

NAME	GOOD AND WELFARE QUESTIONS – AUGUST 11, 2020	ANSWERS
Noquid Proquo	<p>Please read my comments at Good & Welfare.</p> <p>Regarding the Superblock, I'm still looking for a justification for any kind of PILOT on this project, which I don't think I've really seen. I think [the community has] the same resolve — that if [the developer] wants to build without a government subsidy, have at it; they have approval to do it. But don't use taxpayer dollars. This is not a project going in a blighted area — we're talking about luxury oceanfront apartments. It appears that they're using the PILOT to ensure their profit margin, and it's not our job to put their profit margin on the backs of taxpayers.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. The Nassau IDA's public hearing for this project will be held on Wednesday, August 19th from 3:00-5:00pm and again from 6:30 until there are no more comments. The hearing will be both virtual and in-person at the Allegria Hotel (80 West Broadway, Long Beach, NY 11561). Registration for the virtual element of the hearing can be done through the IDA's website at www.NassauIDA.org</p>
LB Secrets	<p>PLEASE READ THIS AT THE COUNCIL MEETING - residents want their statements read aloud, not buried in a PDF on the website with non-answers.</p> <p>Lord Bendo previously opposed all tax breaks for WEALTHY DEVELOPERS BUILDING LUXURY OCEANFRONT APARTMENTS. Now, he's scrambling and coordinating to sneak it through this month via virtual hearings amidst a pandemic. Mr "Transparency" and his pals on the city council like Judge Igor Mandel who will be granted his wish of leaving the council once this goes through are providing they never stood for anything other than their own personal gain.</p> <p>While we know this will fall on deaf ears, and you won't read it aloud as you are obligated to by law, but we, the Long Beach residents, implore you to tell the IDA that the community does NOT support the obacene tax heist for Engel Burman, and if they absolutely must go through with hearings, they absolutely must wait until after the pandemic. If that means we lose Engel Burman, so be it!</p> <p>Yes, Emperor Kaminsky, Harris Beach, Ingerman Smith, and all the other entities that stand to see significant financial gains from this horrifically corrupt deal will be devastated, but you will actually be fighting for the residents for once in your political career.</p> <p>P.S. When Mandel vacates his position will you be appointing a former paid firefighter, a mega political donor, or a Facebook attack dog, or a combination?</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. The Nassau IDA's public hearing for this project will be held on Wednesday, August 19th from 3:00-5:00pm and again from 6:30 until there are no more comments. The hearing will be both virtual and in-person at the Allegria Hotel (80 West Broadway, Long Beach, NY 11561). Registration for the virtual element of the hearing can be done through the IDA's website at www.NassauIDA.org</p>

Ed Smith	<p>Why won't you simply read the statements we submit? Sometimes all residents want is for their comments to be heard at the city council meeting. At the last meeting, you reduced 50 something comments to saying their names only and promising to bury their thought-out missives somewhere on the website that nobody will see in a couple weeks. How about having the courage to allow these people's emails to be read out loud at the meeting. What your doing is unAmerican, and I hope you will go back and read all 50+ questions/concerns at the next meeting. You don't have to respond to them, but you are obligated by law to verbally read them. That is what is creating a distrust in your administration.</p>	<p>More than 300 questions and or comments have been answered or responded to over the last few months and are posted on the City's website for all residents to see.</p>
Joanna Mosenson	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I would like to propose that Long Beach gets a composting drop off site, or even better, a composting pick up for all residents. Composting is important for many reasons and should be part of our daily routine.</p> <p>Here are some reasons why composting is so important.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It reduces methane emissions from landfills and lowers your carbon footprint. • By using the compost in the city's gardening you reduce or even eliminate the need to purchase fertilizer saving money to the city and it's residents. • It increases soil's ability to retain moisture, thus helping to prevent erosion by reducing runoff. • Compost prevents and suppresses plant diseases and pests. • Composting can help sequester carbon, meaning that composting can help remove carbon from the atmosphere <p>There are so many more benefits to composting and I truly believe the people and the city of Long Beach, as well as the earth will benefit immensely if we adopt this option.</p> <p>Thank you! Joanna Mosenson</p>	<p>Thank you for your suggestion. We will look into the feasibility of this.</p>
Terri Bee	<p>Council members,</p> <p>If this can be read aloud by a clerk at this week's Council meeting as part of good and welfare and at Thursday's IDA hearing, please do so.</p> <p>I have never written an email to the city before. That is to say I am not an unhappy person and I have generally been pleased with the progress that's been made. However, I now write to you for the first time</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. The Nassau IDA's public hearing for this project will be held on Wednesday, August 19th from 3:00-5:00pm and again from 6:30 until there are no more comments. The hearing will be both virtual and in-person at the Allegria Hotel (80 West Broadway, Long Beach, NY 11561). Registration for the virtual element of the hearing can be done through the IDA's website at www.NassauIDA.org</p>

