April 14, 2021

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Alan Lowenthal
United States House of Representatives
108 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Alex Padilla
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nanette Diaz Barragán
United States House of Representatives
1030 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: The American Rescue Plan Act

Dear Senator Feinstein, Senator Padilla, Representative Lowenthal, and Representative Barragán:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to express our gratitude for your support of the American Rescue Plan Act. This legislation will transform the City's ability to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 23, 2021, the City Council unanimously voted in support of the Act.

The American Rescue Plan Act will provide $1.9 trillion in relief to address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy, State and local governments, individuals, and businesses. Long Beach has responded to this pandemic by expanding communitywide COVID-19 testing and vaccinations and by bolstering support for small businesses and community members—all while suffering historic financial shortfalls and emergency expenditures.

Direct City funding through the American Rescue Plan Act will support the Long Beach Recovery Act, which was unanimously approved by the City Council on March 16, 2021. The Long Beach Recovery Act will invest more than $235 million towards Long Beach’s recovery, focusing resources on the areas of the economy that have been most impacted, relaunching business sectors that are struggling due to public health closures, and creating a healthy and safe city for all Long Beach communities by prioritizing the needs of those who have been hit hardest by COVID-19. Federal relief funding will also ensure the long-term fiscal stability of the City, helping to offset the significant budget shortfall, expenditures, and revenue losses brought on by the pandemic.

Thank you again for your leadership and advocacy on behalf of the City to pass this historic legislation. We look forward to working with you to solidify a strong future for our City and the country through the American Rescue Plan Act funding.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach