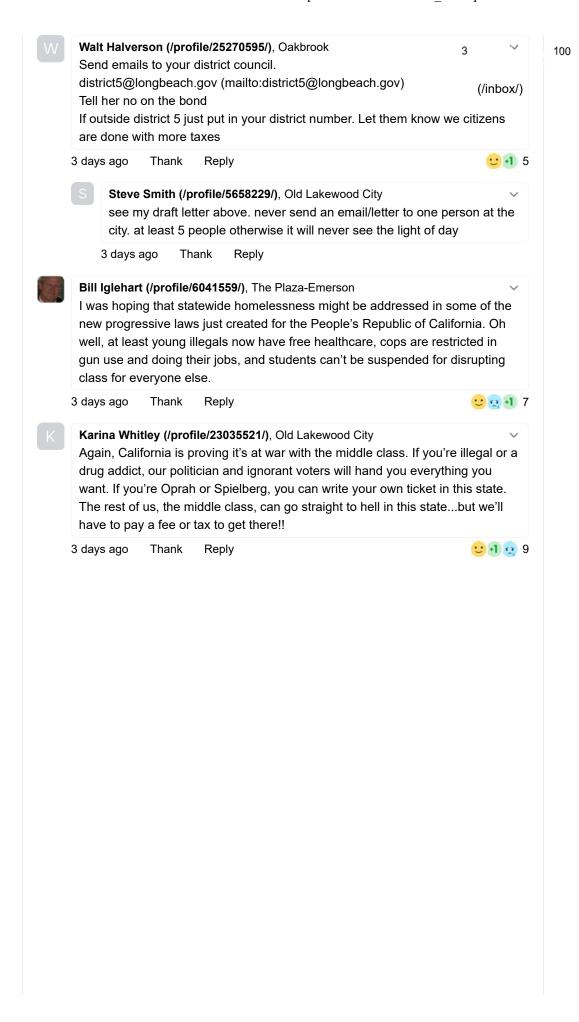


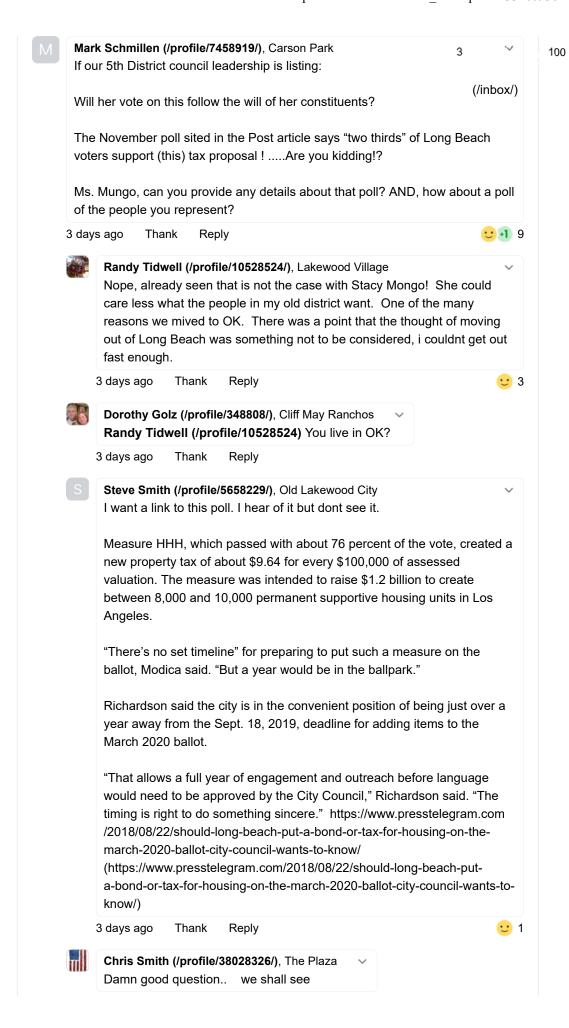


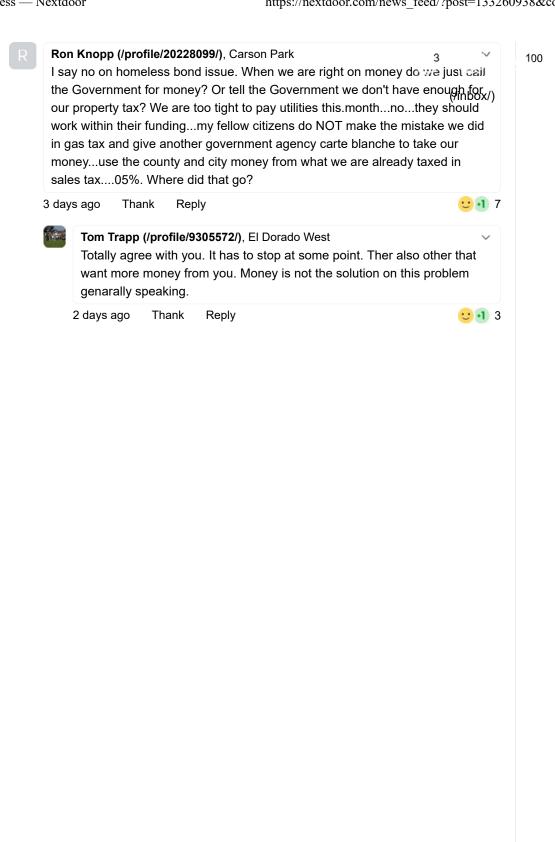
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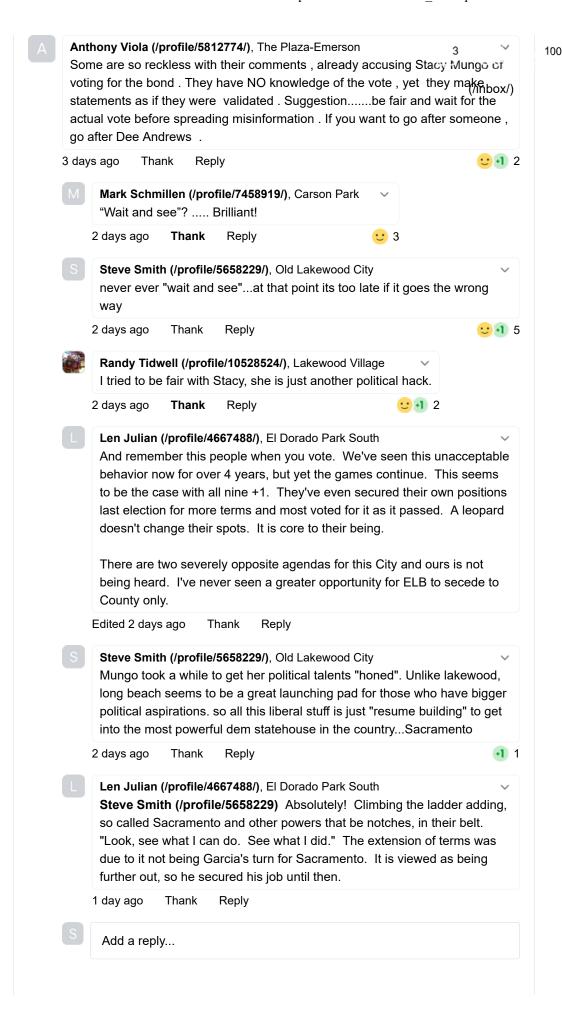


