



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA CITY OF LONG BEACH

January 27, 2017

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: City of Long Beach Infrastructure Projects

Dear Senator Feinstein:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, and in the interest of improving America's infrastructure, below is a list of infrastructure projects that if funded, will create United States manufacturing jobs and with full funding could be underway and creating jobs in 2017. In Long Beach, we are committed to doing our part to strengthening our county's economy. The list of infrastructure projects described herein will support national economic growth, our county's largest seaport complex, an airport, and nearly half-a-million people within our 52-square miles of coastal urban and suburban land. These projects include:

- **Shoemaker Bridge - \$400 million**

The Shoemaker Bridge sits at the terminus of the I-710 freeway and is an essential corridor into downtown Long Beach. It was constructed in 1953 and has been classified as structurally deficient on the Structure Maintenance and Investigation Local Agency Bridge List, as well as the City of Long Beach's 2007 Bridge Inspection Report. This project will provide a structure and highway facility that meets current local/state/federal structural and geometric standards, improve safety, create open space, and promote environmental sustainability. It is compatible with planned freeway improvements and downtown developments that will enhance economic competitiveness and promote job creation.

- **Belmont Beach and Aquatic Center - \$60 million**

Seismic deficiencies forced the closure of the original Belmont Plaza Pool in January 2013. Since that time, a temporary pool has been erected to sustain some aquatic activities, but a permanent facility is needed to support Long Beach's strong aquatic community, which has produced numerous Olympic athletes. The newly designed aquatic complex will be a state-of-the-art facility that will include indoor and outdoor pools for recreation, teaching, competition, and therapy. Also included in the design is a casual café with open-air seating and an indoor concession area to be available during indoor events.

Project goals include providing the community with an aquatic space for both teaching and recreation, as well as providing an aquatic competition and practice space for swimming,

diving, and water polo. Long Beach is also seeking to maximize the use of this prime beachfront location by fostering access and a sense of civic presence.

- **LB MUST – Stormwater Recycling Facility - \$40 million**

This project will result in the creation of an innovative facility that will provide treatment of urban runoff prior to the water entering the Los Angeles River. Water traveling through the City's storm drain system typically consists of various pollutants such as bacteria, hydrocarbons, metals, and trash. While the City has installed *trash*-screening devices at various pump stations, there is currently no treatment for other pollutants. The LB-MUST Recycling Facility will meet Federal and State compliance regulations that mandate cleanup of the Los Angeles River, and are in accordance with the City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit.

- **Police and Fire Facility Improvements - \$10 million**

The Long Beach Police Department has been training new police officers in temporary trailer units for years; replacement of these trailers with a permanent facility is needed. There is also a need for upgrades at the crime lab and property storage facility. Additionally, major upgrades at 2 fire stations and complete replacement of 6 stations will be necessary in the future.

- **Bicycle Infrastructure - \$105 million**

In an effort to make transportation more accessible, safe, and sustainable, Long Beach has developed a Bicycle Master Plan, which complements our existing streets and roads network. Long Beach's residents and visitors, even those who choose not to ride bicycles, greatly benefit from the improvements recommended within this Plan. A more bicycle-friendly Long Beach contributes to resolving issues like traffic congestion, poor air quality, and climate change.

- **Houghton Park Community Center - \$10 million**

In 2014, the Long Beach City Council appropriated \$3 million for the first phase of funding for a new community center at Houghton Park. The Houghton Park Community Center is an integral part of the community and a regional center providing a wide array of recreational services to area youth, teens, and seniors. In September 2014, Long Beach contracted with Studio Pali Fekete Architects of Culver City, CA, for architectural and engineering services. By June 2015, a conceptual planning process for the 31-acre site of Houghton park kicked off. The purpose of this process was to create a comprehensive conceptual plan, inclusive of the entire Houghton Park site. Funding will be needed for construction.

- **Colorado Lagoon - \$25 million**

The Colorado Lagoon is an 18-acre saltwater tidal lagoon. It is hydraulically connected to Alamitos Bay and the Pacific Ocean through a 900-foot underground concrete box culvert located under Marina Vista Park. The restoration program at the Lagoon has been guided by the Colorado Lagoon Master Restoration Plan, and existing work is being supported by Los Angeles Engineering, Inc. Long Beach is currently working to grade and re-contour

the north shore and the side slopes of the north arm to allow for the creation of new intertidal habitat, subtidal habitat, and eelgrass beds. The creation of approximately 25,000 square feet of new subtidal habitat is necessary to maintain the ecological value of one of southern California's last remaining salt marshes.

In addition to the infrastructure projects described above, the City of Long Beach could also break ground on numerous transportation and building facility improvements. With respect to transportation, there is a need for \$420 million in street pavement projects, a \$200 million grade separation project at the Metro Wardlow Station, \$60 million in sidewalk repairs, and \$60 million in alley repairs. In order to maintain clean beaches and waterways, there is a need for \$20 million in stormwater pump station improvements and \$95 million in storm-related flooding. So that our children have safe and active places to recreate, \$3 million could be invested in public park playground improvements; and because the Long Beach Convention Center is in such high demand, \$53 million is needed to make improvements to the facility.

It is no secret that national prosperity is driven through civic innovation in the City of Long Beach. Evidenced by research conducted by the Los Angeles County Business Federation, Long Beach is one of the five most business-friendly cities in the region. Our streets and roads, buildings and infrastructure, technological improvements and investments all support a vast network of private businesses and American growth.

Long Beach thanks you and your colleagues for your consideration of our projects. Should you have any questions, please contact Diana Tang, Manager of Government Affairs at 562-570-6506 or Diana.Tang@longbeach.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Garcia', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: Congressman Alan Lowenthal, California, 47th District
Congresswoman Nanette Barragán, California, 44th District