



**LONG BEACH  
DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICES**

**October 2009**

**Volume II, Issue 10**

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UPDATES**

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# Building A Better Long Beach



*K-9 Corner dog park,  
906 Pacific Avenue*



# LBDS News & Updates



## INSIDE LONG BEACH CELEBRATES 2ND SEASON PREMIERE AT FIRST FRIDAYS LONG BEACH

In the program's first year, Inside Long Beach has become a voice of the community, showcasing the renewal of our city with affordable housing, support for business, and work for our residents. Join the celebration of our 2nd season at First Fridays Long Beach, October 2, from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., at the Expo Building, 4321 Atlantic Avenue. Catch a sneak preview of Season 2 and enjoy art exhibits and music as you stroll Atlantic Avenue. There will be a raffle for VIP tickets to Dodger Stadium, an hour at the Farmer's Market with *LA Times* columnist and author of *How to Pick A Peach*, Russ Parsons, and more! For more information, visit [www.FirstFridaysLongBeach.com](http://www.FirstFridaysLongBeach.com).



## MUSIC RETURNS TO EXPO IN BIXBY KNOLLS FOR JAZZ BY THE NUMBERS

On Sunday, October 25, music will return to Bixby Knolls for Jazz by the Numbers. The Poly High School Jazz Combo, CSU Long Beach Jazz Orchestra, Pacific Standard Time and Vocal Jazz Ensemble 2, and the Phil Norman Tentet will be performing. Doors open at the Expo, 4321 Atlantic Avenue, at 3:00 p.m. and the concert will be from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. For more information, visit [www.bixbyknolls.com](http://www.bixbyknolls.com).



## RDA AND ARTS COUNCIL HOST MOBILE EXHIBITS NO. 3 TO KICK OFF FIRST GLOBAL FESTIVAL

The RDA and Arts Council For Long Beach will host Mobile Exhibits no.3: Human Nature, a program of temporary art exhibits on display in four vacant storefronts along Atlantic Boulevard and South Street. There will be a reception at the City of Long Beach North Annex at 5641 Atlantic Avenue on Thursday, October 1, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., and the exhibits will be on display through January 31, 2010. They mark the beginning of the Greater Long Beach Arts Lab or GLOBAL, a festival of art and culture created to celebrate National Arts and Humanities Month throughout the City. For more information and a complete list of events, visit [www.globallb.com](http://www.globallb.com).



## K-9 CORNER OPENS DOWNTOWN

Last month, Assemblymember Bonnie Lowenthal, Councilmember Robert Garcia and the RDA joined the North Pine Neighborhood Association, Police Officer's Association, Parks, Recreation and Marine and the Long Beach Fire Department to welcome local dogs and their owners to the grand opening of the City's newest dog park. The RDA transformed a once blighted corner into an active community space,

while staying true to its goal of incorporating sustainable design features in its projects, including drought tolerant landscaping, K-9 Grass made especially for dog parks, and an off-grid solar power system that will allow the park to generate 100% of its electricity needs on site.

In August, LBDS staff provided:

- 2,066 building inspections
- 708 electrical inspections
- 428 plumbing inspections
- 270 mechanical inspections
- 120 misc. inspections
- Total inspections provided: 3,592
- 99% of inspections were provided within 24 hours of request

Permit Center staff:

- Assisted 4,302 customers
- Issued 449 building permits
- Reviewed 165 plans

# LBDS: Maintaining Services In the Face of Cuts

It's no secret that we are experiencing the greatest global economic downturn in modern history. Right here in Long Beach, the impacts are being felt in all sectors. Auto sales are the lowest they've been in 26 years, with local auto dealerships like Champion Chevrolet closing their doors forever. Manufacturing jobs nationwide dipped to a 28-year low, with Boeing announcing 10,000 layoffs. Unemployment is at a 16-year high, with 12% of Long Beach residents currently out of work, and California stands to lose 400,000 jobs before this recession is over. The worldwide economic slowdown has impacted all nations, all sectors, all economies.



Have a question or comment about our department?

We want to hear from you.

