



Date: June 5, 2020

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager 

From: John Keisler, Director of Economic Development 

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Economic Relief Package—Restart Long Beach Update**

On April 21, 2020, the City of Long Beach (City) [announced](#) the formation of “Restart Long Beach,” an economic recovery advisory group charged with providing recommendations on the economic impact of the COVID-19 health emergency and steps that the City may take to safely begin to reopen the local economy.

On May 2, 2020, City management received the [initial report](#) from former Mayor Bob Foster on behalf of Restart Long Beach with initial recommendations for transitioning the local economy into Stage II, as defined by the Governor’s [Resiliency Roadmap](#). On May 15, 2020, City management received the [First Amendment](#) to the report, which recommended steps to move further into Stage II activities. On May 22, 2020, City management received the [Second Amendment](#) to the report, which stresses the importance of the City to be recognized as an independent Local Health Jurisdiction, separate from Los Angeles County. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the City Council with a copy of the Third Amendment (Attachment A), which stresses the need to support higher-risk commercial activities in a safe and responsible way that will allow the City to move toward full reopening of the Long Beach economy, when both public health data and the Governor allow us to do so.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. Please contact me at (562) 570-5282, or by email at john.keisler@longbeach.gov with additional questions regarding Restart Long Beach or the attached report. Questions can also be forwarded to former Mayor Bob Foster for clarification.

ATTACHMENT: THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE RESTART LONG BEACH ADVISORY GROUP REPORT

CC: CHARLES PARKIN, CITY ATTORNEY
LAURA L. DOUD, CITY AUDITOR
REBECCA G. GARNER, ACTING ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
KEVIN J. JACKSON, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
TERESA CHANDLER, INTERIM DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
AJAY KOLLURI, ACTING ADMINISTRATIVE DEPUTY TO THE CITY MANAGER
MONIQUE DE LA GARZA, CITY CLERK (REF. FILE #20-0320)
DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

June 2, 2020

City of Long Beach
c/o: Tom Modica, City Manager
411 W. Ocean Boulevard, 10th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

SUBJECT: Third Amendment to the Restart Long Beach Advisory Group Report

To the City of Long Beach:

On behalf of the Restart Long Beach Economic Recovery Advisory Group, I want to thank you for your continued efforts to move the City forward into Stage II of the Governor's [Resilience Roadmap](#). In particular, we appreciate your recent letter to the Governor requesting the City be considered independently of Los Angeles County through the attestation process, as we are for other public health decisions.

As presented in our [initial report](#) submitted to the City Manager on May 2nd, the Advisory Group has recommended a set of key issues to guide City decisions about reopening. These core principles are built upon [Governor Newsom's Six Critical Indicators](#) that local health jurisdictions must meet before non-essential activities may resume. We have since provided additional detail for these recommendations through the [First](#) and [Second](#) amendments to the report.

This is the Third Amendment to the Restart Long Beach Report. The primary subject of this amendment is the role of the City in **preparing local businesses and event spaces for higher-risk commercial activities**. The Advisory Group believes that the suggestions below should be given careful consideration and be initiated as soon as legally and practically possible.

1. Small gyms and exercise studios, which specialize in in-person instruction, should be allowed to reopen and serve their clientele. These small gyms should work under the following rules:
 - Outdoor exercise and training should be conducted when possible;
 - Spaces should be delineated to illustrate appropriate social distancing;
 - Instructors must have face coverings at all times;
 - Instruction by reservation only, no "walk ins";
 - Equipment must not be shared and must be sanitized after each use;
 - Hand sanitizer stations must be established;
 - Appointments must be staggered by 15 minutes; and
 - Social distancing will determine appropriate occupancy.

2. Hotels, the Aquarium of the Pacific, and local museums should be allowed to reopen, under the same conditions and protocols as retail and restaurants. We see no health reason for these facilities to remain shuttered in Long Beach. In addition, the following requirements should be implemented:
 - Circulation patterns should be established to allow for "one-way movement" through all public areas;

- Guests and employees must wear face coverings;
 - Sanitation/sanitizer stations must be established at regular intervals;
 - All guests and employees must have a symptom check, prior to admittance to any facility; and
 - Social distancing will be delineated at pay points, exhibits, and other spaces where the public might gather.
3. We would like to request the following language be added to the First Amendment Report submitted to the City on May 15th regarding restaurants:
- Employees should be urged to wash their hands on a very regular basis, rather than wearing gloves;
 - While gloves can be helpful, they also can pick-up the same infectious agents as hands, and unless removed and replaced very frequently, they are not as effective as hand washing; and
 - Very frequent hand washing is preferred.
4. Financial Assistance: many small businesses are unable to afford the costs to implement recommendations and guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19. We recommend the City do the following:
- Seek new funding sources to provide loans and grants to local small businesses willing to implement these recommendations;
 - Do everything in its power, along with its elected representatives, to urge the President and Congress to provide additional financial assistance for the costs of COVID-19 work; and
 - Assist businesses with the financial impacts of lost revenue resulting from the economic shutdown.

Next Steps

On behalf of the Restart Long Beach Advisory Group, thank you for your continued efforts to expedite the reopening of the Long Beach economy in a safe and responsible way. As a large city, Long Beach may leverage its size to influence the development of Federal and State legislation to provide funding and other incentives that will assist local businesses with the more complicated and expensive activities that are required to enter into Stage III higher-risk activities.

The Restart Long Beach Advisory Group will continue to meet and work together across sectors to make connections, identify best practices, and form public-private partnerships that will help to move Long Beach forward toward a timely and safe transition into Stage III. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you have any questions for the Advisory Group.

On behalf of the Restart Long Beach Advisory Group,



Bob Foster
Former Mayor
City of Long Beach