

Date: August 22, 2022

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager *TM*

From: Kevin Riper, Director of Financial Management *KR*

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Response to Questions from the City Council Budget Hearing on August 9, 2022**

During the Budget Hearing on August 9, 2022, the Fire, Police, and Parks, Recreation and Marine Departments provided overviews on the Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budget. This memorandum provides responses to questions raised by members of the City Council during that time that were not fully addressed on the floor or need further clarification.

1. Please provide more information on potential additional resources that could be allocated to support the Lifeguard and Marine Safety operations.

The Alamitos Bay waterways have experienced a steady increase in visitor traffic over the last few years. Much of this traffic comes in the form of private recreational boat traffic. This boating traffic has also been augmented by the increase in recreational boat business operators that rent boats to the public, for use in the Alamitos Bay. Some of the operators also rent self-propelled vessels, such as water bicycles. All of this increased traffic now extends beyond traditional business hours, into the late evenings. Historically, most of this activity was limited to the summer season, but now takes place from the spring season, into the Christmas Holiday season (Naples Boat Parade), and New Year.

The quality of life issues were amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic, as people increasingly engaged in outdoor activities. Many of these activities involve up to 12 visitors on a boat with amplified music and alcohol. Many of these visitors are inexperienced boaters with little knowledge of tidal inundations, vessel draft, rules of the road on the water and a poor understanding of navigation lights. As such, many of these operators have trouble navigating the canals and frequently crash into private property, engage in reckless and negligent vessel operations, run their boat afoul on swim lines, and crash into the bridges in the Naples canals.

Quality of life issues have also been impacted by the Alamitos beach WiBit. People recreating on the WiBit after hours create much noise and, despite our best efforts to have private security deter the public from utilizing the WiBit after hours, many of the noise issues persist.

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In response to City Council questions on what resources would be necessary to address the quality of life issues faced by residents living in and around the Alamitos Bay Marina, the Fire Department has determined that Rescue Boat 3 is best equipped to address these issues.

Currently, Rescue Boat 3 is a daylight Rescue Boat, on duty for 10 hours a day, 365 days a year. This Rescue Boat operates out of Marine Stadium and is responsible for managing recreational boat traffic (including power boats and rowboats). Rescue Boat 3 is staffed with one Rescue Boat Operator and one Marine Safety Officer. The crewmembers are both certified Emergency Medical Technicians, allowing them to respond to medical calls for service in Marine Stadium, Spinnaker Bay, and Marina Pacifica. The Marine Safety Officer also functions as a Rescue Diver, who can respond immediately to any life rescue situations, or vehicles that accidentally drive into the water.

If funding is made available, one-time funding of \$100,000 would allow staff to assess and address hot spots as needed throughout the year. This would allow for increased after hours patrols and enhanced enforcement efforts that can be adapted and focused on issues as they arise.

Another option would be to convert Rescue Boat 3 into a 24/7 apparatus that would allow Marine Safety personnel to conduct routine and consistent patrols of the Alamitos Bay WiBit, and more effectively address many of the current challenges from the water than with a land-side security guard. However, this would require significantly more funding on a structural basis, potentially requiring cuts in other service areas in the future. Estimated structural staffing costs to convert Rescue Boat 3 from a 10-hour Rescue Boat, staffed 7 days a week for 365 days a year, to one staffed on a constant (24-hour/365 day per year) basis are \$483,805. Additional costs to maximize the functionality of Rescue Boat 3 would include a truck for landside response, at an estimated one-time cost of \$80,000. Finally, the facility out of which Rescue Boat 3 staff operate would need to be modified to accommodate a 24-hour operation. These one-time costs are unknown and Fire management would have to consult with Public Works management for estimated costs.

At this time, if additional funding is made available, one-time funding to provide enhanced and customized enforcement support during the year is recommended to address the immediate concerns, with any additional investments that can be re-evaluated in the future.

Any of the additional costs noted above would be eligible to be funded out of the Tidelands Operating Fund Group.