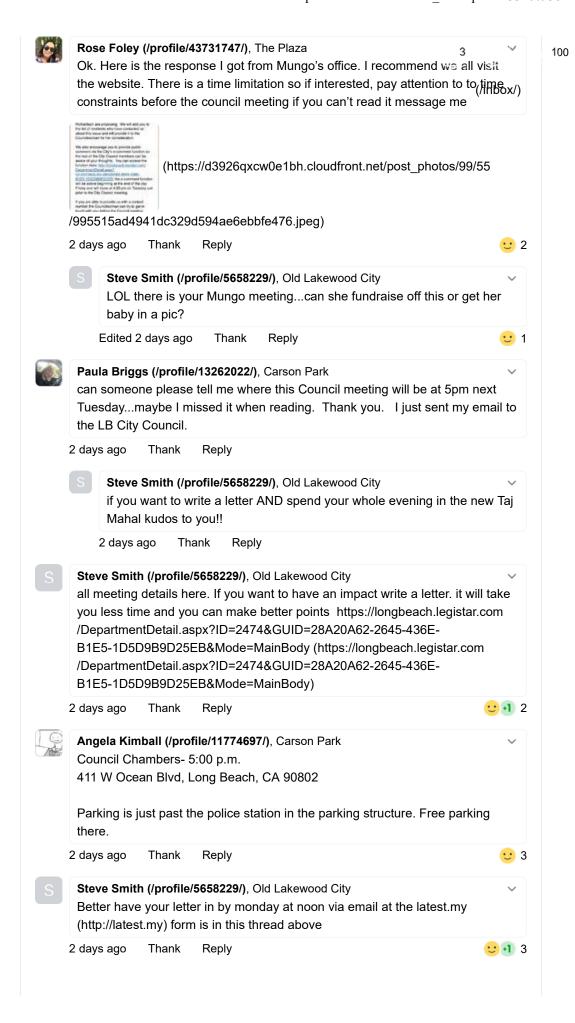


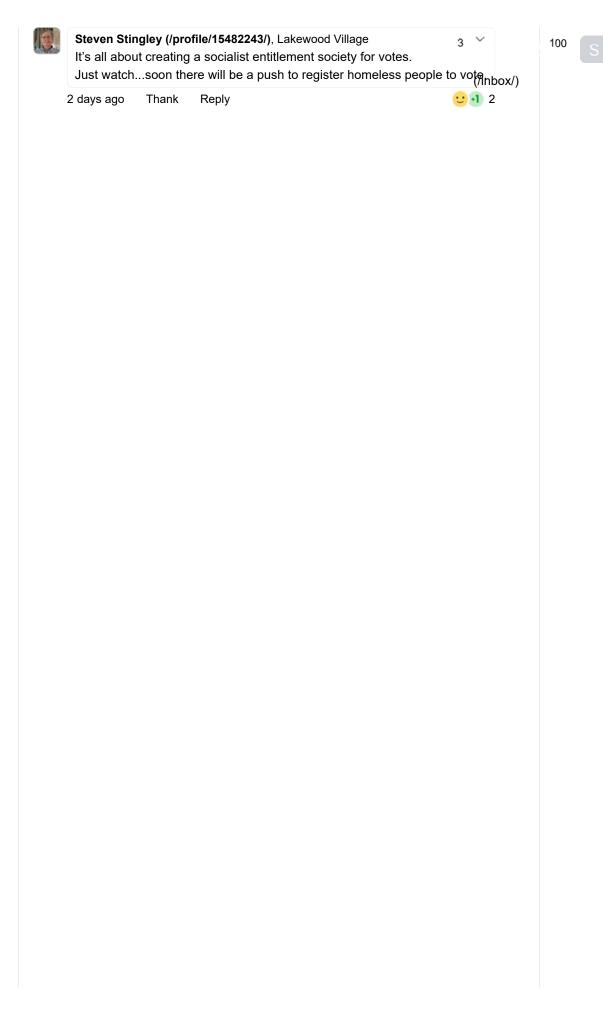


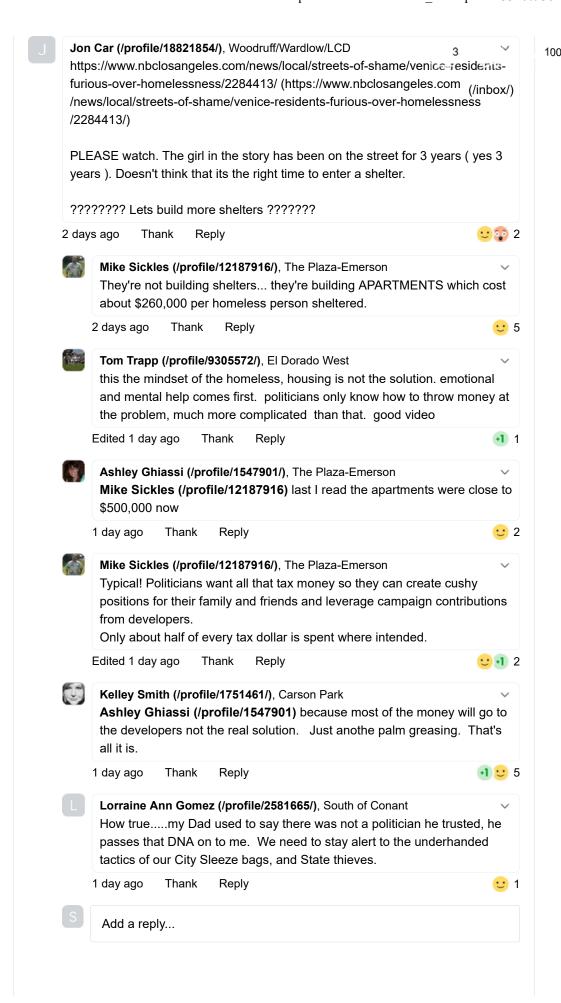


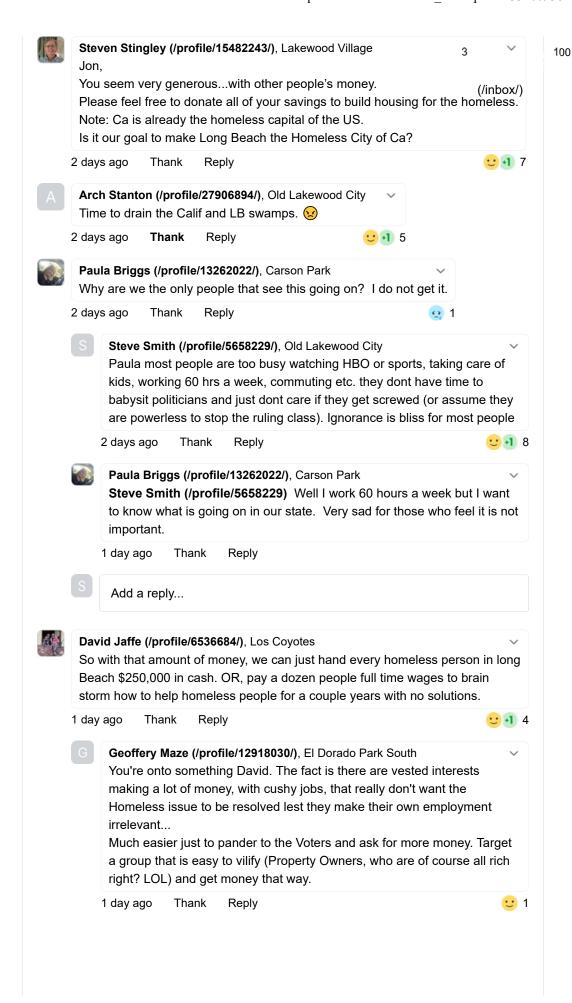


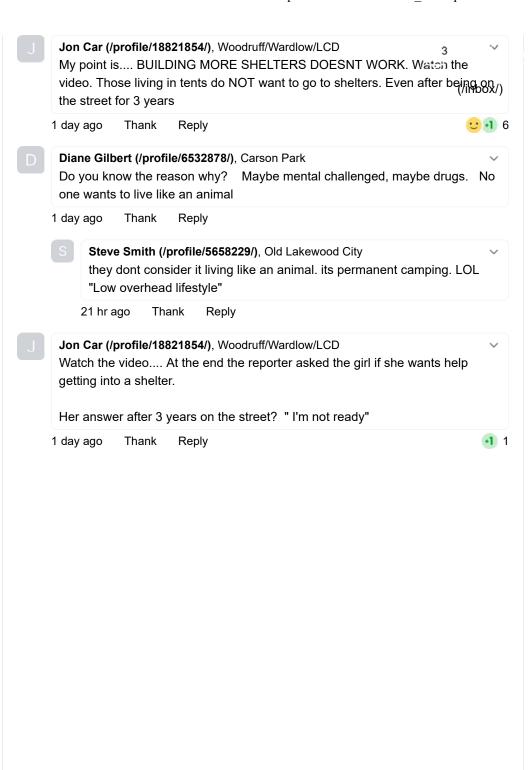


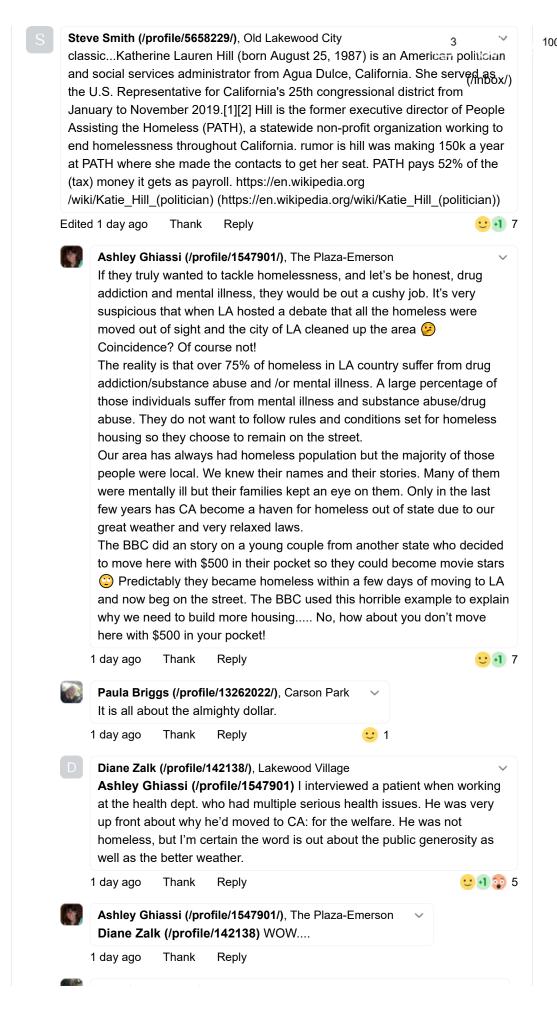


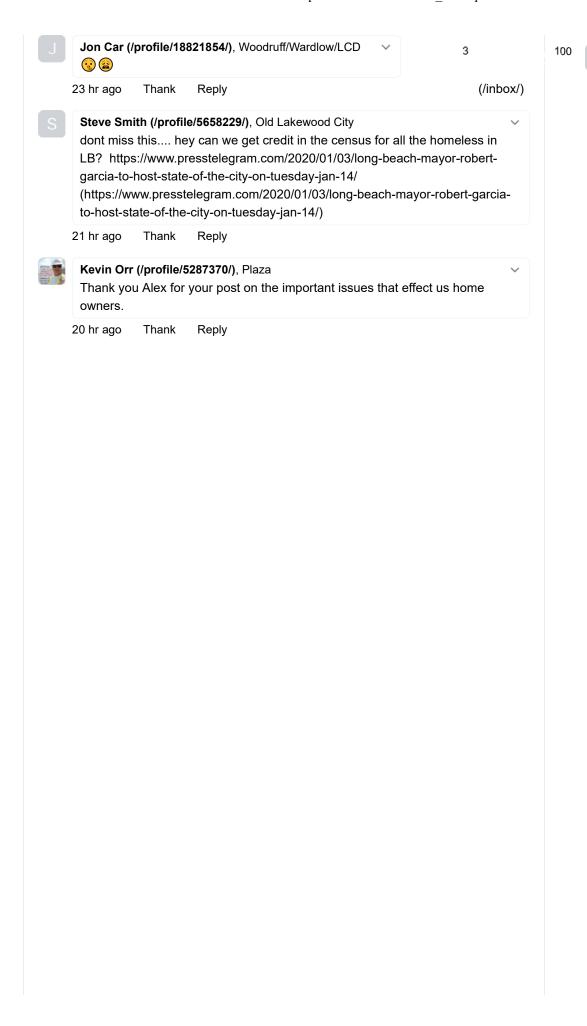


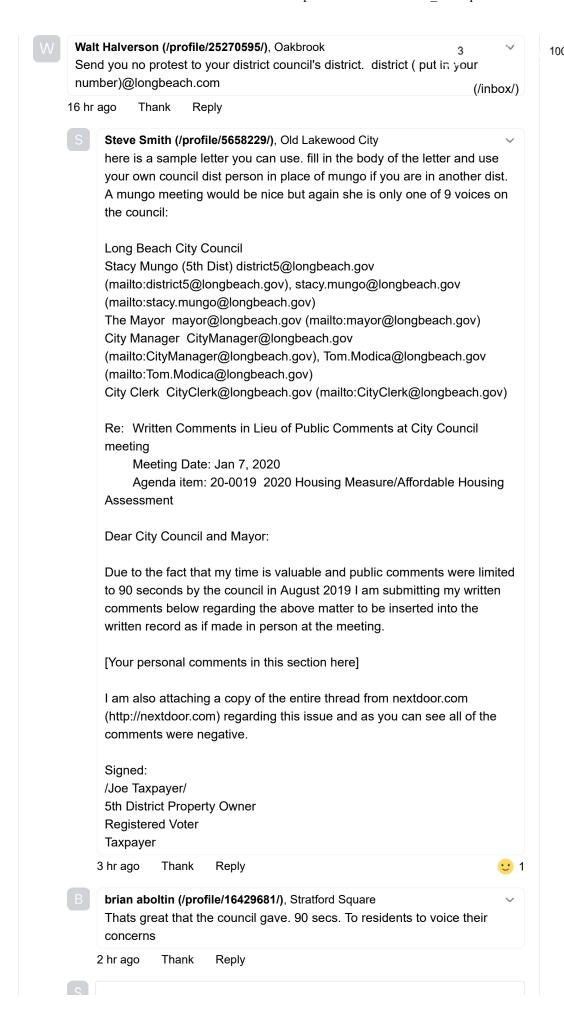


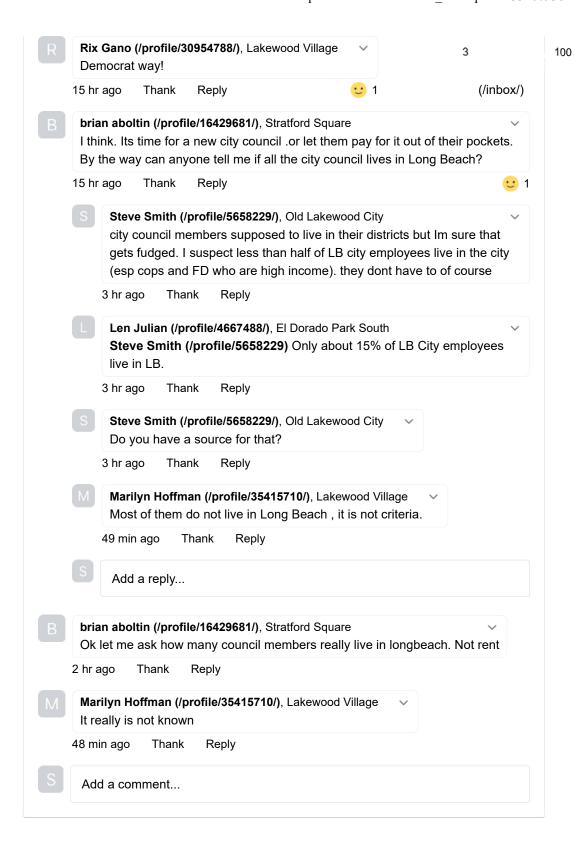












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R-22 Correspondence – Wendy Henning

From: Wendy R. Henning [mailto:wrhenning@earthlink.net]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 3:21 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: 296 Million Bond Issue

Hello Ms. De Lar Garza....

I want to express my husband's and my personal opinions that we are vehemently opposed to the new bond issue being proposed.

Best wishes for the New Year,

Wendy and John Henning

R-22 Correspondence – Glenn Ihrke

----Original Message-----

From: Glenn Ihrke [mailto:glennihrke@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 3:44 PM To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Council District 3 < District3@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Housing Bond

Seriously? How can the city government actually propose a new property tax (call it what you want to) for a city that already has the highest sales tax in California? The government has asked schemed multiple ways to increase their revenue at our expense. I wish you could be as creative on solving problems as you are at finding ways of keeping your money trough filled to pay for pet projects, reward developers and other campaign contributors. I'm tired of this nonsense.

Take a look at the blight of empty stores springing up on 2nd Street in Belmont Shore, the Marina Pacifica And Marketplace malls. What are you doing about it? I don't think the answer was a new retail development at 2nd & PCH. The east side didn't seem to be short of retail opportunities.

