



Additional Documents List

Regular City Council Meeting

July 15, 2020

(Updated 7/16/2020 at 8:25 a.m.)

Item No.	Agenda Item Description	Distributor	Document
PC	Public Comment submitted for: General Public Comment; Item Nos. 9 and 15	City Clerk Division	Public Comment E-mails

Public Comment 7/15/2020 City Council Meeting

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Martin Dattola
2. Sean Malatesta
3. Victoria Patterson
4. Joan Laidig
5. Julian Petrillo
6. Larry Abelson
7. Josh Albrektson
8. Beverly Biber
9. Lee Guenveur

From: [Martin Dattola](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Date: Sunday, July 12, 2020 12:53:08 PM
Attachments: [LETTER SOUTH PASADENA CITY.doc](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please read attached letter out loud at the upcoming meeting . If you have any questions I can be reached at [REDACTED] Thank you Martin Dattola

As a business owner in South Pasadena I am thoroughly disappointed of what's going on in our city . I understand that protesters have rights by our constitution. We have had protesters on the corner of Mission and Fair Oaks for over two months now.

They have basically taken over the corner with all their signs and propaganda. They have parked on the street for unlimited amount of time. They have parked illegally taking up 2 spaces. Protesters are smoking. They have posted multiple signs on the construction site .These signs are very derogatory to our police department.

We as business owners are tired of the eight hours of horn honking that goes go's on the corner of Mission and Fair Oaks every single day. We are in a business area and people are discouraged to go to our business and other business because of all the protesters that are making everyone feel uncomfortable. They've set up a table on the corner with all the propaganda .

Why does the city allow protesters to take up our streets on a Fourth of July marching and violating all kinds of rules and ordinances. The police departments hands are tied right now because the city officials are not allowing them to do their jobs correctly.

We have a great Police Department in South Pasadena. I am ashamed to say that there are rumors out there that state the city Council wants to defund our Police Department and also take away the police officers that is assigned to the schools. If anything we should be giving our police officer as much money as possible to keep our city safe.

The crime rate is up all over California right now because they are releasing prisoners from the jail system because of the corona virus. Are we willing to put our residences at risk by defunding the police. department. All Lives Matter. Stop the racism by having to distinguish what color your skin is to be an American. We are all Americans.

Businesses were closed down for approximately three months due to the corona virus. We have to come back and try to operate our business in this kind of atmosphere where there is total disregard for our customers and our workers who have to put up with constant horn honking protesters all over the streets with these signs being posted about our Police Department and how they are killers and that we should defund them.

I really hope the city of South Pasadena and the city Council understand that defunding the police department and taking officers off the streets is a grave mistake to our residence's and our business owners. Please also see if there is any way these protesters can find different locations within the city of South Pasadena to protest. It is unfair to the business owners in this area to have to put up with this kind of behavior every single day.

From: [Sean Malatesta](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Building height Limit
Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 12:20:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello.

I am writing to express my support for the current building height limit in South Pasadena. 45' is fine and good.

If you raise the height requirement you will change the look and feel of the city and ruin what you love. With Covid we need LESS density, not more density. Stop trying to make South Pasadena BIG. Go to Pasadena if you want to be there.

I'm getting tired of having to write to you all in emergency fashion just to urge you to keep things normal.

Do something correctly and stop considering exemptions for developers etc that hurt the townspeople. If we have it your way we will soon have six and seven stories in town. No thanks. Do the right thing.

Sean Malatesta

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Victoria Patterson](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Maria Ayala](#)
Subject: OPEN SESSION PUBLIC COMMENT - NON-AGENDA ITEM - JULY 15
Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:47:24 PM
Attachments: [OPEN Agenda Public Comment 7-15.docx](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I respectfully submit the attached Public Comment for the Open Session Meeting of the Council on July 15. I request that my comment be read aloud and into public record.

Thank you.

