

From: maria castilleja <turtlerunner15@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 10:33 AM
To: Council District 1; Council District 2; Mayor; Council District 3; City Manager; Council District 4; Council District 5; Council District 6; Council District 7; Council District 8; Council District 9; CityClerk; Rahul Sen
Subject: City Council Meeting - City Manager Report on Grants Pass v Johnson

-EXTERNAL-

Good morning,

I am not available to attend the city council meeting today and provide public comment - I would like to share a few thoughts about the city manager report (developed by one of his deputies)

There is no doubt in my mind that employees are trying their best and the issue of homelessness is complex and overwhelming - the issues I see with the report

1- It lacks a citywide motto/message “We serve LB” “We work together to assist you” That vision does not exist in our city; departments work on their lanes and do not attempt to to communicate with each other - as a resident I have plenty of examples where I feel like a ping pong ball bounced from one person to another -

2- The City Manager office discusses the idea to resolve homelessness by providing housing - that is only one aspect that it is needed - Many, who have been housed, have faced failure because they were not provided assistance to develop skills to survive in the labor field and to live in a community where they live -certainly I have examples of those

3- We need to address the issue from all areas and deal with each individual case - there is need to keep track of each case and all departments working together to solve particular issues - there is need for a protocol to follow by all city departments/ employees and an expectation of accountability

I am committed to provide you examples of protocols, I will send it at some point - soon

4- It is a shame that the city continues to show number of contacts - that only produces minimal impact !! It is like the high school principal who goes to visit classes every day for a few minutes and then has not explanation why students are failing - you need to dig deeper! Some of those contacts are multiple , done by the same person

5- And what it is more frustrating is that this report is coming after a year , 365 days! If homelessness is such a priority , why not to review the interventions every quarter?

6- City Manager is asking you to agendize more directions, of course they want more money! There is no need for more money, budget the interventions, regroup ! Why are we paying extra money for Public Works to clear areas - it is part of their work! It is LB

7- Tonight you will have individuals defending what they do and will address the criminalization of homeless individuals- In reality they are protecting their own jobs, grants, organizations -

Yes, provide direction , demand accountability, collaboration, resolution - Request a report in public in a quarter - Hint: there are 5 deputy city managers, assign them as Homelessness Area Admins , start with 1000 homeless identified individuals, assign 200 to each of the deputy city managers, and ask them to develop a protocol to meet w specific departments/groups/medical assistance to discuss each individual case biweekly and determine progress

You need a detailed person who can organize this issue! I am sure you have one among your employees!

Thank you

Maria Castilleja



[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: Ketty Citterio <kettycitterio@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 2:37 PM
To: CityClerk
Subject: City council meeting: Item 18

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Council Members,

There are obvious reasons why in 2024 the US Supreme Court changed the ruling on sleeping in public, and why Gov Newson went along with it: our cities degradation, health hazardous conditions around encampments, and the increase of fear among people.

Nobody wants to criminalize people experiencing homelessness, but most of the time, what brought them to the streets is also what will keep them on the streets: mental illness and addiction.

I am out there every day trying to help those less fortunate getting help, but it is my experience that most of these individuals do not want help if it's not on their terms: "money or housing NOW". That is something LB cannot offer.

Most do not want to live by rules, or deprive themselves of their vices.

Most know how to work the system.

Lack of enforcement just enables them to keep living outside of common-living rules and does not encourage them to better their existence.

People living in their vehicles live in awful conditions. The cars are stuffed with belongings and trash, and the occupants release themselves by their cars. Oftentimes their cars do not operate and won't move for sweeping day when that area could be at least cleaned.

LB offers Safe Parking to them, a place they can be safe, and receive services.

Allowing them to live where they are parked, just enables them to keep living in the same unhealthy conditions.

Again, from experience, these individuals will not go to a Safe Parking on their own unless they get the proper 'push'.

Updating ordinance LBMC Section 10.18.040, will be a stronger incentive to help direct those living in their vehicles to Safe Parking, which will provide them with essential services and access to facilities.

It will give them a better quality of life.