Let me be crystal clear on my position. I will actively work against this bond if it makes it to the ballot and against any of the Long Beach politicians that support it. I am a retired executive that ran large divisions of Fortune 400 companies with plenty of time to help organize.

Glenn Ihrke

R-22 Correspondence – Norma Kober

-----Original Message-----

From: Norma Kober [mailto:kober1@earthlink.net]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 8:26 AM To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: CD9 - Proposed 2020 Housing Measure

After reading through the proposal I would like to voice my opinion in a strong and clear voice as a NO.

Norma Kober

Homeowner and long time resident

R-22 Correspondence – Christian Lee

From: christian Lee [mailto:thelatenights@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:14 AM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: NO Housing Bond - NO New Taxes on property owners

To whom it may concern,

As a property owner and a lifetime resident of Long Beach I am absolutely opposed to the proposed housing bond measure being presented to the city council. It should be met with a resounding NO. Long Beach residents are already being taxed for this very same purpose via Measure HH, which was stupidly voted in by uneducated voters who are repeatedly lied to by their council members. NO housing bond. NO more taxes. Council members and Mayor Garcia need to figure out how to fix their mess with the taxes already in place. It is an absolute disgrace and should be an embarrassment to all of the city leadership that they are again begging for money to fix a problem that they have already been paid to fix. Get your act together.

From,

Christian Lee

R-22 Correspondence – Kadee Lorenzen

From: kadeedd@gmail.com [mailto:kadeedd@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 3:37 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: NO to Tax ballot measure

Please DO NOT vote to allow another tax on Property owners! Long Beach is over taxed as it is!! We must keep our property taxes low so we can still live here when we are seniors.

Kadee Lorenzen

R-22 Correspondence – Elena Marty

-----Original Message-----

From: Elena Marty [mailto:elenamarty@verizon.net]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 7:25 AM To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Council District 3 < <u>District3@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: Proposed bond measure to impose tax to help homeless

I understand that a bond is being proposed that will increase property taxes for the purpose of building affordable housing for low income and homeless. We are vehemently opposed to this and urge the council to vote NO. There is gross mismanagement of funds already in place designated for this purpose (Measure HHH) and we have seen nothing except wringing of hands, and more studies. Who is making sure that the money is spent wisely and appropriately? If something is built to help low income and homeless people, how will it be maintained, managed, policed? We are already being taxed to death. Manage the money already earmarked for this effort. It clearly is not being used wisely.

R-22 Correspondence – Herbert Mc daniel

From: Herbert McDaniel [mailto:herb62barb@verizon.net]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 2:57 PM
To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov >
Subject: bond proposal for homeless

I object to this proposal . should it pass there is no assurance it will help the homeless. These folks have no means of income that's why they are homeless. We give them housing how do they pay the upkeep along with utility bills? OR PROVIDE FOOD. They can't do it now what makes you think giving them a home will change that

Herbert Mc daniel

R-22 Correspondence – Jim Morford

From: Jim Morford [mailto:morfordjtb@msn.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 8:46 AM

To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov >
Subject: Bond Issue for building for homeless

I am totally opposed to this housing bond issue. The numbers are astronomical. Why doesn't the City go after the drug corporations for providing the drugs that have mostly created the homeless problems. Also raising taxes will raise rents which is also a BIG problem. Landlords are not going to take the financial hit. They will pass it onto tenants making rents higher. No, absolutely no. Thank you for asking and letting us know about this horrendous housing bond.

R-22 Correspondence – Linda Olson

From: Linda Olson [mailto:lnordenstam-olson@charter.net]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 8:55 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: We are Opposed to CD9 - 2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment

We are strongly **Opposed** to CD9 - 2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment.

Measure HHH passed in 2016 and tax payer money's already been spent on this problem with no measurable progress.

Property owners are taxed too much already with no accountability.

Sincerely,

Linda & Mark Olson, 3rd District, Long Beach

R-22 Correspondence – Michael Pack

From: MikePack [mailto:mikepack@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 3:22 PM
To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov >
Subject: Fwd: Vote NO on Agenda Item R-22

From: MikePack < mikepack@aol.com >

Date: January 6, 2020 at 3:19:17 PM PST

To: mayor@longbeach.gov

Subject: Vote NO on Agenda Item R-22

I am a property owner and do not believe that increasing property taxes on home owners is the right way to deal with the homeless.

No more bonds on property taxes. This is not what Long Beach needs. I have personal experience with a family member who was homeless living in Long Beach.

Through that exposure, I met many homeless people. They are not homeless due to housing costs. They have substance abuse and mental health issues. Most are on general relief and/or food stamps. They sell their food stamps for 50 cents on the dollar so they have money to feed their addiction. They don't want housing or help. Many are not even from Long Beach, but come from other communities that are more strict than Long Beach when it comes to homeless people.

How would taxing property owners deal with people from outside our community and for the chronic homeless suffering from mental issues and substance abuse? How will this not attract more homeless people to Long Beach. It's is not a good idea.

Vote no.

Michael Pack Long Beach Homeowner

R-22 Correspondence – Jennifer Rose

From: Jennifer Rose [mailto:jennyjumpup@verizon.net]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 12:36 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: 3rd District opposed to proposed Housing Bond

I live in the 3rd District and I'm opposed to the housing bond that will be proposed tomorrow night.

R-22 Correspondence – Katie Rowe

From: Katie Rowe [mailto:katieroweh2o@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 3:00 PM

To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Suzie Price < Suzie@suzieaprice.com>

Subject: Housing bond.

Ms. Price and Long Beach City Clerk-

I am absolutely OPPOSED to the Housing Bond being proposed for the November Ballot.

thank you, Katie Rowe

R-22 Correspondence – Matthew Salaben

----Original Message-----

From: Deborah Pauer [mailto:msalaben@icloud.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 9:07 PM To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Another tax/bond to screw over property owners.

SUZIE PRICE,

Do not support any more bonds or taxes, especially the homeless housing one. The City continues to lie to taxpayers, promise the impossible, divert money from the agreed upon uses, and ignore fact based and reality based economics and psychology. If you pass this I'm just passing this on to tenants.

