

From: [Monica Sena](#)
To: [WebMail - CCD](#)
Subject: Public Comment for 2.22 Council Meeting
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Good Evening Mayor and Council Members.

My name is Monica Sena and I live on La Entrada Ave. in Whittier.

The City of Whittier has several commissions such as Cultural Arts, Parks and Recreation, Planning, and Social Services. I assume they have them because these are some of the areas needed to create and maintain a great city. I also suspect that members of the Council do not have the time, nor often the expertise needed to make prudent decisions in all these areas. It is smart management to seek advice from other knowledgeable people. Given this, I am requesting that the Whittier City Council establish an Environmental Commission along the guidelines of their other commissions. Also, addressing climate change is becoming more and more critical and requires government involvement at all levels--not just federal and state. Many cities already have such commissions. South Pasadena has a Natural Resources and Environmental Commission that serves as an advisory to the City Council in all matters pertaining to energy, natural resources, and the environment. It also conducts tree removal hearing when needed. A similar Commission in Sonoma advises their City Council on all matters related to the preservation and enhancement of open spaces and the natural environment. Another example is the Environmental Commission in Jersey City which was established to promote the protection of land, water, and other natural resources within the city. It advises the city government about the best methods to protect and conserve. There are numerous Whittier residents that would have the knowledge and skills to contribute to the effectiveness of such a commission.

Environmental Science majors and teachers/professors of ecology are perfect examples of desirable members. The creation of such a commission is a vote for the future. It would also help make Whittier even better than it already is. A healthy city environment and good policies attract and retain quality people.