

# City Council Regular Meeting - August 18, 2020

Meeting Time: 08-18-20 18:00

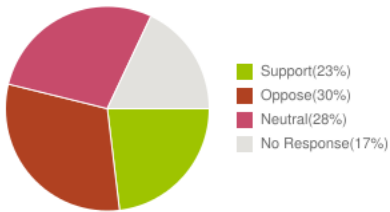
## eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
City Council Regular Meeting - August 18, 2020	08-18-20 18:00	40	39	9	12	11

### Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

#### Overall Sentiment



# City Council Regular Meeting - August 18, 2020

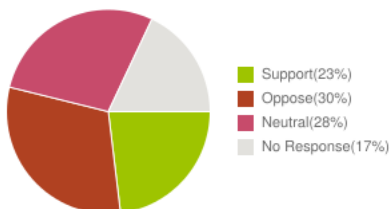
08-18-20 18:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
E. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 MINUTES PER PERSON)	2	2	0	0
4. City Council to Consider Additional Measures to Address COVID-19.	2	1	0	1
8. 20-0218 Consideration of City Council's Intention to Provide for Annual Levy and Collection of Assessments for the Downtown Business Improvement District and Setting September 15, 2020, for a Public Hearing (Finance Director Charelian). a) ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-0095 b) SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE TO SEPTEMBER 15, 2020	1	0	0	1
10. 20-0266 Consideration of Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Agreement with Onward Engineering for Additional Design Services for the Manhattan Beach Boulevard and Sepulveda Boulevard Intersection Improvement Project at a Cost Not-to-Exceed \$77,035 (Public Works Director Katsouleas). ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-0098	1	0	0	1
11. 20-0064 Selection and Approval of Artist for the City Hall Lobby Public Art Project and Disbursement of Funds from the Public Art Trust Fund (Parks and Recreation Director Mark Leyman). a) APPROVE b) AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACT c) DISBURSE FUNDS	1	0	0	1
12. 20-0236 Receive Update on Gas-Powered Landscape Equipment and Recommendations from the Sustainability Task Force (Community Development Director Tai). DISCUSS AND PROVIDE DIRECTION	1	0	0	1
15. 20-0143 Consider Request by Councilmember Hersman and Councilmember Napolitano to Discuss the History and 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment and Women's Constitutional Right to Vote (City Clerk Tamura). DISCUSS AND PROVIDE DIRECTION	3	2	0	1
16. 20-0254 Consider Request by Councilmember Hersman and Councilmember Stern to Discuss the History of Bruce's Beach (City Manager Moe). RECEIVE REPORT	28	4	12	5

## Sentiments for All Agenda Items

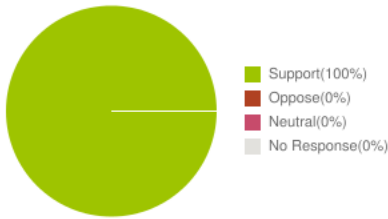
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### Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for E. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 MINUTES PER PERSON)

Overall Sentiment



**Elizabeth Keller**

Location:

Submitted At: 2:32pm 08-18-20

Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson must be included in any discussion about Bruce's Beach to obtain a full understanding of the history - she is the foremost expert in the subject. The city must engage with her on her terms - she is the expert and her services should be compensated accordingly. Additional efforts should be made to include her in the conversation. I support restitution for the descendants of the Bruces, a public statement from the city accepting responsibility, and an updated plaque.

**Monique Bolsajian**

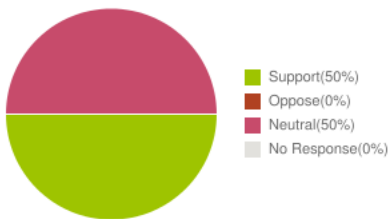
Location:

Submitted At: 2:14pm 08-18-20

Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson must be included in any discussion about Bruce's Beach to obtain a full understanding of the history - she is the foremost expert in the subject. The city must engage with her on her terms - she is the expert and her services should be compensated accordingly. Additional efforts should be made to include her in the conversation. I support restitution for the descendants of the Bruces, a public statement from the city accepting responsibility, and an updated plaque.

Agenda Item: eComments for 4. City Council to Consider Additional Measures to Address COVID-19.

Overall Sentiment



**Kim Muller**

Location:

Submitted At: 3:36pm 08-18-20

When will Council fix EO 14 You did zero on 8/4 after Ms. Hadley walked away from her responsibility with Ms. Stern to remedy the mistake. 4 day enforcement on sat/sun, & two mystery days is a joke and an insult to all of us who have stayed home going on 6 months because it's not safe. how do i know which days are "safe?" we are smaller than HB, yet they enforce 7 days. Why must i stay home so others can enjoy their "freedom," what about mine? When can I go for walks on the beach. Do your jobs!

