

City Council Meeting | August 26, 2025
eComment Report

AgendaItem	Name	Comment	Position
<p>CONSIDERATION OF REVERTING GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS TO THREE MINUTES PER SPEAKER AND INCLUDING REMOTE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - 25-CCO-032</p>	<p>John Burry</p>	<p>It's ironic that this item has been placed almost at the end of the agenda. Why schedule an item about public comment at a time when it is likely that the fewest members of the public will be able to comment ?</p> <p>The motion last year that reduced public comment last year was carried out after midnight. It was made and pushed through by Jackson and Massey using two fallacious arguments.</p> <p>Firstly, that allowing the public a whole three minutes was the cause of overly long meetings. Plainly nonsense, completely unsupported by the data. Councilmember Jackson might do better to rein in his endless prepared speeches before blaming the residents again.</p> <p>Secondly, that allowing remote general public comment would result in our meetings being hijacked by bad actors from out of town. It happened once, and the mute button exists in the event of it happening again. To punish general public participation as a response is a gross overreach and does nothing to support local democracy.</p> <p>In the past year, we have had several instances of organized 'protest' by out of town unions that have soaked up public comment and meeting time. We have also seen City Manager and Police Chief reports become longer and longer, meaning that the start time of General Public comment has become completely unpredictable.</p> <p>Since the appointments of Interim City Manager Steve Napolitano and Police Chief Phillips, these reports have become more reasonable in length, but all councilmembers and city staff should remember that public participation is a right, not a privilege, and it should be respected rather than minimized.</p> <p>Engagement by the public in city business should be celebrated - we should seek to broaden it where possible, and to make it as simple as we can.</p> <p>With regard to online general public comment, you should remember that there are members of the community who find it difficult to attend in person. Some for reasons of disability, and some simply because of child care and busy schedules. Show them the respect that they deserve.</p> <p>And finally, you might do well to remember that it can be difficult to frame a complex argument in just two minutes, especially for those unaccustomed to speaking in public. Councilmembers give themselves unlimited time to make their own arguments - maybe you should try putting yourselves under the same pressure.</p>	<p>For</p>

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PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES - 25-CR- 061	Anthony Higgins	<p>Dear City Council,</p> <p>The Planning Commission and City Council meeting agenda always include a Future Agenda items calendar.</p> <p>The parks commission has many items that should be listed on a future agenda items calendar like dog parks, pools, additional pickleball courts, the approval if their new management software, upcoming contract negotiations and on and on.</p> <p>obviously maintaining a future agenda items calendar is a best practice</p> <p>i hope this consistency can be achieved across all council & commission meetings</p> <p>thanks th</p>	Against
PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES - 25-CR- 061	Anthony Higgins	<p>Dear City Council,</p> <p>In addition to the reasons cited in my earlier post, there is one more reason i believe all council and commission meeting agendas should include a future agenda items calendar.</p> <p>The agenda can come out as little as 72 hours before the meeting.</p> <p>Since the parks commission meeting excludes a future agenda items calendar it doesn't allow residents nor the commissioners the best opportunity to adequately prepare. 72 hours advance notice is simply not enough, especially since many times the date the future agenda item will be heard is known many months in advance.</p> <p>There is simply no good reason i can think of for the city council and planning commission to have future agenda items tentatively scheduled for hearings AND for the parks commission not to do the same.</p> <p>It would also allow commissioners and the public to push for earlier hearing dates if warranted.</p> <p>Consistency matters.</p> <p>Thanks th</p>	No Position