However, I'm sure this will be approved and pass because:11. Most voters pay no attention to what the H they are actually voting for; 2. The name of the bond is usually a complete lie and made to pull on the heart strings of voters or to confuse the voter rather than be remotely factual; 3. many voters are not property owners and they mistakenly believe that they will have no repercussions when property owners have to pay that tax, especially after SUZIE PRICE, other Council persons, and the idiots in Sacramento all voted for Rent Control (hello annual maximum rent increase); 4. the city will use tax payer paid for mailings, advertising, emails etc to support this theft; 5. Our wonderful and unbiased media will support the bond and the lemmings will follow; 6. media and politicians all falsely claim this is a housing issue when, in fact, it's mental health and addiction based; 7. A large percentage of persons now believe and expect the government to provide them housing they can afford wherever they want to live regardless of their means, ability, job, support network, etc etc etc

Matthew Salaben

R-22 Correspondence – Jeannine Saucedo

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeannine Saucedo [mailto:jeannine.saucedo@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:02 AM To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: House Bond NO!

I want to voice my opinion on the new housing bond measure being considered at City Council.

My husband and I are GREATLY AGAINST this. It didn't work in LA with measure HHH. We already pay the highest sales tax. We CAN NOT afford anymore. Focus on really help the addicted mentally ill that need help. Not on taxing the residents of LB. Look to finds in another manner. NO BONDS!

I already drive to seal beach to do my shopping. Enough is enough!

Thank you, Jeannine & Mike Saucedo



January 6, 2020

RE: January 7, 2020 Council Agenda Item No. 22: "2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment", Councilmember Richardson, Councilwoman Zendejas and Vice Mayor Andrews

Honorable Mayor Robert Garcia and Members of the City Council:

The Pacific West Association of REALTORS® (PWR) is the local real estate association that represents the Long Beach area, and PWR's 13,000 members promote homeownership, private property rights, free enterprise and responsible government.

We strongly urge the City Council to reject any resolution that would consider a special assessment [general obligation] bond through increased property taxes.

BACKGROUND

PWR is committed to helping solve California's housing crisis and advancing housing affordability for all, which requires adding to the supply of housing, supporting flexible and adaptable development standards that would accommodate all housing types, and continuing with process improvements and incentives as opposed to counterproductive measures such as market controls or government mandates.

Raising property taxes to make housing more affordable is simply bad public policy. Increasing property taxes will raise the cost of housing, not reduce it.

The May 2017 "Revenue Tools and Incentives for the Production of Affordable and Workforce Housing" report by the Long Beach Development Services Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau states, "Over 47% of all Long Beach households, including both renter and owner households, experience a housing cost burden...in recent years, a lack of supply, and strong demand for housing have resulted in low vacancy rates, and price and rent increases, leading to more and more middle and lower-income households being priced out of the marketplace" (p. 5). Increasing property taxes would only further cause Long Beach residents to be priced out of the marketplace, exacerbating the challenge more than 20,000 households have who are precariously housed.

Moreover, the crisis of homelessness and the issue of housing affordability are not one in the same. The 2018 "Everyone Home Long Beach (EHLB) Taskforce Recommendations" report found that the 2017 Point-in-Time (PIT) count for unsheltered homeless individuals was 1,208, and 53% of respondents reported a disabling condition...nearly one-third of those experiencing homelessness report a mental illness and 21% report using substances" (pp. 6-14).

PACIFIC WEST ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®



The EHLB report goes on to state that the "Housing Authority has the voucher capacity and funding to house approximately 7,200 households within Long Beach. However, nearly 550 households have qualified and completed the application for a voucher but cannot find a unit available to them...The average time to find a unit is five months for those who do find housing...We estimate an additional need of nearly 2,4000 units that will accept subsidies" (p.13). There are ways to remedy this to attract more landlords to voluntarily participate in the program and to consider alternative proposals that would incentivize landlord participation.

THE BURDENSOME ADDED COST TO ALL RESIDENTS

In the agenda item put forth by Councilmember Richardson, Councilwoman Zendejas, and Vice Mayor Andrews, it states "On September 25, 2017, City staff returned to the City Council with one such option for a revenue source, outlining <u>the cost of benefits</u> of a housing bond that could <u>meet some</u> of the affordable housing needs in our city" (emphasis added).

The "cost of benefits" to "meet some of the affordable housing needs" references the current Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) production goal for the city of Long Beach - an additional 2,517 low and very-low income units (less 806 in the development pipeline). "In order to build the 1,711 additional units identified under RHNA, an estimated additional \$793,000,000 in total development funding would be needed...The RHNA number addresses approximately 12.5% of the units to meet the needs of those precariously housed within the City" (p. 13).

Although the authors of the item reference a "recommended need of \$217 million in capital costs...", this would be to fulfill EHLB Goal 1 to "build governance, data capabilities, communications and financing..."; the reality is to build the needed units as specified under RHNA it would cost \$463,472 per unit (\$793 million/1,711 units) to be borne by Long Beach residents. This means that 166,460 or 99% of households within Long Beach (source: U.S. Census, 2014-18) would be financing housing for the other 1% or 1,711 units.

In addition to housing-related ballot measures passed by California voters in November 2018 (Propositions 1 and 2), the California State Legislature dedicated over \$700 million in the 2018-19 budget to address homelessness, and SB 2 Building Homes and Jobs Act, which commenced on January 1, 2018, establishes permanent, ongoing sources of funding dedicated to affordable housing development through an additional \$75 real estate recording fee. None of these revenue sources were discussed or explored, presumably as the said reports were produced prior to such funding mechanisms being fully adopted and/or implemented.

The resolution being contemplated would ask voters to consider a \$298 million housing bond at \$25 per \$100,000 assessed valuation of property, although it's not clear how and under what criteria such an assessment would be applied (e.g., differentiation for residential vs. commercial, age exemptions, etc.).

This added annual tax is extremely high in comparison to other cities who have considered or passed similar measures. For instance, in the City of Los Angeles, Proposition HHH meant an additional \$9.64 per \$100,000 in assessed value; in San Francisco, Proposition A levied an average tax rate of \$11.72 per \$100,000 of assessed value; and San Diego is considering a similar measure that would increase property taxes roughly \$6 per month for homeowners.

PACIFIC WEST ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®



WHY WOULD LONG BEACH WANT TO REPLICATE THE FAILURES OF LOS ANGELES?

