Date: February 13, 2019

To: Patrick H. West, City Manager

From: Linda F. Tatum, Director of Development Services

For: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: 2019 Application Window for Mills Act Property Tax Abatement Program

The 2019 application period for the Mills Act Property Tax Abatement Program (Mills Act), will begin on Wednesday, February 8, 2019, and will run through Friday, March 9, 2019.

On January 6, 2015, the City Council adopted revisions to the Mills Act and directed staff to implement the revised program. The Mills Act Program provides property tax relief to owners of historic properties in exchange for the rehabilitation and restoration of the property pursuant to the terms of a Mills Act contract with the City. An invitation to participate in the program was mailed to all owners of designated historic landmark and historic district properties within the City on February 11, 2019 (copy attached).

Development Services will host two public workshops for all potential applicants on Saturday, February 23, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. at Energy Resources Department Auditorium, and on Saturday, March 9, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. at Ramona Park Activity Room.

Mills Act applications and a non-refundable processing fee must be submitted by the March 29, 2019 deadline to be considered for the 2019 program. Staff anticipates that these applications will be reviewed by the Cultural Heritage Commission on or before Monday, June 10, 2019, and transmitted to the City Council for action in July 2019. Final property tax contracts are due to the County Recorder by December 30, 2019.

For further information regarding the Mills Act Program, please contact Alejandro Plascencia, Planner, at (562) 570-6437.

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ATTACHMENT

CC: CHARLES PARKIN, CITY ATTORNEY
DOUGLAS P. HAUBERT, CITY PROSECUTOR
LAURA DOUD, CITY AUDITOR
TOM MODICA, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
KEVIN JACKSON, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
REBECCA GARNER, ADMINISTRATIVE DEPUTY TO THE CITY MANAGER
CHRISTOPHER KOONTZ, PLANNING MANAGER
Mills Act Program Workshops

The City of Long Beach is now accepting applications for the Mills Act Property Tax Abatement Program (Mills Act). As a property owner of a designated historic landmark or home located within a historic district, we would like to invite you to attend two important events to learn about how you may qualify and apply to receive economic incentives for the restoration and preservation of your historic property:

1. Pre-Application Workshop: Saturday, February 23, 2019, at 10:00 am at the Long Beach Gas & Oil Department Auditorium, 2400 E. Spring St.
2. Application Workshop: Saturday, March 9, 2019, at 10:00 am at the Ramona Park Activity Room, 3301 E. 65th St.

The Pre-Application Workshop will feature an overview of the Mills Act and discuss eligibility requirements. The event will also review the process for preparing an application and calculating individual property tax savings. The Application Workshop will provide more specific information geared toward those interested in proceeding with the application process.

All potential applicants or their representative must attend both workshops. Mills Act applications are processed once per year, during the application period. The deadline to submit an application is Friday, March 29, 2019. Every tax situation is different, but the Mills Act is commonly of great value to those who recently purchased a historic property or those who have a high tax burden due to a recent transfer or reassessment. There are currently 75 properties with Mills Act contracts in Long Beach.

For questions regarding the Mills Act, please call (562) 570-6437 or e-mail alejandro.plascencia@longbeach.gov. For additional information, visit www.lbds.info/millsact/

This information is available in alternative format by request at 562.567.3807.
For an electronic version of this information, visit our website at www.lbds.info.
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