Victoria Patterson

OPEN SESSION PUBLIC COMMENT
NON-AGENDA ITEM
PUBLIC COMMENT
JULY 15, 2030

Dear Mayor Bob Joe and Councilmembers;

Wednesday July 8, Fahren James and I were attacked by Joe Richcreek, while at the intersection of Mission and Fair Oaks.

In reviewing the police reports for the July 8 and July 10 incidents, there are blatant inaccuracies. We need to remedy this ASAP.

Did 911 calls come in on July 8th and/or July 10th? If so, did dispatch record information from the callers?

Has a detective been assigned to our cases? As of 7/14, no one from SPPD has contacted us. When will we hear from the detectives? Why aren't the 7/8 and 7/10 cases connected? Why was Joe Richcreek arrested only for throwing a rock and not for spitting on me during a deadly pandemic?

It's my understanding that Joe Richcreek has prior offenses. Why was he released?

He returned to the scene of his first attack and assaulted Fahren James. Fahren James and I need protective orders.

The assault occurred almost a week ago. No one from SPPD has reached out to me. I was fortunate that a testing site in Pasadena took pity on me and gave me a Covid test this morning.

I've been a resident of this community for over twenty-five years. While you are working on a FY 20/21 budget for public safety, we are still waiting for any communication from our police. We deserve (and must receive) services and protections from SPPD.

Victoria Patterson

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: laidigjm@aol.com
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Height limit repeal
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 10:10:54 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Council Members,

As a South Pasadena resident of 18 years, I am writing to request that you NOT put the height limit repeal on the ballot in November. I want to maintain our small town character and keep our voter imposed height limit in tact. The City of South Pasadena must protect its uniqueness and livability to maintain the strong home values and desirability of our neighborhood.

I would like to request that you read my comments out loud in your next council meeting when this issue is raised.

Thank you,
Joan Laidig

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Julian Petrillo](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Don't put small town charm on the ballot
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 10:22:16 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello. I'm writing to ask that the Council not put South Pasadena's building height limit on the November ballot. We're not Glendale, and we shouldn't strive to be. The skyline of our town doesn't need any taller buildings sprouting up in it, no matter what the economic trade-off might be.

Thanks for your stewardship.

Julian Petrillo


From: [Abelson, Lawrence](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: 7/15/20 City Council Meeting - Public Comment - PLEASE READ ALOUD
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 10:58:36 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Joe and Councilmembers,

Along with staff and a City consultant, two citizen commissions developed projects designed to, at long last, start chipping away at the impacts of cut-through traffic in our community. These projects were approved by this Council and, in December 2018, adopted by the Arroyo Verdugo Communities Joint Powers Authority (AVCJPA) for implementation with Measure M funds. Over a year later, current staff, unilaterally and without any notice to, or input or involvement by, any member of any commission or this body, elected to drop all but one of the projects and replace them with three wasteful projects which no one outside staff ever requested, considered or approved.

Not only did this action lack transparency, it violated Metro's Measure M Guidelines which require, among other things, public participation in all projects submitted for approval. Here, there was NONE. When the MTIC learned of these changes at our last meeting, we were shocked and outraged. Multiple times, I asked staff how our concerns could be addressed. I was met with either silence or the unapologetic message that it was a done deal and too late. Not a word since. What we were NOT told is that, the following week, these changes would be considered by the AVCPA. South Pas was the ONLY city proposing new projects without citizen support or Council approval. We have a chance at the AVCJPA meeting on 8/6 to right this wrong, but we need Council action before that. Please help.

Thanks,

Larry Abelson

Classification: Public

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This message is intended only for the addressee and may contain confidential, privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, you may not use, copy or disclose any information contained in the message. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail and delete the message.

From: joshraymd@gmail.com
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Item 15 today's meeting
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 11:07:17 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please read aloud.

Regarding the height limits. To the two city council people who are against even considering asking the people of South Pasadena to raise the height limits.