A recent October 2019 audit titled "The High Cost of Homeless Housing: Review of Proposition HHH" issued by Los Angeles City Controller Ron Galperin found that "more than two years after the first bond issuance and nearly three years since voters approved HHH, not one bond-funded unit has opened...and homelessness in the City has increased by 40 percent to more than 36,000 people over the past four years...more than 1,000 HH units are projected to exceed \$600,000, with one project topping \$700,000 per unit...HHH projects are estimated to take between three to six years to complete - a schedule plainly out of step with the City's urgent need to bring tens of thousands of people off the streets and into housing."

REDUCING THE COST OF HOUSING THROUGH SMART GOVERNANCE, NOT TAXES

The housing bond funding mechanism as currently proposed is likely to result in building costs for such units to exceed the existing median sale price of a market-rate condominium in the city of Long Beach. As experienced in Los Angeles, "reasons for this include the number and complexity of funding sources (on average seven) required to complete a project, the relatively limited pool of eligible developers, regulatory barriers and permitting challenges, and considerable construction and labor costs."

Instead of taxing property and increasing the price of development, Long Beach policymakers should look to options for less restrictive zoning, reduced development fees and expanded use of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), etc. Based on an April 2, 2019 staff memo on the city's ADU Ordinance, "during the calendar year 2018, ADUs constituted 43% of total housing starts within the city"; however, "the physical construction, costing \$200 per sq. ft. or more for new structures and payment of City permits and impact fees averaging \$10,00 or more..." remain prohibitive to increasing the housing supply "for the benefit of the tenant and larger community" (pp. 2-3).

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

Once again, PWR applauds your goal of delivering affordable housing to Long Beach, but we do not agree with the approach of increasing property taxes to achieve it.

We stand ready to support efforts that are proven to work but placing the burden on residents by driving up housing prices and ending up with fewer stable homes is not the solution.

Sincerely,

Phil Hawkins, *Chief Executive Officer* Tim Shaw, *Government Affairs Director* Christine Schachter, *Government Affairs Director*

PACIFIC WEST ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®



From: Joseph Sherrin < <u>joesherrin@gmail.com</u>>
Date: January 1, 2020 at 5:27:10 PM PST

To: mayor@longbeach.gov, Tom.Modica@longbeach.gov, CityManager@longbeach.gov,

<u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>, <u>district4@longbeach.gov</u> <u>Cc: mail@LBreport.com</u>, <u>editor@gazettes.com</u>

Subject: Written Comments in Lieu of Public Comments at City Council meeting

Meeting Date: Jan 7, 2020

Agenda item: 20-0019 2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment

Dear City Council and Mayor:

Due to the fact that my time is valuable and public comments were limited to 90 seconds by the council in August 2019 I am submitting my written comments below regarding the above matter to be inserted into the written record as if made in person at this meeting.

I am graduate of Long Beach Wilson and CSULB and have deep roots in the city of Long Beach. I am also part of the very limit millennial home owner population in Long Beach. Many of my friends both from high school and college don't buy homes in Long Beach because of the taxes and higher cost of living.

As you know Long Beach is the highest taxed city in the USA (tied with Chicago).

Raising property taxes is an unacceptable way of trying to generate more funds to the city and will only take more of my hard earned money out of my pocket. My wife and I both work full time with considerable amounts of over time to afford a home and raise our two young boys. \$150 plus extra dollars here and there may not seem like much to an older generation who don't have high dollar mortgages or renters who wouldn't be effect at all. But, that is food and baby formula for 2 weeks, for my family.

As for the homeless crisis. I consider it more of a drug problem. Especially in district 4. A majority of the people behind the target and along the freeway are drug addicts looking for their next fix. Sadly, lot of the people are my age too. Has the city considered alternate solutions and using the already high sale taxes to pool in funds? Perhaps expanding on the Fire Departments HEART team and allow them to offer people they are assisting more options.

Raising taxes should not be the go to for every new idea. We elect you to be responsible and allocate our tax dollars appropriately. Tax is theft.

I encourage council members to read negative comments in regards to this matter on Nextdoor

Regards
Joe Sherrin
4th District Property Owner
Registered Voter
TaxpayerSent from my iPhone

R-22 Correspondence – Sheri Snyder

From: Sheri Snyder [mailto:sherisnyder@charter.net]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 2:27 PM
To: CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: New bond measure to address homelessness Ed's

Dear council members:

Let me begin by saying I see everyday the need to address the homeless population in our city. The never ending tax increases and bonds have not helped in the past and I urge you to research alternatives. I am a retired 67 year old female living on a fixed income. My property taxes went up \$500 last year for free city college. The 10-1/2% sales tax is one of the highest in the nation and impacts where LB residents shop, outside of our city where sales taxes are lower. If these increases in bonds, sales tax, property taxes continue, not to mention utility services, I will have no choice but to sell my home in the city I was born and raised in. Walk down 2nd street and note all of the empty storefronts.

Thus far I'm not aware of anything substantial the city has done so far in terms of affordable housing or solving the homeless problem.

We have a wonderful resident, Christine Berry, who manages to actually help people get off the streets. Perhaps she has some useful, helpful ideas that you should listen to as she is well aware and may have some great ideas other than taxing LB residents, many like me who are just making ends meet now.

Once again, I urge you, beg really, to not continue to raise taxes, have more bond measures or do anything that raises the cost of living in my city.

I have no solutions, just reaching out so you take into consideration not all of us can afford these increases, especially when we've seen no results in the past.

Respectfully, Sheri Snyder

R-22 Correspondence – Nathalie Soussan

From: Nathalie Soussan-Villedrouin [mailto:natville@mac.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 11:01 PM

To: CityClerk < Council District 1">CityClerk@longbeach.gov; Council District 1

<<u>District1@longbeach.gov</u>>; Council District 2 <<u>District2@longbeach.gov</u>>; Council District 3

<District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5

<District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7

< <u>District7@longbeach.gov</u>>; Council District 8 < <u>District8@longbeach.gov</u>>; Council District 9

<District9@longbeach.gov>

Subject: November 2020 proposed Housing Affordability

Dear Elected Official,

We already voted on a tax (Measure HH) that was supposed to address this issue. How is that money being spent?

I am opposed to increasing property taxes by any additional bonds or measures. I am also concerned that this measure seems to conflate Homelessness with Housing Affordability. They are not the same problem. It makes no sense to increase everybody's housing costs in the name of Affordable Housing.