Call us at (562) 570-LBDS

or

Email us at [LBDS@longbeach.gov](mailto:LBDS@longbeach.gov)



Over the past two years, the Department of Development Services has experienced a reduction in the number of customers served, and as a result, fewer revenues. In spite of these declines, we've been able to maintain a high level of service to the public, while continuing to find new ways to improve services available to the community.

Power of the Sun. In fiscal year 2008, the Department created a Solar Taskforce comprised of solar energy and building experts on staff who worked together to facilitate a solar permitting process that makes it easier for customers to go green. As a result, in 2008 we issued 400 solar permits, helping to make Long Beach a more sustainable City.



# LBDS: Maintaining Services In the Face of Cuts



Reducing, Reusing, Recycling. We also implemented the City's Construction & Demolition Ordinance in 2008, which requires a minimum of 60% of waste from City demolition sites to be recycled and reused in other projects. As a result of that ordinance, in fiscal year 2008, 7,673 tons of waste were diverted from landfills, and put back into developments.

Serving the Public. In 2008, our building team provided 74,014 total commercial and residential inspections; 98% of these were completed within 24 hours of request. Our 4th Floor Permit Center team assisted 63,388 customers, with an average wait time of 24 minutes per visit. Our team also reviewed 1,872 plans and ensured their compliance with state and city building codes.



Keeping Long Beach Safe. On October 1, the Department will implement a new administrative citations process recently approved by the City Council that will be a valuable tool for our inspectors in halting illegal construction activity. By issuing administrative citations, we can more effectively enforce state and municipal building codes, and continue keeping residents, visitors and businesses in Long Beach safe.



In 2008, LBDS staff provided:

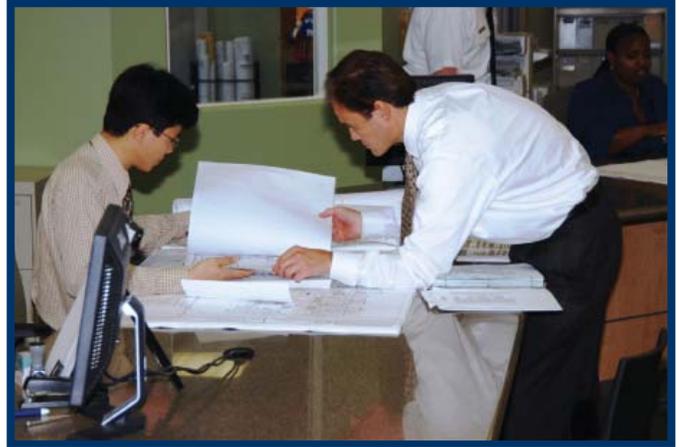
- 28,633 building inspections
- 16,651 electrical inspections
- 8,943 plumbing inspections
- 5,934 mechanical inspections
- 7,286 misc. inspections
- Total inspections provided: 77,985
- 97% of inspections were provided within 24 hours of request

Permit Center staff:

- Assisted 68,472 customers
- Issued 6,039 building permits
- Reviewed 1,929 plans

## LBDS: Maintaining Services In the Face of Cuts

In spite of the great strides we made in 2008, we are feeling the impacts of the recession. While the final figures are not in yet, in 2009, we experienced a 22% decline in the number of customers served, a 29% decrease in the number of permits issued, and we completed 25% fewer inspections. This has resulted in a steep decline in permit revenues collected, and has had a significant impact on our operations.



Since 2008, our Department has lost 29 full time staff, including a number of recent staff reductions and layoffs in order to address the City's current budget deficit. As a result of doing more with less, we've implemented changes and a reorganization of how we deliver services. We've realigned community planning staff and have them reviewing plans and projects in order to better serve our customers; we've realigned our Historic Preservation review process; cross-trained staff for CEQA review; optimized staff at the public counter; optimized commercial/residential inspections; and realigned our Deputy Inspection review.



Because of the state legislature's take, the Redevelopment Agency will face a loss of \$30 million to its budget in FY 2010, and another \$6 million in FY 2011. The Agency will strive to minimize the impact on projects and activities while moving forward with eliminating blight in our communities.