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PUBLIC COMMENT	Robert Aronoff	<p>Now that election fairness has almost everyones attention, there is no better time to consider Rank Choice Voting (RCV). Hermosa Beachs current election proceduees deprive voters of meaningful choices, create increasingly toxic campaign cycles, advance candidates who lack broad support. It leaves voters feeling like their voices are not heard. Ranked Choice Voting is the solution.</p> <p>Ranked choice voting (RCV) makes our elections better by allowing voters to rank candidates in order of preference.</p> <p>RCV is straightforward: Voters have the option to rank candidates in order of preference: first, second, third and so forth. If your first choice doesnt have a chance to win, your ballot counts for your next choice.</p> <p>RCV works in all types of elections and supports more representative outcomes. RCV means better choices, better campaigns, and better representation.</p> <p>RCV reduces problems like vote-splitting, so-called spoiler candidates and unrepresentative outcomes that can arise when more than two candidates run for a single position.</p> <p>With RCV, voters can sincerely rank candidates in order of preference. Voters know that if their first choice doesnt win, their vote automatically counts for their next choice instead. This frees voters from worrying about how others will vote and which candidates are more or less likely to win.</p>	For
PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES - 25-CR-061	Howard Lee	<p>This item's Attachment-1 has an esoteric title "PR Minutes 7-01-2025 - 25-CR-061.pdf". The correct file of this attachment should simply be "Staff Report with Recommendation". Commission agendas seem to identify the Staff Report correctly however Council Agendas do not. This is very confusing to the public. Kindly correct in the future.</p>	-
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 25-CCO-034	Howard Lee	<p>This item's Attachment-1 has a meaningless esoteric title for the Public viewing same. The correct file of Attachment-1 should simply be "Staff Report with Recommendation" to remind the public to perhaps review the "Staff report". Also somewhere on the agenda it should clearly indicate to Click or Tap on each item to be sure to be aware that there is a Staff Report and or public eComments. Having the tiny meaningless eScribe icons is insufficient for the lay public not regularly viewing agendas. Thank You.</p>	-

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CHECK REGISTERS - 25-AS-066	Howard Lee	<p>This item's Attachment-1 also has a meaningless, esoteric title for the Public viewing same.</p> <p>The correct file of Attachment-1 should simply be "Staff Report with Recommendation" to remind the public to perhaps review the "Staff report".</p> <p>Essentially every item on this agenda also has a meaningless title for the items Attachment-1. Attachment-1 of each item should clearly be labeled as the STAFF REPORT. Ive heard people read me the agenda items text and asking what it meant. They had ZERO idea that there was a Staff Report. Hopefully this is not intentional to hide the Staff Reports from the public. The Staff Report for each item needs to be clearly identified as it was years ago.</p> <p>Also somewhere on the agenda it should clearly indicate for the public to Click or Tap on each item to be sure to be aware that there is a Staff Report, other materials, and or public eComments. Having the tiny meaningless eScribe icons is insufficient for the lay public who may not regularly be viewing agendas. Thank You.</p>	-
LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE AND AMBULANCE MONTHLY REPORT FOR MAY 2025 - 25-CMO-052	Howard Lee	<p>This significant item's Attachment-1 additionally has a meaningless, esoteric title for the Public viewing same.</p> <p>Why is this Attachment-1 clearly labeled as the Staff Report?</p> <p>The correct file of Attachment-1 should simply be "Staff Report with Recommendation" with or without additional wording to remind the public to perhaps review the "Staff report".</p> <p>Essentially every item on this agenda also has a meaningless title for the items Attachment-1. Attachment-1 of each item should clearly be labeled as the STAFF REPORT. Ive heard people read me the agenda items text and asking what it meant. They had ZERO idea that there was a Staff Report. Hopefully this is not intentional to hide the Staff Reports from the public. The Staff Report for each item needs to be clearly identified as it was years ago.</p> <p>□</p> <p>Also somewhere on the agenda it should clearly indicate for the public to Click or Tap on each item to be sure to be aware that there is a Staff Report, other materials, and or public eComments. Having the tiny meaningless eScribe icons is insufficient for the lay public who may not regularly be viewing agendas. Thank You.</p>	-

