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BUILDING A BETTER LONG BEACH

LONG BEACH DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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Mills Act PROGRAM

The City began accepting new applications for the revamped Mills Act Property Tax Abatement Program (Mills Act) in June. The Mills Act is a state law that allows local governments to enter into contracts with historic property owners. The program is administered and implemented by local governments, and offers economic incentives to qualifying owners of historic or designated landmark sites upon agreement to rehabilitate, restore, and protect their property.

Under the Mills Act contracts, private owners receive tax relief in exchange for proper maintenance and restoration of the historical and architectural character of the property for a revolving 10-year term. The Mills Act is especially beneficial for recent buyers of historic sites and current owners of historic buildings who have made major improvements to their property. The Planning Bureau staff held public workshops through July to discuss the program, application process, and eligibility requirements with interested residents. While the long-term goal of the Mills Act Program is to rehabilitate and preserve existing and new landmarks, the 2015

application period has also focused on maintaining the architectures, sites, and cultural resources that add to the City's unique character and enhance the context and diversity of the community. The applications received represent a mix of properties, including single-family homes, commercial properties, and mixed-use apartments and condominium buildings. The Planning Bureau staff reviewed applications and proposed workplans, and in September, the Cultural Heritage Commission recommended contracts for nine properties within the City. The designated landmark Killingsworth Office Building, located at 3827 Long Beach Blvd; the iconic Ocean Center

Director's Message

ARTICLE 2 As summer has faded and many families are settling into the new school year, the fall season also marks the beginning of a new fiscal year for the City with many exciting activities on the horizon for Development Services. This issue further reflects the Department's commitment to helping to build a more dynamic, safe, and viable community.

Significant progress continues to be made on development projects throughout the City, including the Pike Outlets, which has recently celebrated several grand openings; Villages at Cabrillo Phase IV, The Current, Edison Lofts, and plans for the re-envisioned Civic Center. In July, restoration of the historic Psychic Temple on Broadway concluded, further contributing to the economic energy of the Downtown.

In addition to the Department's great development strides, staff has remained active in administering an array of programs and services for Long Beach residents, businesses, and visitors alike. Since July, we have assisted 16,000 customers at the Permit Center, issued over 2,700 permits, and resolved more than 1,600 code enforcement cases!

We look forward to ending the year on a high note, and keeping our community up to date and informed over the coming months. Thank you for your continued partnership and support in helping to Build a Better Long Beach.

Sincerely,



Amy J. Bodek, AICP
Director



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Building located at 110 Ocean Blvd.; and the Craftsman-style Espey/Lochridge House located at 302 Orizaba Ave. are just a few of the properties to be awarded Mills Act contracts in the City this year. For further information about the City's Mills Act Program, go to www.lbds.info/millsact.

Department News

The Department recognizes that operational efficiency and effectiveness begin with a solid foundation. The following organizational realignment has been implemented to streamline and strengthen the functions of the Department.

Kurt Keating – Code Enforcement Division Officer

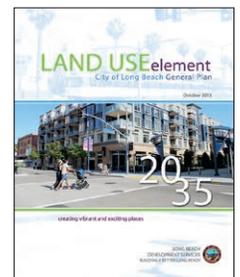
Kurt oversees the Code Enforcement Division, and is responsible for the enforcement of laws regulating public nuisance, public health, safety and welfare. He also manages the City's Proactive Rental Housing Inspection Program (PRHIP). He holds a degree from California State University, Los Angeles, and has more than 25 years of experience in code enforcement and community preservation. Kurt can be reached at 562.570.6336 or kurt.keating@longbeach.gov.

Alejandro Plascencia – Planner

Alejandro will be responsible for facilitating the Planning Bureau's historic preservation efforts, and managing other activities pertaining to advance planning. He holds a Master's Degree in Urban Planning from the University of California, Los Angeles. He worked for the City of Redondo Beach for 10 years, and brings the Department over 13 years of planning and historic preservation experience. Alejandro can be reached at 562.570.6437 or alejandro.plascencia@longbeach.gov.

General Plan Update

As part of the process to update the City's General Plan, the Planning Bureau staff has held a number of community engagement events, including a scoping meeting and Planning Commission Study Sessions, to provide opportunities for public input. The General Plan update reflects the values of the community and sets forth goals, policies, and standards for guiding the future vision of the City. The proposed update to the Land Use Element (LUE) will replace the current 1989 document, and provide greater flexibility and connectivity between existing communities by establishing the concept of PlaceTypes. Additionally, the proposed Urban Design Element (UDE) will implement policies that enhance the City's urban environment and promote a more attractive, livable, and sustainable community. For additional information on the General Plan update, go to www.lbds.info/planning/advance_planning/lb_2030/default.asp.