We're not out of the woods just yet, but in the midst of these reductions and the reorganization of our teams, we remain committed first and foremost to providing our customers with the highest level of service possible. In the face of this decline, the dedicated men and women at LBDS have continued working hard to provide seamless service delivery to our customers, while addressing these fiscal realities and their impacts on our department. Above all else, we remain committed to our mission and vision of building a better Long Beach.



# Project Planning

## NEW Applications - Filed in September

### **1st District**

#### **1411 W. 14th Street**

Site Plan Review for additional panel antennas on an existing wireless telecommunication facility (monopole) and a new grade-level equipment cabinet.

#### **Staff Site Plan Review**

Contact: *Cuentin Jackson*

#### **780 Atlantic Avenue**

Site Plan Review for additional panel antennas on an existing wireless telecommunications facility (rooftop).

#### **Staff Site Plan Review**

Contact: *Cuentin Jackson*

#### **240 Chestnut Avenue**

Site Plan Review for a ten-year review of an existing wireless telecommunications facility (rooftop).

#### **Staff Site Plan Review**

Contact: *Scott Kinsey*

### **3rd District**

#### **698 Studebaker Road**

Site Plan Review for additional panel antennas on an existing wireless telecommunications facility (monopine) and a new grade-level equipment cabinet within El Dorado Park.

#### **Staff Site Plan Review**

Contact: *Cuentin Jackson*

#### **3120 E. Mariquita Street**

Standards Variance for a 450 square foot addition (instead of a maximum 250 square feet) to a single-family home.

#### **Zoning Administrator Public Hearing**

Contact: *Lynette Ferenczy*

#### **6272 E. Pacific Coast Highway**

Site Plan Review for additional panel antennas on an existing wireless telecommunications facility (rooftop).

#### **Staff Site Plan Review**

Contact: *Jorge Ramirez*

#### **6289 E. Pacific Coast Highway**

Mitigated Negative Declaration and Local Coastal Development Permit requests to perform maintenance dredging in the Cerritos Bahia Marina.

### **Planning Commission Public Hearing**

Contact: *Lynette Ferenczy*

### **4th District**

#### **1720 N. Bellflower Boulevard**

Conceptual Site Plan Review for a new parking lot to accommodate a future YMCA expansion on Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine Property.

#### **Staff Site Plan Review**

Contact: *Jeff Winklepleck*

#### **1766 Cherry Avenue**

Site Plan Review for a new wireless telecommunications facility consisting of twelve (12) panel antennas and an equipment cabinet (rooftop).

#### **Staff Site Plan Review**

Contact: *Scott Kinsey*

### **5th District**

#### **3190 Claremore Avenue**

Standards Variance for a reduced second-story living space setback in conjunction with a single-family home addition.

#### **Zoning Administrator Public Hearing**

Contact: *Jorge Ramirez*

### **8th District**

#### **233 E. Platt Street**

Site Plan Review for a 600 square foot addition to a single-family home on a lot less than 27' in width (narrow lot).

#### **Staff Site Plan Review**

Contact: *Jorge Ramirez*

### **9th District**

#### **6600 Atlantic Avenue**

Pre-Application for a new 15,000 square foot commercial shopping center with four detached structures.

#### **Administrative Review**

Contact: *Mark Hungerford*

#### **1709 E. 68th Street**

Lot Line Adjustment to reconfigure an East-West lot line between two properties improved with single-family homes.

#### **Zoning Administrator Public Hearing**

Contact: *Jeff Winklepleck*

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# Scheduled Public Meetings in October

The Planning Commission meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers.

The RDA Board meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in City Hall Council Chambers.

Zoning Administrative Hearings are held the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 2:00 p.m. in City Hall in the 7th Floor Large Conference Room.

Cultural Heritage Commission meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers.

Economic Development Commission meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in City Hall in the 13th Floor Large Conference Room.