Do you plan on having the City of South Pasadena violate the law about the state mandate requiring that South Pasadena zone for 1,100 affordable units?? Or do you plan on upzoning the single family neighborhoods???

I'm just curious what you guys, specifically council people Schneider and Cacciotti, think will happen when South Pas can't do the state mandate on housing?

Josh Albrekton

Sent from my phone. All spelling mistakes are secondary to autocorrect.

From: [BEVERLY BIBER](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Police uniform patches
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 11:20:57 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To honorable city council:

I'd like to know who, when and why the city decided to remove the patch (flag with thin blue line through it) from police uniforms.

I support the police and believe they serve our community well. Over the years I have found them to be professional and courteous—even when I got a couple speeding tickets or was pulled over for a missing seat belt or tail light.

Maybe some people object to the US flag and think a symbol of it is inappropriate to be worn by official city personnel. Maybe they might also expect the police to stand down if there is an incident at the post office, a school campus or city hall where the flag is displayed !!?? I I don't care what the police wear as long as they do their job.

What's next? Defund the police uniforms!

Thank you

Beverly Biber

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lee Guenveur](#)
To: [CCO](#)
Cc: [City Clerk's Division](#); [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: South Pasadena Police Flag Uniform Patches
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 2:07:53 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear South Pasadena City Council, City Manager and Police Dept Chief Joe Ortiz,

Good day to everyone. We just learned that the South Pasadena Police Dept has removed or will be removing a patch from their uniforms or patrol units, the patch being a flag with a thin blue line through it.

Apparently we hear someone has objected to the emblem and the flag patch is being considered for removal.

While I know some people do not believe the flag should be protected by the police (that thin blue line). I personally oppose removing a patch that has been around for some time in support for our South Pasadena Police officers. We have always been treated with respect by our officers in every contact since the late 1960's.

If the "Thin Blue Line" is removed today, then will the "Thin Red Line" for firefighters be next? Already some idiots in Washingtonville, NY cut down the flagpole this month and desecrated the memorial for FDNY firefighters killed on 9-11-2001 in the World Trade Center attack.

Then on the Independence Day 2020 weekend, on the 168th anniversary of his speech against slavery, a statue of Frederick Douglass, American social reformer, orator, writer, abolitionist, former slave and statesman was toppled from its base and left near the Genesee River at Kelsey's Landing in Rochester. It did not take long, did it?

It is a slippery slope to start down when one item is removed and suddenly a bunch of history is missing because someone is offended.

Perhaps people are offended by public displays of offensive speech and posters around town, however we will defend their right to say and publish their offensive words as long as everyone, including our law enforcement officers and firefighters are protected to voice their ideas and logos.

There are a number of posters in and around South Pasadena public and private areas that are not quite acceptable for polite company, however we are

reminded of that old rhyme from our childhood,

"Sticks and Stones May Break My Bones, But Names Will Never Hurt Me"!

Please keep the "Thin Blue Line and Thin Red Line" flag patch logos.

Thank You in advance,

Lee Guenveur

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Public Comment 7/15/2020 City Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

**Adoption of Resolution Updating the City of South
Pasadena Records Retention Schedule**

1. Joanne Nuckols

From: [Joanne Nuckols](#)
 To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
 Subject: Agenda Item 9 on July 15th City Council Meeting: Records Retention Schedule
 Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:47:06 AM
 Attachments: [image001.png](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please read my comments out loud agenda #9.

I am opposed to any transportation/710 files being destroyed (see below) until someone who is familiar with the city's history on this issue can evaluate the importance of these documents. There could be invaluable information that should be in the library's historic file here, but we don't know? If destroyed, we will never know. Please retain for evaluation.

Joanne Nuckols
 [Redacted]
 [Redacted]

The city's proposed record retention schedule -- it's on pdf page 77 of this agenda packet: <https://www.southpasadenaca.gov/home/showdocument?id=21364>.