## Gary Osterhout

Location:

Submitted At: 1:06pm 08-17-20

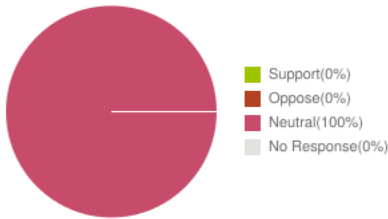
It is time to stop this generalized "consider additional measures" treatment without outlining specifics. The background on recent decisions involving downtown meters and time limits was never posted, despite a subcommittee apparently advancing formal recommendations. One of you--at least--needs to be a Brown Act champion.

Agenda Item: eComments for 8. 20-0218 Consideration of City Council's Intention to Provide for Annual Levy and Collection of Assessments for the Downtown Business Improvement District and Setting September 15, 2020, for a Public Hearing (Finance Director Charelian).

a) ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-0095

b) SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE TO SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

### Overall Sentiment



## Gary Osterhout

Location:

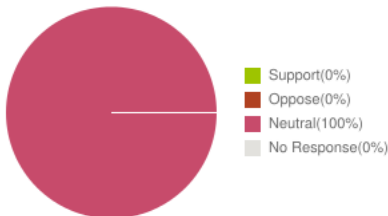
Submitted At: 1:10pm 08-17-20

It is again obvious that the city's allowing below market rents for the Farmers Market--an unrelated business in respect to the downtown merchants' organization. This is what allows the DBBPA to fund their lobbyist, or for the city to subsidize the downtown businesses otherwise. There's politics involved here. And, again, the "budget" presentation is a pretty weak "budget presentation," particularly for a business organization.

Agenda Item: eComments for 10. 20-0266 Consideration of Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Agreement with Onward Engineering for Additional Design Services for the Manhattan Beach Boulevard and Sepulveda Boulevard Intersection Improvement Project at a Cost Not-to-Exceed \$77,035 (Public Works Director Katsouleas).

ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-0098

### Overall Sentiment



## Gary Osterhout

Location:

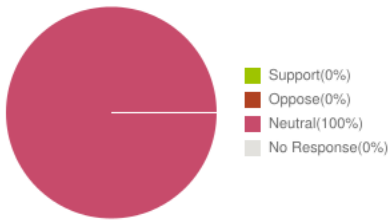
Submitted At: 1:13pm 08-17-20

Are we actually going to get a 2 left turn lane configuration here during my lifetime? How many years has this been? (I remember this being discussed during Steve Napolitano's first series of council terms).

Agenda Item: eComments for 11. 20-0064 Selection and Approval of Artist for the City Hall Lobby Public Art Project and Disbursement of Funds from the Public Art Trust Fund (Parks and Recreation Director Mark Leyman).

- a) APPROVE
- b) AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACT
- c) DISBURSE FUNDS

Overall Sentiment



### Gary Osterhout

Location:

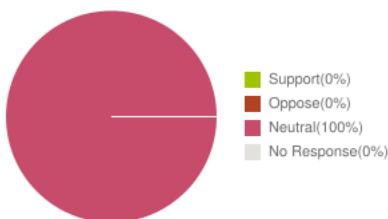
Submitted At: 1:20pm 08-17-20

A pity that de Sousa was compelled to change the design to "ncorporate images of Manhattan Beach and the City Logo into the design." But this is consistent with City Hall's "look at me" attitude and marketing orientation.

How short-sighted of Michaelangelo not to incorporate Florence's city logo in his artwork.

Agenda Item: eComments for 12. 20-0236 Receive Update on Gas-Powered Landscape Equipment and Recommendations from the Sustainability Task Force (Community Development Director Tai).  
DISCUSS AND PROVIDE DIRECTION

Overall Sentiment



### Gary Osterhout

Location:

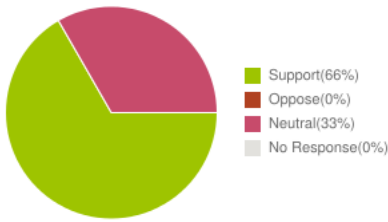
Submitted At: 1:34pm 08-17-20

Ban leafblowers. Period. The service is unnecessary, loud, blows dust, and there are effective substitutes (brooms/rakes) when really needed. Climate change requires less consumption. Electric insignificantly decreases noise. Blowers add to overall maintenance noise, and different than mowers are used higher & longer. The high pitch & constant volume changes are grating. Very obvious during my 3 mos WFH, where blowers were more grating than construction. Also, increase code enforcement.