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<p>ADOPT TWO RESOLUTIONS AND RATIFY THE EMERGENCY CONTRACT FOR THE SINKHOLE AND STORM DRAIN REPAIRS ON VALLEY DRIVE - 25-PW-049</p>	<p>Howard Lee</p>	<p>Council, City Clerk, Staff and others:</p> <p>This significant item's Attachment-1 additionally has a meaningless, esoteric title for the Public viewing this agenda and this item, if the public even becomes aware there are attachments to this item, of which they won't know if they don't actually click or tap on the item.</p> <p>Why is this items Attachment-1 not clearly labeled as the Staff Report?</p> <p>The correct tile of Attachment-1 should simply be "Staff Report with Recommendation" with or without additional wording as desired, and to remind the public to perhaps review the "Staff report".</p> <p>Essentially every item on this agenda also has a meaningless title for its Attachment-1.</p> <p>Attachment-1 of each item should clearly be labeled as the STAFF REPORT. Ive heard people read me the agenda items text and asking what it meant. They had ZERO idea that there was a Staff Report. Hopefully this is not intentional to hide the Staff Report(s) from the public. The Staff Report for each item needs to be clearly identified as it was in the past.</p> <p>☐</p> <p>Also somewhere on the agenda it should clearly indicate for the public to Click or Tap on each item to be sure to be aware that there is a Staff Report, other materials, and or public eComments. Having the tiny meaningless eScribe icons is insufficient for the lay public who may not regularly be viewing agendas.</p> <p>Thank You. Howard Lee</p>	<p>-</p>

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ADOPT TWO RESOLUTIONS AND RATIFY THE EMERGENCY CONTRACT FOR THE SINKHOLE AND STORM DRAIN REPAIRS ON VALLEY DRIVE - 25-PW-049	Howard Lee addendum	<p>Due to an additional defect in the system, my prior comment, (following this comment) does not completely display in the yellow background pop-up. It does not scroll or anything. The viewer sees only part of the comment. It's necessary to click on the comment to then get a small popup window which is very difficult to read the text within but which has scroll bars. This needs to be improved for the public's ability to view agendas and read materials from same, especially on tablets and phones. I am using a desktop with large monitors and it's difficult to utilize this poorly designed interface. Sorry but it's awful. The Staff and Council may be seeing a different viewing version than the public is forced to see. The public should come first.</p> <p>I've noticed other eComments that were truncated in prior agendas. If a pop-up yellow background text window is to work it needs to have a scroll function for the public not just end displaying the comment as if that was the entire comment.</p> <p>The eComments would far better be posted in chronological order. Last one in, then appearing at the end, etc.</p>	-
PUBLIC COMMENT	Howard Lee	<p>Council, City Clerk, Staff and others:</p> <p>Council Resolutions, all of them, originals, amended, etc., all of them, all of them, all of them, going way, way back need to all be placed on the City's website by number order, for the public as well as the major search robots, Google, etc., to access. The council enacts, or amends Resolutions at almost every meeting.</p> <p>I actually heard a councilmember state once that they don't want to know about Resolutions that are present for fear they would expose something they or someone was doing wrong.</p> <p>A prior city attorney who wrote an adopted Resolution regarding council-meeting policy sat quietly but while a later council went on to violate that Resolution. It's time for all adopted Council Resolutions to come from out from the shadows and deep holes at City Hall and be posted where the public can review them as desired; and where they can also be easily accessed by staff and the council members. Stop hiding Council Resolutions, and for that matter stop adopting so many willy-nilly.</p> <p>They are typically numbered by a year-number followed by a dash number.</p> <p>Thank You. Howard Lee</p>	-

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<p>LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE AND AMBULANCE MONTHLY REPORT FOR MAY 2025 - 25-CMO- 052</p>	<p>Howard Lee Typo Correctio n</p>	<p>RESUBMITTING TO Include the missing word "NOT" below. Thank You.</p> <p>This significant item's Attachment-1 additionally has a meaningless, esoteric title for the Public viewing same.</p> <p>Why is this Attachement-1 NOT clearly labeled as the Staff Report?</p> <p>The correct tile of Attachment-1 should simply be "Staff Report with Recommendation" with or without additional wording to remind the public to perhaps review the "Staff report".</p> <p>Essentially every item on this agenda also has a meaningless title for the items Attachment-1. Attachment-1 of each item should clearly be labeled as the STAFF REPORT. Ive heard people read me the agenda items text and asking what it meant. They had ZERO idea that there was a Staff Report. Hopefully this is not intentional to hide the Staff Reports from the public. The Staff Report for each item needs to be clearly identified as it was years ago.</p> <p>□</p> <p>Also somewhere on the agenda it should clearly indicate for the public to Click or Tap on each item to be sure to be aware that there is a Staff Report, other materials, and or public eComments. Having the tiny meaningless eScribe icons is insufficient for the lay public who may not regularly be viewing agendas. Thank You.</p>	<p>-</p>

