Angel, Rosa

From: Angel, Rosa
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2026 12:54 PM
To: Angel, Rosa
Subject: FINANCE COMMITTEE AND/OR CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE APRIL 20, 2026
Attachments: FINANCE COMMITTEE AND OR CITY COUNCIL, April 20, 2026 - Letter of Concern.pdf

From: Russ Babbitz
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2026 12:25:57 PM
To: Acevedo, Gloria
Subject: FINANCE COMMITTEE AND/OR CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE APRIL 20, 2026

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Letter of Concern attached regarding the Capital Improvement Budget as presently structured.

Thank you for making it part of the public record,
Russel Babbitz,
Member, Pasadena Group of the Sierra Club

To: Joint meeting of the City Council and Finance Committee, April 20, 2026, 2:00pm

From: Russel Babbitz, Member of the Pasadena Group of the Sierra Club

We with The Sierra Club have been monitoring Pasadena's direction toward a carbon free 2030; the exceptional goal of City Council Resolution 9977. As one of 45 cities in California with its own electric utility, Pasadena stands out for the 2030 goal and efforts in overcoming its high carbon mix. However, it has been a matter of concern that the current Capital Improvement Budget may not reflect the timely expenditure necessary to achieve this very admirable outcome.

Two areas were identified in the Optimized Strategic Plan that are integral with the goal of Resolution 9977 – expanded solar installations on municipal and privately owned properties and sufficient civic battery storage to operate for a period after solar power is unavailable. Funding these projects is critical to meet the goals of 9977!

A positive program recently came to our attention via a radio announcement that PWP is launching a pilot program of rebates and incentives for residential and commercial solar power. PWP is making additional efforts to spread information about the program through public events. This is a very important and praiseworthy program!

A review of the Capital Improvement Budget discloses the needs and complexity of operating Pasadena. We are sympathetic to these demands. We also know it is very difficult to balance spending with income when there is so much infrastructure that needs attention. Timely maintenance of existing infrastructure is economical and smart. **To reach a goal as important and impactful as set by 9977 some other expenditures must be delayed, such as new construction that may be seen as positive for the organization but not in line with the critical impacts being seen from surrounding environmental events**.

We at the Sierra Club encourage Pasadena to stay the course necessary to accomplish the goals of 9977! The impact of showing California and the nation that Pasadena is willing to make these changes will invite positive attention to a very vibrant economy and livable community with so much beauty to offer.