2. Please provide a memo on the progress of the Fire Department's Diversity Recruitment program.

Through the efforts of the Diversity Recruitment & Partnerships Manager (DR&PM), the Long Beach Fire Department (LBFD) stays committed to strategically recruiting and hiring more diverse firefighters. Below is a summary of the efforts of the DR&PM since the program's inception.

Fire Pathways Program

The Fire Pathways Program was implemented in Fall of 2019. In partnership with the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD), the Fire Pathways Program started at Jordan High School with plans to expand to other Long Beach schools in the coming years. The Fire Pathways Program includes three courses: Introduction to the Fire Service (for 10th grade students); Emergency Medical Course (for 11th grade students); and the Capstone Course (for 12th grade students). The Fire Pathways Program encourages students to attend Long Beach City College (LBCC) after they graduate from high school where they would study Fire Science and obtain their emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certification. The EMT certification would make the student eligible to obtain a position in the LBFD's Ambulance Operator program and ultimately prepare them to obtain a career as an LBFD Firefighter.

Rockett Academy for Future Firefighter Development (RAFFD)

The RAFFD Kick-off event was held in Spring of 2022 and hosted 40 students from 11 Long Beach high schools. Event discussions featured members from the Long Beach Search and Rescue program and the LBFD Marine Safety Division's Junior Lifeguard Program. The RAFFD's program goal is to generate the interest of young community youth toward entering a year-long mentorship program during the school year. Students will be mentored by LBFD Firefighters and receive hands-on training at fire stations and the Captain David Rosa Regional Training Center.

Female Firefighter Career Workshop (formerly Girls' Fire Camp)

In 2019, LBFD's first ever Girls' Fire Camp was hosted by the DR&PM and included 40 young women ages 14-18. In 2021, in partnership with the Long Beach Civil Service Department, LBFD hosted the Female Firefighter Career Workshop, which included 82 attendees. The workshop covered three areas of the LBFD Fire Recruit hiring process: written test and application process; fire fitness challenge/physical ability test; and interview preparation. The 2022 workshop is in the planning stages and will take place late August.

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Recruitment Webinars

Since July 2020, the DR&PM has hosted over 70 Zoom-based recruitment webinars. Participants receive instruction and guidance that promotes their success through the stages of the Fire Recruit hiring process, including: physical ability test practice and pointers; application and resume advice; oral interview recommendations; and an LBFD Fire Recruit Academy curriculum overview.

Prospective Recruit Exercise Program (PREP)

PREP provides prospective Fire Recruit candidates hands-on fitness-based workouts and introduces participants to some of the tools and equipment used in the LBFD Fire Recruit Academy. As candidates are selected to proceed through the hiring process, PREP becomes the Pre-Academy Education Program through workouts and EMT workshops designed to better prepare candidates for the LBFD Fire Recruit Academy.

Strategic Recruitment Programs

Since the 2019 LBFD Recruitment Report found that many of the most successful Fire Recruits have a sports background and/or military experience, the DR&PM has successfully established relationships with athletic programs at California State University Long Beach (CSULB) and LBCC, as well as Veteran recruitment organizations. Relationships have also been established with regional colleges that provide a basic fire academy, such as Miramar College, Rio Hondo College, and Santa Ana College. The DR&PM speaks at these academies to promote LBFD, discuss the hiring process, and answer questions from potential candidates.

Cultural Recruitment Programs

The DR&PM and a small recruitment team have attended local cultural events, including events hosted by Black, Cambodian, Latino, and LGBTQ+ communities. These events have included: Black Women's Health Expo, Cambodian Festival, Cambodian Night Market, Juneteenth Celebration, Long Beach Pride, and Taste of Soul.

The goal in attending various cultural events is to clarify the role of a firefighter and dispel myths for these communities to see the fire service as a valuable and viable work opportunity.

Demographic Data

Attached to this memo is a snapshot of the Long Beach Fire Department's various recruitment related program demographics from 2019 to 2022.

