From:	Garrett, Errica
To:	Dept - City Clerk
Subject:	FW: Finance Committee
Date:	January 12, 2026 2:46:15 PM
Attachments:	image001.png image002.png image003.png image004.png

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Errica Garrett
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100 Civic Center Drive
Newport Beach, CA 92660

From: Keith Curry <keithcurry1@yahoo.com>
Sent: January 09, 2026 11:07 AM
To: Dept - City Council <CityCouncil@newportbeachca.gov>
Subject: Finance Committee

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Honorable Mayor and members of the City Council;

As you are aware, the council will consider an A-1 item to review the continued existence of the city Finance Committee. The Finance Committee was formed during the financial crisis in 2009 and has served the city well since then.

The Finance Committee provides two vital services. First, it filters bad financial ideas before they are advanced to the city council. Over the years, many bad ideas have been vetted by the committee and the city has avoided many financial mistakes that have befallen other California cities.

Second, the committee provides review and validation for the many difficult financial decisions the council is called upon to make. This has given confidence to councilmembers for seventeen years as you consider challenging financial choices.

The presence of citizen representatives on the committee has allowed the council to access some of the most knowledgeable and thoughtful citizens in the community in reviewing the city's financial polices.

The current citizen members, your appointees, represent some of the very best and engaged members ever to serve

on the committee.

The public meetings of the committee provide more, not less opportunity for citizen engagement and transparency in reviewing the most important financial decisions. It is disingenuous to suggest that eliminating the committee will result in greater transparency.

In terms of staff time and preparation, the same presentations that are used at the council are used at the Finance Committee. There is actually little real duplication.

A strong and engaged Finance Committee has been integral to the city's financial success and financial strength for over seventeen years. Now is not the time to eliminate this important tool for financial transparency and review.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best wishes for the New Year

Keith Curry