Agenda Item: eComments for 15. 20-0143 Consider Request by Councilmember Hersman and Councilmember Napolitano to Discuss the History and 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment and Women's Constitutional Right to Vote (City Clerk Tamura).

DISCUSS AND PROVIDE DIRECTION

Overall Sentiment



**Alissa Marquis**

Location:

Submitted At: 2:28pm 08-18-20

Willa Bruce should be at the top of MB's List of Laudable Women. Mrs. Bruce bought and held the family property in her name, at a time when few women of any color did so. She supervised construction and managed a highly successful business in the early 1900s even before she as a Black woman had the right to vote. Bob Brigham and Dr Alison Rose Jefferson agree: Willa Bruce was a true American Pioneer!

**Catherine Coan**

Location: 90266, Manhattan Beach

Submitted At: 1:07pm 08-18-20

We should absolutely celebrate this essential advancement of democracy. Thank you!

**Gary Osterhout**

Location:

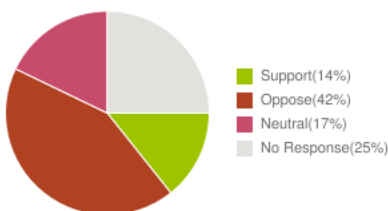
Submitted At: 1:35pm 08-17-20

Doesn't merit a street banner; but then, little does.

Agenda Item: eComments for 16. 20-0254 Consider Request by Councilmember Hersman and Councilmember Stern to Discuss the History of Bruce's Beach (City Manager Moe).

RECEIVE REPORT

Overall Sentiment



**Cecelia Allen**

Location:

Submitted At: 5:28pm 08-18-20

The city council cannot pass up the opportunity for Dr. Jefferson to provide the city with a history of what happened to Bruce's Beach and must continue to pursue her services. The current plaque must be updated, the city must reinstate the land to the Bruce descendants, and pay for the losses incurred since it was wrongfully stolen from them.

### **Montie Taylor**

Location:

Submitted At: 3:56pm 08-18-20

I doubt that Dr. Jefferson can deliver enough new info to justify a \$2K payday. I think we can all agree that the council can provide a link to the definitive Bob Brigham thesis so those interested can read it. I'm all for a truthful plaque and a truthful history. But against restitution and reparations for a legal action that took place a century ago. It's wrong to hold today's residents and those still not born responsible, trying to saddle them with a punishing taxable event.

### **thomas chang**

Location:

Submitted At: 2:43pm 08-18-20

Activist Kavon Ward, advocate for the Bruce's and friend of Dr Jefferson. Because of her ties Dr Jefferson can not present a fair discussion. A city employee/attorney can present Council minutes regarding eminent domain; Declaration of Necessity; Notice of Taking by Eminent Domain and initial Offer; Court file and litigation; Deeds. Activists from outside should not determine how the city proceeds. We are a nation of laws.. For those who want reparations give your money away to right any wrongs.

### **Alissa Marquis**

Location:

Submitted At: 2:09pm 08-18-20

I urge Council to take tangible steps to heal the injustice that created Bruce's Beach Park. We as a city need to face this for the good of our souls and the soul of our beloved City.

Lets move the conversation from monetary to educational reparation and use Bruce's Beach to educate about the history of Black beachgoing. Let's bring Dr Jefferson into the conversation and learn from her.

MB is known for our excellent education, so let's use Bruce's as a springboard for racial justice education.

### **Catherine Coan**

Location: 90266, Manhattan Beach

Submitted At: 1:12pm 08-18-20

We need to look directly at this history and finally come out explicitly supporting this family and all Black families in our community. YES to Dr. Jefferson, YES to accurate historical representation, YES to all attempts to make this abomination right.

### **Jonathan Chapman**

Location:

Submitted At: 12:31pm 08-18-20

Once again, I underscore the importance of any settlement with families displaced by the discredited eminent domain seizure at Bruce's Beach include return of title to those dispossessed. Anything short of that could only be seen as an empty and inconsequential gesture. If anything, such a settlement could worked to the detriment of the city and council.

Thank you for your time.

### **Kenzie Packer**

Location:

Submitted At: 12:22pm 08-18-20

Addressing the authentic history of Bruce's Beach is, without a doubt, a necessary step to be taken by the city of Manhattan beach; but, it requires engaging in conversations with individuals well-versed in the topic. Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson can be consulted as someone whose expertise is guaranteed to provide a complete understanding of the true history. I fully support reparations for the descendants of Bruce, as well as alterations to the current (inadequately informed) plaque.

