

**PUBLIC COMMENT
FROM
MAY 4, 2020
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2020 9:06 AM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on May 4, 2020 about Agenda Item 14

Name Mike Owen

Email

Phone

Address

City Pasadena

State CA

Zip Code 91103

Meeting Date May 4, 2020

Agenda Item Number 14

Comments

Mayor and City Council,

The Courtyard Pasadena was recently informed of the Workplace Protection Ordinance that Unite Here is attempting to introduce to hotels here in Pasadena.

We are doing everything we can to protect our team members and guests which include notices for safe distancing, all needed hand-washing and sanitizing stations, shields at the front desk and temperature readings of team members.

I'm sure you are aware that due to the pandemic, our hotel has had to place the majority of our team on temporary leave. Although this has been very difficult, the Courtyard Pasadena remains in close contact with these team members and will bring them back to work as soon as restrictions allow and business levels increase; they will be brought back at their most recent pay wage and with their original hire date.

Our city of Pasadena and our hotels do not need additional restrictions. The Courtyard Pasadena strongly opposes this ordinance. The hotel has always taken great care of our team members and guests and will continue this practice. Any time and efforts associated with this ordinance should be redirected to opening the city at the first safe opportunity and with as much business as possible coming into Pasadena.

Warm regards,

Mike Owen, GM

**I consent to have my
comment read out
loud during the
meeting.**

Yes

IP Address 66.155.184.51

**User-Agent
(Browser/OS)** Google Chrome 81.0.4044.122 / Windows

Referrer <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment/>

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2020 1:59 PM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on May 4, 2020 about Agenda Item 14

Name Joe Titizian

Email n

Phone

Address

City Pasadena

State CA

Zip Code 91101

Meeting Date May 4, 2020

Agenda Item Number 14

Comments As it relates to the Workplace Protection Ordinance please rest assure the Hilton Pasadena is doing all it can do to protect each of its limited remaining team members and guests. We currently have a very good relationship with UniteHere and have our procedures sent on protecting all of our team members for safety and rehire.
We have experienced significant loss of occupancy and revenues. We have had to place the majority of our workforce on temporary leave. While this has been very difficult, we are confident that our team will return as soon as restrictions allow and business increases. This is not the time to single out one of the hardest hit industries. The city is doing a good job and we do not need any additional restrictions. The Hilton Pasadena hotel opposes this ordinance.

I consent to have my comment read out loud during the meeting. Yes

IP Address 167.187.100.204

User-Agent (Browser/OS) Unknown ? / Windows

Referrer <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment/>

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2020 3:06 PM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on May 4, 2020 about Agenda Item 14

Name Alice Stanford

Email

Address

City Pasadena

State CA

Zip Code 91104

Meeting Date May 4, 2020

Agenda Item Number 14

Comments Thousands of hard-working hospitality workers, many who live in Pasadena, have lost their jobs. Right now unlike Santa Monica and Los Angeles, Pasadena has no law that ensures that these workers can return to their jobs when the coronavirus crisis ends. We've already seen what the lack of such protections mean for workers at hotels like the famous Chateau Marmont hotel in Hollywood.

According to worker reports, the Chateau Marmont told workers that they would be terminated. They lost their health insurance and there is no commitment to bring them back to work. One of those workers, Walter Almdarez, worked at the hotel for 23 years.. He was quoted in the Times: "fighting to help pass a law to give workers protections in the hopes that when the crisis is over I'll be able to get back to my job...I'm very, very worried. Honestly, we're really worried.... A baby not having health care?" Walter is a new father to a 7 month old.

Please support a similar worker recall and retention policy to workers here in Pasadena, Item #14 on the Council Agenda. It the least a municipality can do to give hotelworkers – the backbone of the tourism economy – a fighting chance when this crisis is over.

I consent to have my comment read out loud during the meeting. Yes

IP Address 184.254.32.72

**User-Agent
(Browser/OS)** Google Chrome 81.0.4044.129 / OS X

Referrer <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment/>

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Sunday, May 03, 2020 7:04 AM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on May 4, 2020 about Agenda Item 14

Name William Paparian

Email

Phone

Address

City PASADENA

State California

Zip Code 91101

Meeting Date May 4, 2020

Agenda Item Number 14

Comments California was the first state to receive Federal Emergency Management Agency approval to provide shelter to tens of thousands of homeless people. At that time, the state and county agencies had moved 869 homeless people off the street and identified 6,867 hotel and motel rooms that were available. The governor allocated \$50 million to buy or lease hotel and motel rooms to provide at least 90 days of shelter for medically vulnerable homeless people, and \$100 million more for grants to provide support services. The housing program prioritizes homeless people who are at high risk, including those over age 65 and those with underlying health conditions, and those who have been exposed to or tested positive for the coronavirus and don't require hospitalization, but who need to be quarantined. Why doesn't Pasadena make use of these available funds to house Pasadena's homeless and thereby put hospitality workers back to work?

I consent to have my comment read out loud during the meeting. Yes

IP Address 107.141.115.107

User-Agent (Browser/OS) Google Chrome 81.0.4044.129 / Windows

Referrer

<https://www.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment/>

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Sunday, May 03, 2020 1:09 PM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on May 4, 2020 about Agenda Item #14

Name Grace Dyrness

Email

Phone

Address

City Pasadena

State CA

Zip Code 91107

Meeting Date May 4, 2020

Agenda Item Number #14

Comments Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council:

Thousands of hard-working hospitality workers, many who live in Pasadena, have lost their jobs. Unlike Santa Monica and Los Angeles, Pasadena has no law ensuring that these workers can return to their jobs when the coronavirus crisis ends. Such lack of protections have a profound impact on workers at hotels like the Chateau Marmont in Hollywood.