Ver. 5.0		RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE: CITY MANAGER								Page CM-6
Office of Record	Retention No.	Records Description	Retention / Disposition						Comments / Reference	
			Active (in office)	Inactive (Records Center)	Total Retention	Vital?	Media Options	Image: I=Import M=Mfr S=Scan		Destroy Paper after Imaged & QC'd?
(OFR)										
<i>If the record is not listed here, refer to the Retention for City-Wide Standards</i>										
<i>Retentions begin when the act is completed, and imply a full file folder (e.g. last document + 2 years), since destruction is normally performed by file folder.</i>										
<i>Litigation, complaints, claims, public records act requests, audits and/or investigations suspend normal retention periods (retention resumes after settlement or completion).</i>										
TRANSPORTATION										
City Manager / Transport.	CM-024	710 Freeway - Other than Historically Significant Records	When No Longer Required - Minimum 2 years		When No Longer Required - Minimum 2 years			Mag, Ppr		Department preference (only records of significant historical value to the City); GC §34090
City Manager / Transport.	CM-025	710 Freeway Historical Files	10 years	P	P			Mag, Mfr, OD, Ppr	S	Yes: After QC & OD Department preference (only records of significant historical value to the City); GC §34090
City Manager / Transport.	CM-026	Bicycle Master Plan	10 years	P	P			Mag, Mfr, OD, Ppr	S	Yes: After QC & OD Department preference; GC §34090
City Manager / Transport.	CM-027	Freeway & Transportation Commission AGENDA PACKETS	When No Longer Required - Minimum 2 years		When No Longer Required - Minimum 2 years			Mag, Ppr		Brown Act challenges must be filed within 30 or 90 days of action; GC §§34090, 54960.1(c)(1)
City Clerk	CM-028	Freeway & Transportation Commission AGENDAS & MINUTES	Copies - When No Longer Required		Copies - When No Longer Required	Yes		Mag, Mfr, OD, Ppr	S	Yes: After 10 years Send all originals to the City Clerk; GC §34090.7
City Manager / Transport.	CM-029	Freeway & Transportation Commission AUDIO RECORDINGS of Meetings -Audio Tapes	30 days, or After Minutes are Adopted, Whichever is Longer		30 days, or After Minutes are Adopted, Whichever is Longer			Tape (Mag)		City preference; State law only requires for 30 days; GC §54953.5(b)

Public Comment 7/15/2020 City Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15

Consideration of Ballot Measures for the November 3, 2020 General Municipal Election

1. Casey Law
2. Ron Rosen
3. Delaine Shane
4. Joanne Nuckols
5. Caroline Quinn
6. Ella Hushagen
7. Meghan Kiser
8. Fiona and Glen Eddy
9. Jan Marshall
10. Tara Kawakami
11. Jack Donovan
12. Kristen Swift
13. Chris Fogel and Jennifer Kale
14. Bill Kelly
15. John Srebalus
16. Jonathan M. Eisenberg
17. Madeline Di Giorgi
18. Victoria Arriola-Monaci

From: [Casey Law](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: City Council Comment
Date: Sunday, July 12, 2020 4:36:55 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

This is a public comment to be read aloud. It is related to agenda item #15 ("Consideration of Ballot Measures for the November 3, 2020 General Municipal Election") in the July 15, 2020 city council meeting.

Dear Council Members,

I ask you to support the recommendation to add three ballot measures to the 2020 General election. I think it is especially important to add the measure related to increasing maximum building height in South Pasadena.

Our city needs increased building height limits to simplify the development of new, quality housing. The integration of housing, working, and transit services will improve quality of life for all of us. Changing the building height limit will help us meet our state housing obligations, increase diversity in our city, and meet the moral obligation to reduce our carbon footprint.