Southeast Area Development and Improvement Plan (SEADIP)



The Planning Bureau staff and the consultant team have been working diligently over the past several months to prepare the preliminary environmental documents associated with the SEADIP update. The Initial Study (IS) and Notice of Preparation (NOP) are now available for public review, and the City will accept comments during the 30-day period between October 22, 2015, and November 20, 2015. The community will also have an opportunity to review and discuss the project's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) at a scoping meeting, which has been scheduled for Wednesday, November 4, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. at the Best Western Golden Sails, 6285 Pacific Coast Highway. For the latest SEADIP news or to get involved, visit www.lbds.info/seadip_update.



Neighborhood Leadership Program

In August, the City celebrated the graduation of the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2015, a group of 32 grassroots residents who have been empowered to become better leaders and foster positive change throughout Long Beach neighborhoods.

The Neighborhood Leadership Program, offered by the Neighborhood Services Bureau, is a free multilingual program that provides residents with the skills, knowledge, and resources needed to tackle existing community challenges and enhance the quality of life of their neighborhoods. This five-month program strives to assist candidates in expanding communication skills, identifying partnership opportunities, applying for grants, and completing various community projects.

This year's group helped to successfully coordinate a number of community events, including a safety fair and school safe passage workshop, a "Sustain Santa Fe" fair, a neighborhood improvement fair with an e-waste drive and neighborhood cleanup in West Long Beach, and a technology event focused around the *Go Long Beach* smart phone application.

For more information about the Neighborhood Leadership Program, call 562.570.1010.



Tenant/Landlord Rights and Responsibilities Handout

The City's Proactive Rental Housing Inspection Program (PRHIP) has been established to ensure livability standards for residents and maintain the City's stock of safe and sanitary rental housing. The Code Enforcement Division has been enforcing this Program for many years, pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code. Each residential rental building consisting of four or more units is required to register with the PRHIP, and provide this handout to all new tenants. For more information about the PRHIP or to view the Tenant/Landlord Rights and Responsibilities handout, go to www.lbds.info/prhip.



I Dig Long Beach Program

Long Beach is now one-third of the way to reaching its goal of planting 6,000 new trees by 2020! In May, the Neighborhood Services Bureau's *I Dig Long Beach* program held a special tree planting event at Cesar Chavez Park to commemorate the planting of the project's 2000th tree. Initiated in March 2013, this ambitious

project uses drought-resistant trees to add much needed urban forest to the two zones closest to the Port of Long Beach. The public is invited to join the City and partnering groups in tree maintenance and monthly community planting days. For more information on the "I Dig Long Beach - 6,000 Trees by 2020" project or to sign up to volunteer, please contact the Neighborhood Services Bureau at 562.570.6866.



Photo courtesy of Will Cullen

Safe Long Beach News



Safe Long Beach, the City's Violence Prevention Plan, addresses a broad safety agenda aimed at reducing all forms of violence to attain the goal of building a safer Long Beach by 2020. The following represents the Department's latest collaborative *Safe Long Beach* efforts. For more information about *Safe Long Beach*, visit www.lbds.info/neighborhood_services/lbvpp/default.asp.

Public Safety Fair and Safe Passage Workshop

In August, the City hosted a Safety Fair and a Safe Passage Workshop at Admiral Kidd Park to engage the community in new ways to achieve street safety. The Neighborhood Relations Division staff participated along with more than 20 public safety information booths and interactive displays. The Safe Passage Workshop featured a presentation by community partners from the San Francisco Safe Passage Program to solicit public participation to deter criminal activity and ensure that all children are able to walk to and from school safely.



Working With Children of Incarcerated Parents

The City partnered with the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Program (OJJDP) in August to host a two-day training course for professionals who work with children of incarcerated parents. Coordinated by the Neighborhood Relations Division staff, the workshop featured presentations from OJJDP consultants, and reviewed approaches for effectively responding to the needs of children. The event also included panel discussions from local practitioners, caregivers, and youth who have experience with parental incarceration.



Safe Long Beach Fair

Bringing together residents, nonprofit organizations, community-based organizations, and City departments, the *Safe Long Beach Fair* held in August at Seaside Park highlighted a wide range of resources available to help residents and families lead safe and healthy lives. The Neighborhood Relations Division staff joined several City departments and community organizations at the event to provide information about existing programs, services, and resources for families.



Human Trafficking Awareness Campaign

As part of the City's *My Sister's Keeper* Program, the Neighborhood Relations Division staff coordinated a human trafficking awareness campaign over the summer. Last year, the Long Beach Police Department reported 17 cases of human trafficking. If you see something, say something. To anonymously report suspected human trafficking, call 800.539.2373.



LONG BEACH DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
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This information is available in alternative format by request at 562.570.3807.
For an electronic version of this form, visit our website at www.lbds.info.

Public Meetings & Events 2015

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

The Long Beach Community Investment Company Board meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in City Hall in the 3rd Floor Large Conference Room.

The Planning Commission meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.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.

***Agendas subject to change. For more information about meetings and events, please call 562.570.LBDS, or visit us online at www.lbds.info.**

E-mail us at: lbds@longbeach.gov



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