



Date: June 7, 2016

To: Patrick H. West, City Manager *PWest*

From: *A. Bodek*
Amy U. Bodek, Director of Development Services

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Federal Promise Zone Application Update**

On February 24, 2016, the City submitted the Long Beach Promise Zone application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Over 80 cities nationwide submitted applications in this highly-competitive final round of the Promise Zone Initiative with only five designations available. On June 6, 2016, HUD named the final Promise Zone designees for the Third Round Promise Zones Competition. The City was not selected for a designation, but owing to the quality of its application and strategy, Long Beach was recognized as a Promise Zone Finalist. According to HUD, the purpose of selecting Promise Zone Finalists is to recognize communities whose applications reflect high-quality strategies under the criteria set forth in the Application Guide, but are not selected as Promise Zone designees.

Promise Zone Finalists will have the opportunity to participate in HUD's Community Needs Assessment (CNA) Initiative. This initiative is modeled after the *Strong Cities, Strong Communities* initiative that provides a forum to solve locally identified issues and achieve locally driven community goals; focuses resources on issue resolution; and provides a venue for increased collaboration across HUD's programs with other federal agencies and local partners to deploy resources and expertise.

HUD will contact the City in the fall of 2016 to provide more information about the CNA Initiative and determine the next steps on how to partner to advance the priority projects identified in the Long Beach Promise Zone application.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call Arturo Sanchez, Deputy City Manager, at (562) 570-5028, or Amy Bodek, Director of Development Services, at (562) 570-6428.

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