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PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES - 25- CDD-110	Scott Hayes	<p>Honorable Members of the Hermosa Beach City Council,</p> <p>I am writing to respectfully request that you reconsider Item 7.a from the July 28th Special Planning Meeting Minutes. I believe the Planning Commission did not adequately address the parking requirements for the proposed project at 54 Hermosa Avenue.</p> <p>The project is a mixed-use development with ground-floor commercial space and two residential units on the upper levels. One of the residential units is designated as an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU), a designation that effectively exempts it from the parking and open space requirements that a standard two-unit building would face. As a result, this project will only provide three of the five parking spaces that would be required under a conventional two-unit classification. While I understand that this is largely a result of the State's ADU legislation, its application in this instance will result in a significant parking shortfall that negatively affects the public.</p> <p>Furthermore, I contend that Section 1, Item 4 of Resolution 25-09 is inaccurate in its assertion that the project's characteristics are "compatible with the existing and reasonably foreseeable future land uses and circulation in the vicinity." The approved commercial space is designated as retail, yet the predominant use of neighboring properties is office space. Properties at 30, 34, 44, and 60 Hermosa Avenue are all approved for office space. It is a reasonable and foreseeable that the commercial space at 54 Hermosa Avenue will be occupied by an office tenant, a use that necessitates additional parking.</p> <p>There are 5 parking spaces next door at 60 Hermosa Ave and it is a single residential unit with only 3 bedrooms and a smaller commercial space. The commercial spaces at 30, 34, and 44 Hermosa Ave have a total of 7 parking spaces in addition to the spaces reserved for the residents.</p> <p>If this project is permitted to proceed as currently approved, it will introduce two residential units with a total of four bedrooms and nearly 1,000 square feet of commercial space, all served by only three on-site parking spaces. This deficit will inevitably force residents, visitors, and customers to use the already scarce street parking, negatively impacting the quality of life for nearby residents.</p> <p>I urge the City Council to review this project and require that parking be provided to adequately accommodate the reasonably foreseeable future use of the commercial space. It is critical that this issue be addressed now. If the project is built as currently shown and an office tenant moves in, the City will have no recourse to force the Owner to install additional parking.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration of this critical matter.</p> <p>Scott Hayes</p>	Against

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CONSIDERATION OF REVERTING GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS TO THREE MINUTES PER SPEAKER AND INCLUDING REMOTE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - 25-CCO-032	Justin Massey	Mr. Mayor & Council: This is a performative solution in search of a problem. Remote comment was introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic when the public could not attend Council meetings in person. There is no credible argument that the general public benefits by extending Council meetings with three-minute remote general comments (that is, comments on matters NOT on the meeting agenda) that can be made by e-Comment, in person at the meeting, or by writing or calling Councilmembers or the City.	Against

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PUBLIC COMMENT	Justin Massey	<p>Mr. Mayor:</p> <p>I respectfully request that you cure and correct the Council's consideration of the agreement with Kiwanis for the tree lot at the Community Center.</p> <p>On July 22, 2025, you pulled the Kiwanis agreement from the consent calendar, advocated for waiving storage fees for Kiwanis (without a prior request to or report from City staff), and deliberated on and voted for the fee waiver, all without disclosing your role as a board member and president-elect of Kiwanis.</p> <p>Disclosure of Councilmembers' personal interests in items before the Council is often required by the Brown Act and helps ensure the public trusts that the Council manages the City's affairs for the benefit of the entire community, rather than for the benefit of those with close relations to or shared interests with Councilmembers.</p> <p>Whether or not your actions were inadvertent, your actions regarding the Kiwanis agreement could cause your constituents to question whether the fee waiver serves the community.</p> <p>I request that you cure and correct this Council action, by bringing it back for reconsideration with disclosure of your interests in Kiwanis and a staff report on the pros and cons of the requested fee waiver for this commercial activity by Kiwanis. Doing so will benefit the Council and the constituents it serves.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>	No Position