

**Switzer, Donna**

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**From:** erika jason <ErikaJason@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org  
**Subject:** Item 15 GRIP

Dear Huntington Beach City Council,

My name is Erika Jason and I am a concerned member of the community. Item 15 on the Agenda proposes to pass a three-year contract with Waymakers for the Gang Reduction and Intervention Program (GRIP). I am concerned because of the truancy sweeps, police escorts, and no tolerance rule outlined in their program. These are punishment-based procedures that do not address the underlying cause of gang activity. The positive reinforcement strategies such as a makeover day for the “girls” and free tickets to baseball games are not substantial to shape long lasting behavioral change. In order to make effective change Huntington Beach needs to adopt a healing centered approach.

Instead of passing item 15, I propose the city of Huntington Beach re-allocate the \$272,797 to Resilience Orange County, “a youth oriented institution that works towards social-systemic transformation while promoting healing, trauma-informed and culturally relevant practices that are inclusive of all members of the community.” We need a holistic centered approach to heal the underlying reasons people join gangs. Gangs provide community, safety, housing, and financial security. Huntington Beach needs to become the type of community that provides these supports to at-risk youth. Resilience Orange County is the right organization for this cause, it is run by the community and for the community!

I support the local organizations, Carry On, ROC ERA, OC Clarity, and Resilience OC. I would like to see the council work with these organizations to provide the best support and future for our youth!

Best,  
Erika Jason

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**SUPPLEMENTAL  
COMMUNICATION**

Meeting Date: 08/03/2020

Agenda Item No.: 15(20-1748)