Long Beach is becoming unbearably unaffordable to live in. Where is all of the money that the state and the federal governments provide that we already pay taxes on? Where is the accountability? What about the millions of dollars that the developers have recently invested in Long Beach and turned downtown into a concrete jungle of an affordable housing? Where is this new affordable housing going to go?

I am diametrically opposed to this new property tax. I am also opposed to the next one, if this one does not pass.

Nathalie Soussan

R-22 Correspondence – Catherine Steisel

----Original Message-----

From: Catherine Steisel [mailto:catherines@homessence.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 11:05 AM

To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov >; Mayor < Mayor@longbeach.gov >; Council District 1 < District1@longbeach.gov >; Council District 2 < District2@longbeach.gov >; Council District 3 < District3@longbeach.gov >; Council District 4 < District4@longbeach.gov >; Council District 5 < District5@longbeach.gov >; Council District 6 < District6@longbeach.gov >; Council District 7 < District7@longbeach.gov >; Council District 8 < District8@longbeach.gov >; Council District 9

<<u>District9@longbeach.gov</u>> Cc: <u>suzie@suzieaprice.com</u> Subject: Housing bond

Dear Mayor Garcia, City Council Members and City Clerk,

I am vehemently opposed to the proposed housing bond. We cannot keep taxing home owners. Long Beach is a great place to live and I feel fortunate that my husband and I were able to purchase a home here. We did it by working hard (sometimes two jobs) and saving our money. Now, it seems you want to penalize us for owning a home by taxing us even more. We are already overburdened with taxes, especially property taxes. Have you given any thought to people who retire and are living on fixed incomes? Just because we are homeowners doesn't mean we have unlimited disposable income. And have you noticed that many people are leaving California because of the terrible tax burden the state legislature has saddled us with. According to Dan Walters, a researcher with the state think tank CALMatters, there's been a rush of retirees or near-retirees making the move to neighboring low-tax states such as Arizona and Nevada. This new tax will add to the reason to leave!

Thank you,

Catherine Steisel

----Original Message-----

From: Julee Stover [mailto:jstover@charter.net]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 8:44 AM To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: re: CD9 2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment

As a homeowner and life-long Long Beach resident, I am writing to express my strong feelings AGAINST this proposed \$298 million housing bond being put on the ballot here in Long Beach, CA. Not because I don't believe there is a need to provide affordable housing, but because we, the citizens of Long Beach, CA, deserve full disclosure on the current state of how money that has already been raised through other taxes and bond measures for this issue has been allocated and spent. At this point, there is minimal confidence in how our local government is handling this issue. All we have to do is look to Measure HHH in Los Angeles and the ineffectiveness of it to bolster this opinion.

We cannot keep taxing our citizens with little to show for it. Give us a fully comprehensive plan with specifics on how the money would be allocated that involves mental health support, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, job training, AND housing. Then provide a website that updates all of us on how the tax revenue is doing its job and the progress being made. Only then can you gain back the citizens' trust that these kind of bond measures make sense.

So as of now, it's an emphatic NO on the CD9 2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment bond.

-Julee Stover

R-22 Correspondence – Debby Tomassini

From: Debby Tomassini [mailto:d.tomassini@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 3:53 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: CD9 - 2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment

Dear City Clerk:

My husband and I (Joseph A. and Debra A Tomassini) live in District 3 (Suzie Price) of Long Beach. We are current homeowners in Belmont Shore and are strongly opposed to the proposed \$298 million housing bond to be added to this November's ballot!!

Best regards,

Joe and Debby Tomassini

R-22 Correspondence – William Tripodi

From: William Tripodi [mailto:williamtripodi@msn.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 5:27 PM **To:** CityClerk < <u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>> **Cc:** Suzie Price < <u>suzie@suzieaprice.com</u>>

Subject: Housing Bond initiative

Importance: High

Hi Monique DeLaGarza

Good Morning & Happy New Year!

Just want you to know that my wife Terry & I are AGAINST the proposed property tax bond initiative that the city council is proposing therefore if it makes it on to a Nov ballot issue we will vote AGAINST any tax increase. With all of the tax increases (both approved and proposed) all bodies of our government are trying to put people like Terry & I into homelessness!

Thanks for listening.

Bill & Terry Tripodi

R-22 Correspondence – Laurann Wakerfield

From: Laurann Wakefield [mailto:flagday614@charter.net]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 2:32 PM
To: CityClerk < CityClerk@longbeach.gov >
Subject: Proposed property tax for homeless

NO! I live in Dist. 3. We are already overtaxed and our property values are falling. \$40 million in grants, Measure this and measure that, the mayor's fund, and no appreciable improvement in the homeless situation . No, no. no!

Laurann Wakefield

R-22 Correspondence – Becky Walker

From: Becky Walker [mailto:becky.walker@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:43 PM

To: Council District 5 < <u>District5@longbeach.gov</u>>; Stacy Mungo < <u>Stacy.Mungo@longbeach.gov</u>>; Mayor

<Mayor@longbeach.gov>; City Manager <CityManager@longbeach.gov>; Tom Modica

<<u>Tom.Modica@longbeach.gov</u>>; CityClerk <<u>CityClerk@longbeach.gov</u>>

Subject: Written Comments in Lieu of Public Comments at City Council meeting

Written Comments in Lieu of Public Comments at City Council meeting Meeting Date: Jan 7, 2020 Agenda item: 20-0019 2020 Housing Measure/Affordable Housing Assessment

Dear City Council and Mayor: Due to the fact that my time is valuable and public comments were limited to 90 seconds by the council in August 2019 I am submitting my written comments below regarding the above matter to be inserted into the written record as if made in person at the meeting. I am against any additional taxes to help the homeless. I do not believe building new low cost housing will address the issue - most do not want help and are using drugs/alcohol. I also don't feel as if our tax money is accounted for by the city of LB. I lived in Lakewood until a few years ago and am very surprised at the lack of accountability in LB. We are taxed to death here and no one seems to have to account for where the money is spent.

I am also attaching a link to the entire thread from nextdoor.com regarding this issue and as you can see all of the comments were negative. https://nextdoor.com/news feed/?post=133260938

Signed: Becky Walker 5th District Property Owner Registered Voter Taxpayer