Thank you,
Dr. Casey Law

From: [Ron Rosen](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 15 (July 15 Meeting)
Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:47:43 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Ron Rosen
Item 15
Please Read Aloud

My name is Ron Rosen. That's my real name. I do not send emails to the Council using fake names, as some appear to do. I do not use fake names on the internet. I send emails to the Council when I have

something to say. None of my emails are solicited by members of the Council, as some public comments seem to be. I oppose putting the removal of height limits on the ballot. We need height limits. This town

fought a freeway for 70 years. We should use our spunk and creativity to find solutions to the state's housing mandate both by pushing back and offering alternative ideas to the state about how to meet the

state's housing needs, in ways other than destroying the character of small towns. We do not need to roll over, as some of you are so ready to do. Of course, it's hard to not roll over when city management and

some of our officials are way too cozy with developers. We need leaders who want to preserve the character of the city and to follow the desires of the people. We need leaders we can trust, not people who

scheme behind closed doors then spring things on the public or on commissions at the the last minute. Enough of this.

From: [D. Shane](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#); [Maria Ayala](#)
Cc: [Joanna Hankamer](#); [Margaret Lin](#); [Ed Donnelly 2](#); [Bianca Richards](#); [Elisabeth Emirhanian](#); [ezneimer](#)
Subject: July 15th City Council Meeting: Agenda Item 15: Consideration of Ballot Measures for the November 3, 2020 General Municipal Election: Public Comment: Please Read Out Loud to City Council. Thank you.
Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:45:11 PM
Importance: High

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

Please direct staff to place the renewal of the Utility Users' Tax only on the November ballot. Being the third source of revenue for the City, it is vital that this funding mechanism be renewed.

Please do not support a ballot measure involving the increase of the building height limits. This controversial issue should be discussed within the context of the general plan/specific plan updates process, form-based development code, and the housing element process. We must re-consider the physical needs and growth of the City within, hopefully soon, a post-COVID pandemic world. Business, retail, and commercial spaces contained within tall buildings may no longer be relevant as more people work from home and order essentials through the internet. Affordable housing may also change and not be anchored to mixed use developments. A ballot measure at this stage of the City's planning efforts is premature and counterproductive.

Lastly, please do not support a ballot measure for transient occupancy tax for short-term rentals. In reviewing an Airbnb online map, only 15 short-term rentals are being advertised within the city's limits. This is not a moneymaking operation that the City should waste its time on. And, except for the historic Raymond Hill Hotel that was demolished in 1934, has there ever been a need for a moderately-sized hotel in South Pasadena since that time?

The November 3rd ballot measure should focus on the UUT and not muddy the waters with other measures that could possibly result in the UUT not passing.

Thank you.

Delaine Shane


From: [Joanne Nuckols](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #15
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:39:43 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please read my comments out loud for Agenda Item #15.

I have reviewed the staff report related to the 3 ballot measures proposed for the November ballot: 1) Continuation of the current UUT, 2) Repeal of the current voter initiative from 1983 to restrict commercial building heights to 45' and #3 a bed tax.

I am in favor of #1, the UUT being placed on the ballot, and very much opposed to #2 and #3, in particular repeal of the 45' height limit.

In 1983 if it hadn't been for the fearless opposition to 2 high rise office buildings, one 10 story and one 12 story, across Fair Oaks from Bristol Farms down to MacDonaldis by the Save South Pasadena Committee and a voter initiative put on the ballot that won, we would have unrelenting traffic and a major eye soar at our gateway entrance at the 110.

The citizens of South Pasadena do not want to fight that battle again to save our town from over development. It's a loser and will be highly unpopular to repeal the 45' height limit, just check the chatter on social media the last few weeks!

The UUT is a necessity to continue city services that the community has come to depend upon. And, given this current financial downturn during the pandemic, I don't understand how the city council could even contemplate jeopardizing the passage of the UUT by complicating the ballot with even one unpopular measure that is complex and hard to understand.

Joanne Nuckols



From: [Caroline Quinn](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Re: Council agenda item # 15
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:49:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

-Name: Caroline Quinn
-Agenda # 15
-Please read aloud

We voted to impose a height limit in South Pasadena for a very good reason and under no circumstances do we agree to have this restriction lifted. Please do not put the height limit repeal on the November ballot.