## ***Planning Commission - Thursday, October 1, 2009***

### **Study Session: Alamitos Bay Marina Dredge and Rebuild Project**

#### ***1st District: 433 Pine Avenue***

Recirculated Mitigated Negative Declaration Certification, Site Plan Review Modification, and Tentative Tract Map requests to increase the number of on-site residential units from 18 to 28.

*Contact: Jeff Winklepleck*

### **Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

***Next meeting Thursday, October 15 at 5:00 p.m.***

## ***Redevelopment Agency Board - Monday, October 5, 2009***

- Lease with Greater Open Door Church of God in Christ - 609-669 East Artesia Boulevard
- Lease with Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Network - 5643 Atlantic Avenue
- West PAC Budget
- Resolution of Necessity - 548 W. 3rd Street
- Review & Formation of Key Business Incentive Programs

***Next meeting Monday, October 19 at 9:00 a.m.***

## ***Zoning Administrator - Monday, October 12, 2009***

**Please note the October 12 meeting will be held in City Hall Council Chambers at 2:00 p.m.**

### ***3rd District***

#### **6300 Loynes Drive**

Local Coastal Development Permit to legalize a California Coastal Commission-approved emergency permit to lay a minimum six-inch fill dirt cover over exposed trash on an undeveloped 9.4-acre open space site located in the Coastal Zone. *Contact: Jeff Winklepleck*

#### **29 Rivo Alto Canal**

Local Coastal Development Permit to allow for first- and second-floor additions to an existing single-family home located in the Coastal Zone. *Contact: Steve Valdez*

***Next meeting Monday, October 26 at 2:00 p.m.***

## ***Cultural Heritage Commission - Monday, October 12, 2009***

### **Bluff Park - 2728 E. 1st Street**

Certificate of Appropriateness request related to a proposed second-story addition to a single-family home. *Contact: Steve Valdez*

### **Kress Building (Landmark) - 443 Pine Avenue**

Certificate of Appropriateness request related to proposed exterior building improvements, including awnings; signage; and a grade-level dining area enclosure. *Contact: Angie Zetterquist*

### **Villa Riviera (Landmark) - 800 E. Ocean Boulevard**

Certificate of Appropriateness request related to the proposed legalization of a 15th-floor balcony railing. *Contact: Lynette Ferenczy*

***Next meeting Monday, November 9 at 5:30 p.m.***



## LBDS Upcoming Meetings & Events October 2009

<u>Thursday, October 1</u> 5:00 p.m.	Planning Commission City Hall, Council Chambers
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	RDA and Arts Council for Long Beach Mobile Exhibits Artist's Reception 5641 Atlantic Ave.
6:00 p.m.	Central Project Area Committee 1900 Atlantic Ave., 2nd Floor
<u>Friday, October 2</u> 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Inside Long Beach 2nd Season Premiere Expo Building, 4321 Atlantic Avenue
<u>Monday, October 5</u> 9:00 a.m.	Redevelopment Agency Board City Hall, Council Chambers
<u>Wednesday, October 7</u> 6:30 p.m.	EIR Scoping Meeting for 2nd+PCH project Rogers Middle School, 365 Monrovia Ave.
<u>Monday, October 12</u> 2:00 p.m.	Zoning Administrative Hearing City Hall, 7th Floor Conference Room
5:30 p.m.	Cultural Heritage Commission City Hall, Council Chambers
<u>Wednesday, October 14</u> 5:00 p.m.	West Project Area Committee LBPD West Substation, 1835 Santa Fe Ave.
<u>Thursday, October 15</u> 5:00 p.m.	Planning Commission City Hall, Council Chambers
<u>Monday, October 19</u> 9:00 a.m.	Redevelopment Agency Board City Hall, Council Chambers
<u>Wednesday, October 21</u> 4:00 p.m.	Economic Development Commission City Hall, 13th Floor Large Conference Room
<u>Thursday, October 22</u> 6:30 p.m.	North Project Area Committee LBPD North Substation, 4891 Atlantic Ave.
<u>Monday, October 26</u> 2:00 p.m.	Zoning Administrative Hearing City Hall, 7th Floor Conference Room

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