Welcome to eComment

eComment comes to Long Beach
Constituents can now comment on upcoming agenda items via our website using eComment. To leave a comment users click on eComment on our agenda page (http://longbeach.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx), select the item they wish to comment on and submit their written comment. eComment begins at 4:30 p.m., Friday of the prior week, and closes one hour before the start of the regular Tuesday meeting. Comments are exported into a report and distributed to Mayor and City Council, City Attorney, City Auditor, City Prosecutor and City department staff.

eComment Improves Meeting Participation
Due to work, school, and family commitments, constituents are not always able to attend City Council meetings. The eComment solution provides constituents an opportunity for participation when they cannot be at a City Council meeting in person. Using eComment allows any person, anywhere to leave a comment on an agenda item via the Internet.

eComment is Transparent Government
eComment is also a valuable tool for staff. Significant staff time savings can be realized by encouraging constituents to post their comments using eComment as opposed to sending emails or leaving phone messages with City staff. Having a central repository for comments ensures that the Council and City staff are in compliance with the Brown Act by having a transparent, predictable process for managing public comment that occurs outside the Council Chamber.

eComment, Your Mayor and City Council
For each regular meeting, eComments will be distributed to the City or district office of the following elected officials: Dr. Robert Garcia, Mayor; Mary Zendejas, 1st District; Cindy Allen, 2nd District; Suzie A. Price, 3rd District; Daryl Supernaw, 4th District; Stacy Mungo, 5th District; Dr. Suely Saro, 6th District; Roberto Uranga, 7th District; Al Austin, 8th District; and Rex Richardson, Vice-Mayor, 9th District.
Getting Started with eComment

1. After viewing the Agenda Calendar page and selecting eComment, users will be redirected to the eComment Welcome Page.

2. Users are prompted and required to enter their email and address information, and Council District. This information is kept as part of the record, but only a user’s name is listed on the eComment report. Users then click “Next” and the agenda is displayed.

3. Users scroll through the agenda and click Comment on the agenda item that they wish to remark on. Users may only comment on one item at a time. However, they can go back and select additional items and may comment as many times as they like.
4. Once an item is selected, the user will be shown a text box and will type in their remarks.

As eComment is not a blog page, and to protect eComment from spammers, users must enter the code words they see at the bottom of the screen.

5. After a user clicks “Submit”, a Congratulations screen assures users that their comments have been received. Users may go back to the agenda or choose to comment on another item.

6. The eComment period will close one hour before the start of the Tuesday regular meeting. A report listing comments will be distributed at the start of the meeting and will be published to the minutes of a subsequent agenda.
eComment User Agreement

By posting to eComment, users agree to the following terms:

1. Users will only submit comments that are respectful of others and which are civil.
2. Users will complete all required identification information. Anonymous or incomplete submittal forms will not be accepted.
3. Users will use their real name and will not post comments using fictional or pseudo names.
4. Users warrant that they own or have permission to post the information contained in their postings, including but not limited to video, photos, or digital reproductions and that no copyright or trademark infringement has taken place due to posting it on this site. Further, the City of Long Beach does not guarantee or warrant that any information posted by users on this site is correct, and disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss or damage resulting from reliance on any such information.
5. Users of this site do not retain any rights over their postings. Postings are intended for public view and any personal information posted constitutes a waiver of any rights to privacy or confidentiality.
6. Once posted, the City of Long Beach, reserves the right to delete submissions that contain vulgar language, personal attacks of any kind, or offensive comments that target or disparage any ethnic, racial, or religious group. Further, the City of Long Beach also reserves the right to delete comments that are: (i) spam or include links to other sites; (ii) clearly off topic; (iii) advocate illegal activity; (iv) promote particular services, products, or political organizations; (v) infringe on copyrights or trademarks; or (vi) are violative of Section 3 appropriateness guidelines.

eComment User Privacy

Personal information volunteered by the user is treated as public record and may be subject to public inspection and copying if not protected by federal or state law.