In addition, as long-time residents and business owners of South Pasadena, my family and I protest the scale, height and design of the new building proposed at 710-714 Fair Oaks. A building this size and height will continue to turn our unique and desirable little town into a crowded and unrecognizable city that looks like every other poorly designed, boxy, beige n' brown, soul-destroying streetscape where commercial developers rule over the lives of the local citizens. The extreme height and size of this building is only dwarfed by the increased traffic grid-lock and the outsized greed of those making money out of this awful development that a minority of you wish to impose upon the majority of us.

Thank you for your time.

Caroline Quinn
Set Designer

Art Directors Guild: <https://adg.org/directory/1127-caroline-quinn/>
IMDB: https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0703783/?ref=nm_sr_2?ref=nm_sr_2

From: [Ella Hushagen](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comment Re: Agenda Item No. 15
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 10:34:59 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Agenda Item 15

Please read aloud

I support allowing the voters to decide in November whether to increase the residential building height limit in South Pasadena. The City is required to add more than 1,100 housing units that are affordable for very low and low-income residents in its 2021 housing element update. The City should embrace the requirement and become part of the solution to the affordable housing crisis, which threatens the diversity and vibrancy of our community and causes homelessness numbers to climb year after year.

The City must act as soon as possible to increase the allowable density per acre to bring in affordable housing developers, and to adopt a comprehensive inclusionary zoning ordinance that ensures that the new residential development is truly affordable -- not more luxury housing.

Ella Hushagen

From: [Meghan Kiser](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please read this public comment
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 11:41:42 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please read during the council meeting. This comment is in regards to Agenda item 15.

Dear City Council,

I am very concerned with combining 3 very important issues into 1 topic. These 3 issues are not related and should not be combined into 1 vote. Please vote on Issues #1, #2 and #3 in Agenda Item 15. The UUT, Height limit and Transient Occupancy Tax are important issues and should each have separate discussions as well as separate votes. These should be separate items on the ballot. They should not be combined. They are much too important to our city to be combined in 1 vote.

In regards to the height limit of 45 feet, I ask you to not place on the ballot in November. In 1983, the South Pasadena residents made it clear they did not want anymore buildings above 45 feet in height. Residents were willing to pay a premium to raise their families in this beautiful oasis. I also urge you to take some time to consider the consequences of increasing the height limit and allowing more high density buildings prior to taking action of traffic issues in town. We simply cannot add more density before addressing how to better our traffic flow during peak hours.

Regards,
Meghan Kiser

From: [Fiona and Glen Eddy](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Council Agenda #15
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 11:54:38 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please DO NOT put the height limit repeal on the ballot and keep South Pasadena a livable community. Yes to more affordable housing but DO NOT put the height limit repeal on the ballot.

Thank you

Fiona and Glen Eddy

From: [Jan Marshall](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Michael Cacciotti - Personal](#); [Joanna Hankamer](#); [Ed Donnelly 2](#)
Subject: July 15 City Council Meeting: AGENDA ITEM 15 Please read aloud.
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 11:57:24 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

These are strange times with the pandemic and economic uncertainty. Yet even before Covid-19, there was a growing concern about the lack of transparency at city hall. Most recently, a “confidential” audit conducted two years ago magically appeared, prior to a lawsuit where it would have been exposed. And the lawsuits and legal costs keep mounting. A lot of people are wondering, “What’s going on over at city hall, and what’s my council member doing to protect my town?”

Let’s face it, the city needs the Utility Users’ Tax (UTT) to pass in November. as it is a vital source of revenue. Yet a growing number of residents do not trust the agendas of some council members and our city manager. Why would we vote yes for the UTT when it’s clear that the city is trying to lift building heights at the same time for developers?

That’s why I urge you NOT to support a ballot measure that involves increasing building heights. This is an incredibly controversial issue that should be discussed in the context of the city’s general plan. We need to address affordable housing units first and not the luxury units the planning department has rubber stamped. I love South Pasadena. I do not want to live in downtown Glendale.