<p>Terri Bee (continued)</p>	<p>because we need answers.</p> <p>There is a long list of people wanting to know why the city council, specifically President Bendo, is now supporting the tax break for Engel Burman on the Superblock. I've seen all of the gossip online about how you and Todd Kaminsky were orchestrating the deal, and I chalked it up to rumor UNTIL I read your quote in Newsday. It seems everything that's been said online was completely true. Project 11561 disappeared and all other pages that typically rabble rouse are silent or feigning displeasure.</p> <p>I know I speak for many when I say we are immensely disappointed not only in the horrific secretive IDA process that the city has supported but especially the complete 180 on PILOTS for oceanfront luxury living from Bendo. We deserve to know what's going on in our city, in our neighborhood, and we deserve to know what happened here. Richard Kessel of the IDA has said if Bendo publicly opposed the PILOT then the tax break would never go through. I urge you -- ALL OF YOU -- to speak out publicly against ANY PILOT for Engel Burman and to do so loudly and swiftly. If you do not scream about the need for TRUE PUBLIC MEETINGS and your complete displeasure with offering this tax break to a greedy developer you are complicit in this deal as the rumors I read on Facebook.</p> <p>I hope you can tell me otherwise. I expect a response from each of you as I took courage and energy to write to you. Again, this is not something I would normally do. I supported you, but after reading President Bendo's statement in Newsday, I have seen a completely different person that the candidate my neighbors and I voted for. If this PILOT goes through, none of you will be re-elected. I promise you that. The tax break is in your hands, the IDA said it themselves. It's up to you. Say no, and it's over.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Terri B.</p>	
<p>Noquid Proquo</p>	<p>Please read this aloud at the council meeting.</p> <p>As much as the Bendo Brigade hates our public comment opportunity and wants to silence all critics, anonymous free speech is protected by the US Constitution. You should read it sometime.</p> <p>Given the limited time for comments, I'll get right down to it. This community has made it abundantly clear, we DO NOT, under any circumstances, support a tax break for developers looking to build luxury oceanfront apartments on the Superblock. It doesn't matter if you negotiated with your consultants to give some</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. The Nassau IDA's public hearing for this project will be held on Wednesday, August 19th from 3:00-5:00pm and again from 6:30 until there are no more comments. The hearing will be both virtual and in-person at the Allegria Hotel (80 West Broadway, Long Beach, NY 11561). Registration for the virtual element of the hearing can be done through the IDA's website at www.NassauIDA.org</p>

<p>Noquid Proquo (continued)</p>	<p>cockamamie presentation labeling the decades-long PILOT that steals tens of millions of dollars from as a "net positive." It's a horrible deal and we urge you to reject it.</p> <p>The Nassau IDA put the ball firmly in your court. There will be no tax break without your endorsement. So a) have you sent a secret letter to the IDA showing significant support b) are you planning yet another mystery emergency city council meeting where you vote on a resolution to back it or c) are you planning to add a nonsense resolution by unanimous consent at a meeting to sneak it through in the most despicable way possible.</p> <p>You, at the very least, recognize that doing this during COVID without public meetings, is an utter disgrace, and your clawback lawsuits that you're waiting to launch with fanfare of a goofy press conference will not fool the masses. The Superblock will sink your careers. Think twice before you destroy our city all to please your Emperor.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Noquid Proquo</p>	
<p>Stacey Weinberg</p>	<p>What measures are used to determine when a beach reaches capacity? Who determines it, how is it communicated? For the safety of all residents, there needs to be a re-evaluation process of current protocol with regards to capacity.</p> <p>This Saturday at Edwards, I felt unsafe with the amount of people at the beach. There was no possible way to maintain the CDC mandated guideline of staying 6 feet apart. It was embarrassing that the city would risk the health and wellness of its residents to make money This unsafe feeling was escalated beyond the social distancing, the beach was too crowded and the burden on the lifeguards was too great.</p> <p>Please reconsider practices to ensure 1) residents have priority, 2) CDC guidelines can be followed, 3) closure and capacity protocols are followed and 4) the demand on lifeguards is not too great to put all at risk</p> <p>Thank you kindly for your time, Stacey Weinberg</p>	<p>(Answered as part of the 7/21/20 City Council Meeting Good & Welfare)</p> <p>Each beach is different in size, so there is no uniform number for beach capacities. Capacity is determined through a collaboration between our Lifeguards and Beach Park staff. When capacity begins approaching a point where those on the beach can no longer safely social distance, that entrance is closed. This became extremely un-manageable during busy weekends when nonresident daily passes were being sold. To remedy this issue, it was announced at the 7/21 Council Meeting that nonresident beach passes would only be sold Monday through Thursday for the remainder of the Summer.</p>
	<p>Dear City Council,</p> <p>On behalf of many many bicyclists (not the unsafe speed racers)we are very saddened and now becoming madden by the weekend bicycle restrictions on the boardwalk. As you know Long Beach is not set</p>	<p>At the 8/13/20 Working Meeting of the City Council, it was announced that weekend boardwalk biking restrictions were lifted. At the same meeting, it was also announced that beach/boardwalk closure policies were not going</p>