Questions About eComment

For more information about eComment Policy and User Requirements contact the City Clerk Department at (562) 570-6101, or via email at cityclerk@longbeach.gov.
Section 1 - eComment Overview

City of Long Beach constituents can now comment on any regular meeting agenda item via our City Council Agenda website using eComment. eComment is not a blog, but is intended as a tool of convenience for Long Beach residents and voters to provide relevant and civil comments on City Council agenda topics. Anonymous comments will not be accepted.

eComment provides constituents an opportunity for participation when they cannot be at a City Council meeting in-person; and allows any person, anywhere to leave a comment on a specific agenda item via the Internet.

eComment reduces fuel emissions, traffic congestion, parking and other environmental side effects associated with travel to public meetings.

Section 2 - eComment Window Period

The comment period for each regular meeting agenda will begin at 4:30 p.m., the Friday before the Tuesday meeting. The comment period will close one hour before the regular 5:00 p.m. starting time of the following Tuesday meeting. In cases where the Tuesday meeting time is advanced or pushed back, the comment period will be adjusted accordingly. Although eComments will be distributed electronically to the City Council at the beginning of the regular Council meeting, or shortly thereafter depending on the volume of comments received, eComment users should not expect responses to their comments.

Section 3 - Appropriateness of eComment Content

Inappropriate posts are subject to removal, including, but not limited to, the following types of postings regardless of format (text, video, images, links, documents, etc.):

1. Comments that are not topically related;

2. Profane language or content;
3. Content that promotes, fosters or perpetuates discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, age, religion, gender, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, national origin, physical or mental disability or sexual orientation;

4. Sexual content or links to sexual content;

5. Solicitations of commerce;

6. Conduct or encouragement of illegal activity;

7. Information that may tend to compromise the safety or security of the public or public systems;

8. Content that violates a legal ownership interest of any other party.

Section 4 - eComment User Agreement

By posting to eComment, users agree to the following terms:

1. Users will only submit comments that are respectful of others and which are civil.

2. Users will complete all required identification information as a part of the eComment submittal process. Anonymous or incomplete submittal forms will not be accepted.

3. Users will use their real name and will not post comments using fictional or pseudo names.

4. Users warrant that they own or have permission to post the information contained in their postings, including but not limited to video, photos, or digital reproductions and that no copyright or trademark infringement has taken place due to posting it on this site. Further, the City of Long Beach does not guarantee or warrant that any information posted by users on this site is correct, and disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss or damage resulting from reliance on any such information.

5. Users of this site do not retain any rights over their postings. Postings are intended for public view and any personal information posted constitutes a waiver of any rights to privacy or confidentiality.
6. Once posted, the City of Long Beach reserves the right to delete submissions that contain vulgar language, personal attacks of any kind, or offensive comments that target or disparage any ethnic, racial, or religious group. Further, the City of Long Beach also reserves the right to delete comments that are:

(i) Spam or include links to other sites; (ii) Clearly off topic; (iii) Advocate illegal activity; (iv) Promote particular services, products, or political organizations;

(v) Infringe on copyrights or trademarks; or (vi) Violate of Section 3 appropriateness guidelines.

Section 5 - eComment User Privacy

Personal information volunteered by the user is treated as a public record and may be subject to public inspection and copying if not protected by federal or state law.

Section 6 - eComment Records Management

The use of eComment shall be documented and maintained in an easily accessible format that may be considered a record subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act or required to be retained pursuant to the Government Code.

Additionally, each meeting’s eComment report will be published as a part of a subsequent agenda packet, which includes City Council minutes for each particular meeting of the City Council.

The City Clerk Department is responsible for maintaining eComment records in accordance with its respective records retention schedule. As all eComments constitute a public record, it must be disclosed to the public unless an exemption applies. Posts deemed technically harmful or inappropriate shall be promptly documented and saved pursuant to policies and procedures regarding record retention and destruction.

Section 7 - eComment Administration

The City Clerk Department will be responsible for the administration of eComment constituent submittals in accordance with the foregoing user policy requirements.