In regards to the transit occupancy tax for short-term rentals, this is being proposed without actual data. At one city council meeting Marina Khubesrian said when she googled Airbnb in South Pasadena “Thousands of places came up and I know at least 50 of them are in South Pasadena.” Had she spent another five minutes to look at the map showing where these rentals are located, she would have seen that at that time there were only 15 in the city.

And, the TOT only applies to stays less than 30 days. I know a number of people in my neighborhood who have opened their homes to researchers from the Huntington Library, doctors doing residencies at Keck, and students doing internships at CalTech and JPL. A “bed tax” would not apply to any of these stays. And the responsibility for collecting such a tax would fall on the city. This is essentially a zero-sum proposal.

Please keep the focus of the November 3rd ballot on the UUT, so it has the highest chance of passing. There is just too much at risk.

Thank you.

Jan Marshall


From: [Tara Kawakami](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: comment on agenda item 15 for council meeting 7/15
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 12:00:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My Name is Tara Kawakami. I am submitting a public comment on agenda item #15 to be read out loud at the council meeting.

The South Pasadena citizens of yesterday, today, and tomorrow have many things in common, one of the most important being our love for our community. We value the small community, its character and it's a place we are happy to call home.

We did not move here for the towering buildings and crowded roads. We wanted just the opposite. Any vote by city council to fund a study to repeal the 45 foot building height limit is a vote against what we hold dear in South Pasadena and is a vote against your citizens.

I urge the council to vote 5 to 0. Do not fund this study. Do not put a repeal on the ballot. Do not vote against your community.

Thank you


From: jack_donovanmetals.com
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: July 15 City Council Agenda Item #15
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 12:00:22 PM

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Please read out loud.

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

The Users Utility Tax is too important an issue to be combined with any other issues on the November ballot. Please do not combine with any other issue on the ballot.

Thank you.
Jack Donovan


Sent from my iPad

From: [Kristen Swift](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Height Limits in South Pasadena are a good thing!
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 12:01:24 PM

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Hello. Hope you are having a great day.

I am writing you to ask that you please do NOT put height limits on the ballot for South Pasadena. We don't want to lose our small town charm and that would completely make us lose it.

Thank you so much for your consideration in this matter.

Kristen Swift


From: [Jennifer Kale](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: PLEASE READ ALOUD
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 12:08:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

Our family does not agree to have the height limit restriction lifted. Please do NOT put the height limit repeal on the November ballot.

In addition, as home owners in South Pasadena, we protest the scale, height and design of the proposed new building at 710-714 Fair Oaks. A building this size and height will diminish the charming appeal of South Pasadena, not to mention increase the already heavy traffic on Fair Oaks. We oppose any building of this size.

Thank you for your time,

Chris Fogel and Jennifer Kale



From: [William Kelly](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Fwd: Height Limit Measure for Nov. Ballot
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 12:16:52 PM

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Re: Item 15 on City Council Agenda Tonight:

I urge the city not to shirk the state requirement to zone for more housing, particularly affordable housing. The reality in the Los Angeles metropolitan area is that more affordable housing is needed and more of it should be located along transit lines and in close proximity to shopping and other services. This can help reduce the need for cars and cut emissions of harmful pollutants, particularly if the parking space requirement is reduced from 2 to 1.3 spaces per unit. This would attract residents who want to walk and use transit rather than driving everywhere. Placing a measure on the ballot to lift the current height limit in specified locations to potentially facilitate this will give residents the chance to decide whether increasing density would be beneficial to the community. Hand and hand, the city should develop a strong affordable housing ordinance that covers new developments as soon as possible. Why not decide the question democratically instead of keeping the decision to a few people.