## **Jaya Loharuka**

Location:

Submitted At: 12:11pm 08-18-20

Dr Jefferson must be consulted instead of having a biased city employee. I e must support the petition calling for a new, accurate plaque, a public statement from the city, and most importantly, restitution and restoration of the land to the Bruce Family.

## **Alison Chavez**

Location:

Submitted At: 8:05am 08-18-20

This is an opportunity for all Manhattan Beach citizens to hear our tragic and shameful history. It is but a small first step in making amends, somehow, to the Bruce family, and taking responsibility for our past by changing how we do things today. The controversy surrounding the eminent domain seizure of the Bruce property has pulled back our mask of civility, to reveal a systematic practice and attitude of covert racism in our beautiful serene beach community. We have a lot of work to do.

## **Elise Johnson**

Location:

Submitted At: 5:49pm 08-17-20

Not only should Dr. Jefferson be consulted (as she is the leading living expert on this subject), Council might also reaching out to a Bruce descendant such as Dr. Robynn Cox, a professor at USC. robynnc@usc.edu.

## **Kaitlyn McQuown**

Location:

Submitted At: 5:01pm 08-17-20

Historical documents should be consulted, but the discussion of Bruce's Beach is not complete with a report done by a city employee in lieu of a presentation by Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson, the living expert on this history. The city must come to an agreement to include Dr. Jefferson: she must be compensated appropriately for her extensive research. Without her, we can't have a common understanding to determine how to heal and move forward. The City should also engage the Bruce family directly.

## **No Reparations 4BrucesBeach**

Location:

Submitted At: 5:00pm 08-17-20

Activist Kavon Ward, advocate for the Bruce's and friend of Dr Jefferson. Because of her ties Dr Jefferson can not present a fair discussion. A city employee/attorney can present Council minutes regarding eminent domain; Declaration of Necessity; Notice of Taking by Eminent Domain and initial Offer; Court file and litigation; Deeds. Activists from outside should not determine how the city proceeds. We are a nation of laws.. For those who want reparations give your money away to right any wrongs.

## **Andi Svenneby**

Location:

Submitted At: 4:22pm 08-17-20

I oppose the city ending this topic with information compiled by a city employee because they are unwilling to come to an agreement to pay the expert, Dr. Jefferson, to speak on the topic. I support full disclosure of the history of Bruce's Beach, as well as full restitution and reparations. Generational wealth has been taken away from this family, and trauma taking it's place. Those not recognizing this are looking with privileged blinders and supremacist mindset. Tax inherited properties.

## **MBUSD Community Panel for Equity**

Location:

Submitted At: 3:34pm 08-17-20

We cannot discuss Bruce's Beach without engaging with Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson AND the Bruce family themselves. The Bruce family and Beach City social justice organizations demand that the city revise the current plaque so it is NOT telling inaccurate, whitewashed history, and that it provide land restoration and financial reparations for the Bruce family. Manhattan Beach needs to take responsibility for the violence and racism that



occurred and right its wrongs to allow our community to heal.

### **Edward Gajdicar**

Location:

Submitted At: 2:43pm 08-17-20

Activist Kavon Ward, advocate for the Bruce's and friend of Dr Jefferson. Because of her ties Dr Jefferson can not present a fair discussion. A city employee/attorney can present Council minutes regarding eminent domain; Declaration of Necessity; Notice of Taking by Eminent Domain and initial Offer; Court file and litigation; Deeds. Activists from outside should not determine how the city proceeds. We are a nation of laws. For those who want reparations give your money away.

### **Priya Chatwani**

Location:

Submitted At: 2:24pm 08-17-20

Thank you for opening up the topic of Bruce's Beach, but we cannot engage in this discussion without Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson. We must also engage with the Bruce family themselves to revise the current plaque and provide financial reparations for the land that was stolen from them. In order to move forward and reconcile with our past and present, Manhattan Beach must acknowledge and take responsibility for the violent and racist history of Bruce's Beach.

### **Gary Osterhout**

Location:

Submitted At: 1:50pm 08-17-20

As of today I do not see the case or benefit for any direct reparations to the Bruce's. I suggest a focus, though, on the actions of George Peck and whether we want to continue "honoring" him and family thru street signs, etc. Any meaningful "reparations" might result from an analysis of our current actions involving our welcoming county residents of color, including a look at regional/local transit systems/benches/shelters, or any subtle but exclusionary park development/utilization practices.

### **Alex Davis**

Location:

Submitted At: 11:30am 08-17-20

While I appreciate that the city council wants to discuss Bruce's Beach, I do not think it is appropriate to have this discussion without a qualified historian without ties to the city administration. As Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson is the most qualified historians on this topic she should be invited to join the discussion and provide context. Context which the city and "neutral historical documents" often fail to fully capture. To do otherwise would fail to provide all an opportunity to learn.