According to worker reports, the Chateau Marmont emailed workers that they would be terminated, losing health insurance and no commitment to hire them back. Walter Almendarez worked at the hotel for 23 years: "I'm fighting to help pass a law to give workers protections in the hopes that when the crisis is over I'll be able to get back to my job...I'm very, very worried." Your role in this crisis is to answer the worries of hardworking working people like Walter. Please support a similar worker recall and retention policy to workers here in Pasadena. Item #14 on the Council Agenda. As a member of All Saints Church I call on us as a city to do the moral and right thing. Workers have made Pasadena into the city it is. Let's stand by them.

Warm regards.

Grace Dyrness

**I consent to have my
comment read out** Yes

loud during the meeting.

IP Address 108.252.95.211

User-Agent (Browser/OS) Google Chrome 80.0.3987.163 / OS X

Referrer <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment/>

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, May 04, 2020 10:55 AM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on May 4, 2020 about Agenda Item #14

Name Paul Leclerc

Email [REDACTED]

Phone [REDACTED]

Address

City Pasadena

State CA

Zip Code 91106

Meeting Date May 4, 2020

Agenda Item Number #14

Comments Dear Mayor and City Council
Recently we have been informed of the Workplace Protection Ordinance that Unite Here is attempting to introduce to local hotels and other organizations throughout Pasadena. Rest assured the Langham Huntington is doing all it can do to protect all employees. The demands of Unite Here, specifically targeting the hospitality industry, should not be without consideration of all businesses who are fighting this invisible enemy (Covid-19) together and have faced extraordinary operational and financial challenges. Guidance for such mitigating strategies should only be evaluated on a temporary basis until business resumes with some normalcy and vary based on low or medium exposure risk levels for all businesses and in partnership with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and local health officials. As you are aware, due to the pandemic and significant loss of occupancy and revenues we have had to suspend operation of the hotel and place the majority of our workforce on temporary leave. While this has been very difficult, we are confident that our team will return as soon as restrictions allow and business increases. Our City, Industry and business don't need additional restrictions. The Langham Huntington strongly opposes this ordinance. Thank you!

I consent to have my comment read out loud during the meeting. Yes

IP Address 23.242.191.250

**User-Agent
(Browser/OS)** Unknown ? / Windows

Referrer <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment/>

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, May 04, 2020 12:07 PM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on May 4, 2020 about Agenda Item 14

Name Edward J Washatka - Member of Pasadenans Organizing for Progress or POP!

Email

Phone

Address

City Pasadena

State California

Zip Code 91104

Meeting Date May 4, 2020

Agenda Item Number 14

Comments First I want to applaud the Mayor, City Council and City Staff for all of the efforts extended to protect the safety and welfare of Pasadena residents, businesses and employees during the COVID-19 pandemic. In that vein, I urge the City Council to take a further step and pass a recall and retention ordinance protecting hospitality workers in the City of Pasadena, similar to those in Los Angeles and Santa Monica. Such an ordinance would ensure that these workers will be able return to their jobs when the coronavirus crisis ends. Our City took moral leadership when it increased the minimum wage and stop wage theft. Ensuring workers, many with decades of service in the hospitality industry, are offered their jobs back when business returns is an even more basic protection for workers that has been successfully applied to the hospitality industry by other cities. Please ask staff to come back with an ordinance for Pasadena. Thank you for your support and consideration.

I consent to have my comment read out loud during the meeting. Yes

IP Address 71.83.153.89

User-Agent (Browser/OS) Google Chrome 81.0.4044.129 / OS X

05/04/2020
Item 14

Referrer

<https://www.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment/>

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, May 04, 2020 1:11 PM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on May 4, 2020 about Agenda Item 14

Name Dianne Philibosian and Thomas D. Seifert

Email [REDACTED]@[REDACTED].[REDACTED]

Phone

Address [REDACTED]

City Pasadena

State CA

Zip Code 91105

Meeting Date May 4, 2020

Agenda Item Number 14

Comments To: Mayor Tornek and Members of the City Council, City of Pasadena

From: Dianne Philibosian, Ph.D. and Thomas D. Seifert, Former PCOC Board Chairs

Subject: Agenda Item 14. Hospitality Workplace Protections Ordinance

As former chairs and board members of the PCOC we are writing to urge the City Council to table Agenda Item 14. Hospitality Workplace Protections Ordinance. The hotels and the PCOC, adhering to best business practices, already have good plans in place to bring employees back to work as business warrants. They already ensure safe working environments as demanded by the Covid-19 situation and additional regulations and ordinances are unnecessary during this already challenging time for businesses. In many cases such an ordinance would be in conflict with existing union agreements.

We urge the City Council to consider the extraordinary challenges faced by our excellent hotels in Pasadena and do everything possible to keep them in our community and contributing to the economic health of the City.

Dianne Philibosian, Ph.D. and Thomas D. Seifert
Former PCOC Board Chairs

05/04/2020
Item 14

**I consent to have my
comment read out
loud during the
meeting.**

Yes

IP Address 138.229.250.60

**User-Agent
(Browser/OS)** Google Chrome 70.0.3538.102 / Windows

Referrer <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment/>