

From: Lucchesi, Jennifer@SLC
To: Lunetta, Kim@SLC; DeLeon, Renee@SLC
Subject: FW: Agenda Item 56 on the upcoming SLC April 26th agenda
Date: Monday, April 25, 2022 6:42:49 AM

Good morning,
Please consider this a public comment letter for Item 56.

From: Elizabeth Lambe <elizabeth@lcwlandtrust.org>
Sent: Saturday, April 23, 2022 12:05 PM
To: Boggiano, Reid@SLC <Reid.Boggiano@slc.ca.gov>; Farnum, Maren@SLC <Maren.Farnum@slc.ca.gov>
Cc: Joe Geever <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Agenda Item 56 on the upcoming SLC April 26th agenda

Attention: This email originated from outside of SLC and should be treated with extra caution.

Hello Reid and Maren,

I'm writing on behalf of Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust in regard to Agenda Item 56 on the SLC April 26 agenda – specifically the funding of a design phase for circulation pumps in the Alamitos Bay. I hope you remember me and my colleague Joe Geever -- we spoke to you after the last hearing on this proposed project and we discussed several concerns. Unfortunately, despite our best efforts, we haven't been able to resolve those concerns. For the reasons below, we would like the Commission will either postpone this agenda item or deny the request.

After talking with some experts in water quality, our concerns were:

- The new pumps would continue adversely impacting aquatic life in the wetlands after the power plant was forced to quit using their cooling water pumps to protect aquatic life;
- The pumps would pull polluted water from Alamitos Bay and discharge it into the adjacent San Gabriel River, and;
- The "fish friendly" pumps, even if they worked as advertised, would still remove aquatic life from the wetlands, adversely impacting the ecological benefits.

We did have one conference call meeting with the City Manager office and the consultants who prepared the water circulation modeling study and findings. We were told that the main objective of the project was creating circulation to maintain habitat values. They opined that sea grass would not survive in the bay without the added circulation. We asked for the foundational studies and data used to reach that conclusion so that our expert could review it. Our expert doubted the findings, noting that there are several similar bays south of here with even less circulation and similar

pollution problems, yet they supported healthy sea grass beds.

Following the conference call, we made repeated requests of the City Manager's office to provide the studies, but never got a response.

We believe our concerns are legitimate. But until the City provides the public with the information requested, we are unable to have an independent review done. We think it's important that the public be given adequate opportunity to make informed comments, and the City has made that impossible.

We also believe these concerns are relevant to the Commission's oversight to ensure the City's "Tidelands Funds" are spent according to the terms of the Fund.

We request the Commission either postpone the decision until the public can review all the relevant studies and prepare comments, or deny the request for approval of the expenditure of Tidelands Funds.

We take no pleasure in this request. We are committed to restoring the wetlands, and very much support improving water quality for recreational uses of the Bay. But we do not think the process should move forward until we are able to do an independent review of the reports provided by the City's consultants.

Please contact me via email or feel free to give me a call with any questions, or if you'd just like to briefly discuss our comments above.

My best to you,

Elizabeth Lambe
Executive Director – Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust
p# [REDACTED]