



Project Area Committee

1415 Cota Ave. * Long Beach, CA. 90813

Email: westpac@westsidepac.com

Website: www.westsidepac.com

November 11, 2010

Honorable Mayor Bob Foster
Mayor's Office
333 W. Ocean Blvd., 14th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

Honorable Mayor Foster,

We have been informed that the City Attorney's Office wants all voting members of the Westside Project Area Committee (WPAC) to complete an "Ethics Training" course online, and log the certification of that course with the City Clerk's Office. At our November General Meeting, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to draft a letter to you, Mayor, and Council stating our opposition to this request.

The project area committees are merely advisory groups, and therefore should not be held to the same requisites imposed on the policy makers of the city. The course is designed to clarify that there is no conflict of interest between the member and the Agency/City. But it could be argued that there is a conflict of interest intrinsic in any volunteer organization made up of property owners and business people living and working in the area they are gathered to protect. If that defines a conflict with the Agency/City, there would be no project area committees in the first place.

Therefore, we respectfully ask that you rectify the situation by redefining who should be required to take this course.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Rivera CA". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Tony Rivera, Chairman
Westside Project Area Committee

cc: Councilmembers Robert Garcia (1st District), Suja Lowenthal (2nd District), Gary DeLong (3rd District), Patrick O'Donnell (4th District), Gerrie Schipske (5th District), Dee Andrews (6th District), James Johnson (7th District), Rae Gabelich (8th District), and Steve Neal (9th District)