<p>Robert Marks</p>	<p>up with legal and proper bike lanes and the boardwalk is the safest place to ride. The restrictions have caused many near fatal accidents with cars. I understand because of the Corona pandemic some restrictions were necessary, however at this time of our recovery with LB reporting zero cases, the boardwalk is the safest place to ride a bicycle, the healthiest activity and the weekend is the least crowded time to ride a bicycle because everyone is on the beach. Furthermore the restriction does not make sense because there are the same amount of people on average, if the people can't ride a bike they walk or run. You have probably noticed the boardwalk is almost completely void of people on a weekend midday because they are sunbathing, if anything there are more people on the boardwalk in the evening going out to dinner or enjoying the sunset. The restrictions can't be related to the Corona virus and social distancing because the people are 100% less distant on a weekend at the beach(I have many photos if maybe you haven't noticed this).</p> <p>I would like to also ask how 90% of the Long Beach residents have to have 90% of Our beach restricted due to a failure to control an angst crowd behaving in proper in the center of town. There are many easy sensible solutions and it is almost 100% unlikely this would happen in our west end or in the east end, because of location for the raucous crowd to access via car parking or walking from the train. Long Beach residents pay the highest taxes to have a few pleasures: watching a beautiful sunset has to be one of the top. To kick our families and kids off the beach at 8 o'clock enjoying a beautiful sunset on Grand Avenue beach or Wyoming or Neptune, absolutely broke us. We have been through so much as a community, a country and as family. These are non sensible restrictions and I could argue as a doctor in many different medical ways, this can not be related to the Virus. I would like to ask that these restrictions be lifted today, as they were put in place in a day. At least allow us to freely ride a bike or at least kick us off the beach at 9 after the sunset. Thank you for listening and I look forward to a quick resolution.</p> <p>Sincerely, Dr Bob</p>	<p>to be lifted at this time due to ongoing concerns about after-hour drownings and the potential for more large parties.</p>
<p>Helen Maley</p>	<p>I have brought this up before but with this storm, I need to bring it up again.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > When the City redid our 600 block on W Market St, they planted trees in the sidewalk between the curb and grass. We didn't want them but the City didn't care and then told us the homeowner is responsible for upkeep. > The tree next to our house has been a problem since it was put in. The roots constantly moved when it was windy. We called Public Works at least three times to report it. One time someone actually came and looked at it and said it was fine. > Today the tree went down in the wind before the storm even hit. We called Public Works again who told us it is the homeowners responsibility. > This is simply not right. We shouldn't be the ones who are required to get rid of a tree the city put in. 	<p>Thank you for your comments. The City's Code of Ordinances states that the maintenance of curb trees is the homeowner's responsibility. We will look into the process the City previously undertook when planting trees throughout the City and if it should be amended moving forward.</p>