### **Steve Fazio**

Location:

Submitted At: 11:28am 08-17-20

I am opposed to reparations or any change to the monument in the Bruce's Beach Park. Many people who signed the petition on change.org do not live in Manhattan Beach, do not vote for our city leaders, and will not be responsible for paying reparations demanded by the petition. I am retired and my property taxes are well over \$20,000 per year. Many of us will not be able to afford paying reparations in addition to our property taxes. Please keep this in mind. Thank you.

### **Lee Meller**

Location:

Submitted At: 11:01am 08-17-20

The discussion should be neutral and factual. Historians tell a story, which can be subjective. A city employee/attorney can present the Council minutes regarding eminent domain and Declaration of Necessity, minutes authorizing the expenditure; The Notice of Taking by Eminent Domain and initial Offer; Court file and litigation; Deeds which the City currently hold title. Activists from outside the city should not determine how the city proceeds. I oppose any restitution

**Jamie Danis**

Location:

Submitted At: 9:06pm 08-16-20

Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson must be included in any discussion about Bruce's Beach to obtain a full understanding of the history—she is the foremost expert in the subject. The city must engage with her on her terms—she is the expert and her services should be compensated accordingly. I support reparations for the descendants of the Bruce family, a public statement from the city of Manhattan Beach accepting responsibility, and an updated plaque.

**elyse imamura**

Location:

Submitted At: 7:16pm 08-16-20

Hello. I know this has been on the agenda for awhile and Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson was supposed to be apart of the discussion. She is a historian and probably the most knowledgable about Bruce's Beach besides the family themselves. She must be included and give a full and accurate presentation about the history of Bruce's Beach. It is biased to have a salaried employee of the City of Manhattan Beach to present this history in lieu of a skilled expert.

**Nicole Andrews**

Location:

Submitted At: 12:44pm 08-16-20

The discussion should be neutral and factual. Historians tell a story, which can be subjective. A city employee/attorney can present the Council minutes regarding eminent domain and Declaration of Necessity, minutes authorizing the expenditure; The Notice of Taking by Eminent Domain and initial Offer; Court file and litigation; Deeds which the City currently hold title. Activists from outside the city should not determine how the city proceeds. I oppose any restitution

**Mike Michalski**

Location:

Submitted At: 8:48am 08-16-20

No need to re-invite Dr Jefferson to speak to Council after she declined, particularly with the Brigham thesis on Bruce's Beach downloadable by the public using the attached link. I support re-doing the plaque at Bruce's Beach but I oppose any restitution to the Bruces. There is no legal precedent or moral justification that would require a community that is generations removed from an alleged wrongful deed to compensate the heirs who are generations removed from those to whom the deed was done.

**Karen Klink**

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 7:47pm 08-15-20

Not sure what happened to Dr. Jefferson speaking on topic of Bruce's Beach but it shouldn't be on the agenda with a salaried employee discussing the topic instead of an expert. You need to let Dr. Jefferson speak, work it out. Also, the plaque at Bruces' Beach must accurately reflect history regarding the Bruce family, restoration and restitution . Thank you. Karen Klink

**AMANDA RILEY**

Location:

Submitted At: 3:44pm 08-15-20

This item must be discussed, and it must not be discussed without testimony from an expert in the field. Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson is that expert. I realize there is fiscal impact to including Dr. Jefferson, and it is money well spent. I also request the following: replacement of the current plaque, Restoration & restitution to the Bruce family & a public statement from the City of MB regarding the racism present as it relates to Bruce's Beach. Thank you & I look forward to redress of this item.

**Vicky Purvis**

Location:

Submitted At: 8:43am 08-15-20

The discussion should be neutral and factual. Historians are just historians, they tell a story based on their interpretation of evidence, which can be subjective. The following should be reviewed and provided, Council minutes regarding eminent domain and Declaration of Necessity, minutes authorizing the expenditure; The Notice of Taking by Eminent Domain and initial Offer; Superior Court file regarding the Eminent Domain litigation; Deeds by which the City currently hold title.

**Erin Al-Awar**

Location:

Submitted At: 9:07pm 08-14-20

I am extremely disappointed to hear that the city is moving forward with a discussion about Bruce's Beach utilizing only a report that was compiled by the city's own staff. Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson must be included to present a full and accurate depiction of the history of Bruce's Beach. A historical discussion without her participation is void, as she is the foremost expert on this topic. The city should not have this discussion until an agreement with Dr. Jefferson is reached. Thank you.