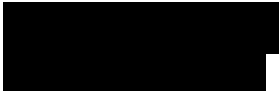


David Pratt


April 29, 2011

Dear Commissioners:

This note is about an issue that came up in the Long Beach and Los Angeles Input Hearings.

At Long Beach there was an avalanche of speakers with one particular request. By the end of the evening, it appeared that at least many of these speakers were “recruited” by a rally that had been held to promote that request. That doesn’t invalidate what the speakers had to say but it is a wakeup call that you need to be aware that such things are going to happen.

The next evening, at Los Angeles, the same request came up again. This time one of you Commissioners asked if the person making the request had been at the rally. Whatever the intent of that Commissioner, the impression that I, and some members of the audience, got was that the Commissioner’s question was asked with all of the good will of a cross-examination.

Wouldn’t it be best for Commissioners to just not ask a member of the public what outside event(s) or person(s) motivated them to come before you to testify? Otherwise, it introduces an adversarial tone into the hearing that is more likely to suppress than encourage public input.

Sincerely,

David Pratt