

From: [Jason Baltimore](#)
To: [Lisa Nichols](#)
Subject: FW: Formal Demand to Cure and Correct Government Code section 54960.1
Date: Monday, April 6, 2026 9:11:05 AM

FYI



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From: Anna Liza Garcia <socal.allee@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2026 3:19 PM
To: citycouncil@hermosabeach.gov
Cc: snapolitano@hermosabeach.gov; anny@hermosabeach.gov; Jason Baltimore <Jason.Baltimore@bbklaw.com>; lnichols@hermosabeach.gov; bsousa@hermosabeach.gov
Subject: Formal Demand to Cure and Correct Government Code section 54960.1
Formal Demand to Cure and Correct Government Code section 54960.1
Date: March 30, 2026
To: Hermosa Beach City Council
Attn: Ann Yang, Interim City Clerk & Jason Baltimore, Interim City Attorney
Re: Alleged Brown Act Violation and Request to Cure and Correct Item 26-PR-015 (Kelly Courts)

Dear Mayor, Councilmembers, and Staff:

Thank you for your continued commitment to supporting and truly listening to residents. I share Councilmember Jackson's view that a clear, consistent, and transparent governance process is essential for building trust and collaboration within our community. I also appreciated the Council's March 24 decisions to extend pickleball court hours, adopt use policies, and fund a 2026 professional sound study. As Mayor Detoy noted, accurately measuring court distances to nearby homes and understanding sound impacts are important steps. The study of the newly renovated courts will provide valuable insight to guide future decisions and help protect both the City and residents alike.

At the same time, I would like to respectfully raise a concern regarding Brown Act non-compliance related to the March 24 City Council meeting.

Alleged Brown Act Violation

The posted agenda for Item 26-PR-015 focused on:

- Modifications to pickleball court use policies
- Options to adjust hours of operation.

There was no reference to fee increases.

At the March 24 meeting, however, the Council approved fee increases to:

- The annual resident pickleball membership fee, from \$19 to \$25 (a 32% increase)
- The hourly pickleball court fee, from \$9 to \$15 (a 67% increase).

Because these fee increases were not described in the posted agenda item, the public did not receive fair notice that such action would be considered. Under Government Code section 54954.2, agenda descriptions must provide a brief general description of the business to be transacted, and the agenda here did not reasonably describe any fee action.

The California Attorney General’s 2003 Brown Act Manual (<https://share.google/TgPOeS76vrT8JkaiU>) confirms (p. 16) that “the purpose of the brief general description is to inform interested members of the public about the subject matter under consideration so that they can determine whether to monitor or participate in the meeting of the body.” Notably, neither the agenda nor the supporting materials—including the attachments and staff presentation—contained any reference to proposed fee increases, leaving no reasonable basis for the public to anticipate that such action would be considered.

Accordingly, the fee increase action was not properly agendized as required by the Brown Act.

Impact

The lack of advance notice likely contributed to the audience reaction in Council Chambers, particularly as the fee increases were discussed after public comment had closed, limiting residents’ opportunity to provide input. It also limited staff’s ability to prepare comparative analysis or supporting context

Opportunity

With proper notice, the discussion could have included:

- Comprehensive comparisons with pickleball court fee structures in El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, and Redondo Beach.
- Alignment between Hermosa Beach pickleball and tennis annual membership and hourly rates.
- Priority court reservations for residents, for example, four days in advance, with the possibility of non-resident reservations opening three days prior at higher rates, similar to Manhattan Beach.
- A simple open-play option, for example, \$5 for two -hour sessions or \$10 per day, with participant names posted at the courts.

Hermosa Beach has an opportunity to develop a fee structure that is expanded, and aligned with neighboring cities, including a possible resident-versus-non-resident pricing model.

Request

With respect, I request that the City Council:

1. Cure and correct the March 24, 2026 action by declaring the fee increases approved under Item 26-PR-015 null and void.
2. Re-agendize any proposed fee changes with clear and specific notice to the public.
3. Review agenda practices to ensure that future items clearly disclose any proposed fee increases or other substantive fiscal actions.

This request is made in good faith and with appreciation for your service. I believe we all share the same goal: ensuring that City decisions are transparent, well-informed, and consistent with the Brown Act’s open-meeting principles—while fostering a thriving

community built on collaboration and active resident engagement.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Anna Garcia