<p>Helen Maley (continued)</p>	<p>> I would like this addressed at tomorrow’s council meeting. > > Sincerely, > > Helen Maley</p>	
<p>Robert Saminsky</p>	<p>Questions for Good and Welfare QUESTION #1 There were (2) audit reports from OSC issued to the City of Long Beach in December 2019. Can you please put the “Corrective Action Plans” that the Long Beach City Council submitted to OSC, on the City of Long Beach Government website? QUESTION #2 Now that Governor Cuomo extended video conferencing meetings through August 5, 2020, with the OML and possibly will continue another month into September, how will you engage the residents of Long Beach to participate in the Town Hall Meeting, Ms. Gayden explained in the June,16, 2020 City Council meeting? She said this meeting would take place in August 2020, to explain the budget and the “Multi-Year Plan?” This document has been checked for spelling and grammar. Thank you, Robert Saminsky</p>	<p>The Corrective Action Plans were submitted to the Office of the State Comptroller in April and June. They will be posted on the City’s website shortly. We are looking to hold such a meeting when the Governor’s Executive Order expires.</p>
<p>Robin Donovan</p>	<p>Has the City of Long Beach ever sought to collect the money owed to it by the LGBT Network for the Gay Pride Parade in 2019? Robin Donovan</p>	<p>An invoice for payment was submitted to the organization in 2019.</p>
<p>Teresa Paggi</p>	<p>1. Definitive date for when our local swim team (Long Beach Aquatics) can start utilizing the LB Rec Pool for practice. We are almost 2 weeks into Phase 4 of the re-opening process and the Rec Pool usage is still in limbo while other local pools have already re-opened.</p>	<p>No date has been set for this yet. The pool is currently open to only lap swimming by members. We’re looking into options on how to expand usage.</p>
	<p>Dear Council President Bendo, You were once quoted in the Long Beach Herald as saying about the Superblock:</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. The Nassau IDA’s public hearing for this project will be held on Wednesday, August 19th from 3:00-5:00pm and again from 6:30 until there are no more comments. The hearing will be both virtual and in-person at the Allegria Hotel (80 West Broadway, Long Beach, NY 11561). Registration for the virtual element of the hearing can</p>

<p>Lisa Santinos</p>	<p>“This is not a project going in a blighted area — we’re talking about luxury oceanfront apartments. It appears that they’re using the PILOT to ensure their profit margin, and it’s not our job to put their profit margin on the backs of taxpayers.”</p> <p>Do you still feel this way? I don't care what your financial consultants say. If they want to build, make them pay their fair share just like the rest of us!!</p> <p>I believe tax breaks should not be given to greedy developers.</p> <p>Where's my tax break?</p> <p>Thank you for your time,</p> <p>Lisa</p>	<p>be done through the IDA’s website at www.NassaulDA.org</p>
<p>Albert Albuquerque</p>	<p>Is it legal the way in which the council cancels and reschedules its meetings? Don't they have to vote/publish a calendar of when meetings are occurring? What Bendo does seems totally improper and unlike anything the city has ever done previously.</p> <p>Thank you kindly,</p> <p>A.A.</p>	<p>Please refer to Article 5 of the City Charter.</p>
<p>Carlo M. Fusco, Esq.</p>	<p>Hello all and I hope you are well. I write out of great frustration in the Council’s decision to close the boardwalk at 9:00pm. I’m sure I am not alone in finding this decision to be at the expense of many hard-working residents who work until late evening and look forward to a run, walk or bike on the boardwalk. I am a multi-property owner in Long Beach and this decision has directly and substantially impacted my enjoyment of Long Beach. We have a strong and competent police force that can handle the bad-apples— why ruin it for the hard-working high tax paying residents? Please revisit this decision!</p> <p>Carlo M. Fusco, Esq.</p>	<p>At the 8/13 Working Meeting of the City Council meeting, it was announced that beach/boardwalk closure policies were not going to be lifted at this time due to ongoing concerns about after-hour drownings and the potential for more large parties. This was a collaborative decision made by the City Manager and multiple department heads, include the Police.</p>

	Managing Attorney	
Roy Lester	Good and Welfare - when I asked why Foil requests were not being answered you responded by saying that "A significant number of staff were laid off permanently and there is a backlog of FOI requests due to COVID- related staffing restrictions. Staff are working as quickly as possible to fill said requests." What permanently laid off staff was used to answer FOI requests and what "staff" is now working to answer them?	Staff utilized are dependent upon the FOI request made and the department that houses the information requested. Individuals that were laid off can be found in the City Manager's personnel reports, which are posted on the City's website.