Thanks,
Bill Kelly



--
Bill Kelly



From: [John Srebalus](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comment - Agenda Item #15, July 15, 2020
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 12:52:08 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor and City Council,

There is a statewide housing crisis, and our city is under increasing pressure to meet the objectives set forth in its housing element, including providing much-needed units of affordable housing. To the extent that an increased height limit facilitates meeting these objectives, I support it. I recognize some residents' concerns about preserving small-town character, but I don't believe it has to be one or the other. I would ask folks to consider embracing some additional height in select areas for the sake of your hardworking neighbors struggling in an economy where wages don't keep pace with rents. Anyway, in order to have small-town character, you must have economic diversity.

In any case, putting it to the voters is reasonable as long as the city doesn't advocate on one side of the issue.

On a related note, Airbnb represents an immoral business model harmful to renters and working people, and I don't support endorsing its practices by taxing its ill-gotten gains. Therefore I don't support a transient occupancy tax.

Thanks Much,
John Srebalus

From: [Jonathan Eisenberg](#)
To: [Michael Cacciotti - Personal](#); [Marina Khubesrian](#); [Robert Joe](#); [Diana Mahmud](#); [City Council Public Comment](#); rdschneider@yahoo.com
Cc: [Stephanie DeWolfe](#)
Subject: Ballot Measure on Height Limits for Buildings
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 12:57:12 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear South Pasadena City Councilors,

South Pasadena should want to help alleviate the crises of housing availability and housing affordability in California. In any event, State law compels our city, as well as the other cities in California, to facilitate the building of more housing. Easing the strict height limits on buildings in South Pasadena will give the city a valuable tool for helping to solve the housing problem, and for complying with associated State law.

Therefore, letting South Pasadena voters decide whether to change the local law on building heights is the most appropriate and responsible thing to do. Please support placing on the November 2020 election ballot a measure to that effect.

Thank you,

Jonathan M. Eisenberg
South Pasadena resident since Oct. 2007

From: [Madeline Di Giorgi](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Item 15 on agenda for July 15
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 1:08:39 PM

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Item 15: please read aloud

Madeline Di Giorgi

I urge the council to add the building height limit to the November ballot. If we do not focus on controlling how we adhere to the state's mandated housing requirements, the state will come and do it for us. We all know this would be disastrous. We need to let the whole community, not just the few you may be hearing from tonight, weigh in on this issue. We need to be progressive in our actions, if we wait too long to make decisions we will assuredly face the consequences, and no one in the community wants the latter. Thank you.

From: [Victoria Arriola](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Opposed to multi- story buildings for discussion at City Council meeting July 15, 2020.
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 4:16:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

We have lived in South Pasadena for almost 31 years. Moved here for the schools, the community and the charm.
If you start letting developers in to build to increase city revenue, that will certainly destroy the charm and tapestry.
Multi-story buildings should be limited to the main street - Fair Oaks. . not Mission or El Centro, Orange Grove, Fremont.

This is a quiet town for a reason.. and if you start letting developers take over - we will lose the peacefulness and the value..it will end up like any other place.
.. property value will decrease instead. The quality and aesthetic of these mega buildings built on the cheap will deteriorate quickly as well the quality of living.

I am including a comment from another resident here:
"troubling when one of the Council members says, "Developers are waiting." It's troubling when the consultant for the General Plan is replaced without a satisfactory explanation. It's troubling when someone with previous business relationships with that consultant moves to town and within a few months, is put on the Planning Commission."

These decisions and processes should be made transparent and the residents should have a vote. We live here and pay high taxes to keep it a "slow town" outside of LA outside the fray not be part of it.

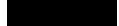
.
PLEASE honor the charm.

Thank you.

--

Victoria Arriola-Monaci

Visual Artist
varriola.com



Creative Director / Art Direction . Design
Fulbright Specialist (Danish School for Media and Journalism 2018)
arriolacreative.com

Adj Professor of Advertising, Design + VisCom
University of Southern California [Annenberg School of Communication and Journalism](#)

'run to the rescue with love and peace will follow'...R. Phoenix