Hope you will help this beautiful City feel good and safe again,

Ketty Citterio


From: Geri <ehlersapt18@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 12:43 PM
To: CityClerk
Subject: City Council Meeting: Item 18

-EXTERNAL-

Thanks to all City Councilpersons for addressing this issue.

I hope you all recognize that our City needs help as the fear factor of walking on our streets has increase due to the presence of encampments in public spaces.

I am a senior and I am fearful of going to the library, to the senior center, to the senior activities at my park because I have to walk by tents of people who do not appear to be in the right state of mind.

I lived here all my life. I have a few years left, if God allows, I still have the use of my legs, and I am angry my City leaders who have taken the side of the lost souls who trash Long Beach rather than the side of its residents.

Please, give me back the freedom to enjoy strolling around Long Beach while I still can.

Allow our Police to enforce the law we have in our books.

Hoping you will do the right thing,
Germaine Ehlers

From: Friends of Bixby Park <friendsofbixbypark@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 12:08 PM
To: CityClerk
Subject: Re: City Council Agenda 5/20/2025: Item #18

-EXTERNAL-

Good afternoon,

It is our experience around Bixby Park that the majority of individuals experiencing homelessness are not interested in receiving services as those do not materialize quickly and also because accepting services would require detox.

If these individuals choose to continue to live that way it is their prerogative, but if their choice negatively affects other people (in this case park goers), then the laws in our books need to be enforced.

People living in their vehicles around parks should be directed to the Safe Parking areas where they can receive proper services and have access to toilets and showers. There are 20+ cars around Bixby Park right now with people living in them. The gutters by them smell of human waste. It's a health hazard.

Since they do not take the initiative to drive to the safe parking themselves, perhaps updating LBMC Section 10.18.040 will help them do so.

We are the first ones to offer help to all misplaced people that come to our park. Those who accepted help have moved up and on, the rest, excuse the harsh statement, are just playing the system.

Us, the Friends of Bixby Park 🌿

"Like music and art, love of nature is a common language that can transcend political or social boundaries."

—Jimmy Carter

Enjoy Bixby Park!



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From: Lory Halstead <lahalstead1929@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 1:25 PM
To: CityClerk
Subject: Fwd: Item 18 -city council meeting

-EXTERNAL-

Dear City Clerk,

I beg all council members to start getting a bit more firm towards encampments.

The way we have been doing things (no enforcement) has not worked out and the most obvious example is the conditions of the very expensive new DT library nobody wants to go to. Tents all around it and people who do not give you a warm feeling when you approach the state of the art door just keeps people away.

Nothing good has come from no longer enforcing the camping law.

Enabling people to live on our streets, sidewalks, beaches and parks is not helping them nor us citizens.

Isn't it time to get back to being a functioning society where the laws created to protect all, are enforced again?

Lory Halstead

From: Linda Scholl <lscholl2011@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 10:15 AM
To: Mary Zendejas; Cindy Allen; Council District 2; Council District 1; CityClerk
Cc: Council District 4; Council District 6; Council District 7; Council District 8; Council District 9; Tom Modica; Council District 3; Council District 5; Linda Scholl; CityAttorney
Subject: City Council tonight: Agenda item 18. Clear our sidewalks! Update and enforce city ordinance re sleeping in vehicles!

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Council Members,

Clear our sidewalks, change the vehicle ordinance and clamp down on crime.

We must get vehicles and the homeless off our sidewalks. The city cannot enforce its ordinance on sleeping in vehicles until it is updated to include all legal requirements. We must allow civilized commerce and residents to live with expectations of safety and law enforcement.

We expect the City of Long Beach City Council to ensure that City staff are **aggressive on removing encampments (per Gov. Newsome) and restructure the vehicle ordinance.**

We are also concerned for those who are homeless. But there is no excuse to allow sleeping on sidewalks. There must be designated areas near the services centers for sleeping in cars, with security patrols for the safety of those people in such environments. Quality of Life officers are important to this function. Suggest you remove the \$800,000 for "Executive Physicals" on the agenda tonight and apply it to more Quality of Life Officers.

Please fix this issue now!

Linda Scholl