3. Please provide an update on fire prevention along the riverways within the city.

\$2.1 million of one-time Measure A funding will be used to fund a two-year outreach and clean-up initiative along the riverbeds. An interdepartmental team consisting of the Clean Team in Public Works, Quality of Life in the Police Department, Outreach workers in the Health Department, and Fire Department personnel will conduct ongoing outreach, engagement, and cleanup activities in areas most impacted by homelessness across Long Beach.

4. Please provide a status update on dispatch operations from the Department of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Communications.

A status update on dispatch operations was issued in a separate memo on Monday, August 22, 2022.

5. Please provide a presentation of the proposed budget for the Department of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Communications.

The Department of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Communications will present on August 23, 2022, during the continued Budget Hearing agenda.

6. Please provide a status update on the camera system used by the Police Department.

Over the last several years, the Technology and Innovation Department (TID) upgraded outdated CCTV camera systems and transitioned to the use of a modernized Genetec system. The Genetec system provides the City a networked camera system currently comprised of 1,600 cameras, which allows for a common platform to store, organize, and access data. This assists multiple users within the City to easily access data when requested by the community, to investigate calls for service, and to submit evidence as part of court proceedings.

Equipment related to the Genetec system have a five-year manufacturer warranty and annual replacement for equipment reaching its end-of-life must be completed to maintain the functional working of the system. Over the last several years, the TID has upgraded unreliable Wi-Fi backhauls with fiber backbones and short-range microwaves, including 4G/LTE modems, to allow network cameras to operate effectively. TID has developed a detailed five-year replacement cycle, which it reviews with the Long Beach Police Department (LBPD).

There is also a need to expand the network camera system and perform installations at City facilities and other right-of-way areas. The LBPD and TID created a Camera

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Committee to have scheduled meetings identifying priority camera locations, new installations, upgrades, replacements, and repairs.

The proposed \$2.784 million in Measure A funds will be allocated to converting current analog CCTV systems to the more modern Genetec system, conducting equipment replacement for end-of-life units, as well as expanding camera locations to sites identified in coordination with LBPD. Specifically, the following locations would be upgraded from the outdated analog system to the Genetec system under this plan. This would result in fully functional network camera capabilities at these locations.

- ECOC
- Fire 12
- Shoreline/Chestnut Intersection
- Seaside Park
- 2nd Street/Belmont Shore Corridor
- Shoreline/Shoreline Village Intersection
- Ramona Park
- Market/Atlantic Intersection
- 52nd/Atlantic Intersection
- Bella Fountain Park
- Aquarium/Seaside Intersection
- Admiral Kidd Park
- Bixby Park
- Cesar Chavez Park
- El Dorado Nature Center
- El Dorado Ranger Station
- Marine Maintenance
- Tree Farm
- Main Health
- Cherry Health
- Parks Rec and Marine Admin

Funding would also be allocated to replace Genetec equipment reaching its end-of-life span at the following locations, providing continuity of services:

- Multi-Service Center
- Multiple locations at Rainbow Harbor
- Public Works Environmental Services Bureau
- Pine/Bay Intersection
- Shoreline/Aquarium Intersection

Eight major security camera intersections in the downtown/entertainment district require equipment backhauled to be upgraded as part of this funding to connect to camera units to the City fiber backbone:

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- Broadway/Pine
- 1st/Pine
- Ocean/Pine
- Seaside/Pine
- Bay/Pine
- Broadway/Promenade
- 1st/Promenade
- Ocean/Promenade

The \$2.784 million will be expended in FY 23 through network camera vendors and equipment suppliers, who already have contracts with the City as an outcome of an RFP conducted for network camera supplies and installation/upgrade services conducted in 2020. In anticipation of this funding plan, TID has acquired estimates from the awarded vendors to identify scope, cost, and locations of various Genetec installations and upgrades. Any delays related to this program would stem from manufacturing and shipping delays, which is impacting technology equipment procurements and orders globally.

If you have any questions, please contact Budget Manager Grace H. Yoon at (562) 570-6408.

ATTACHMENT – LONG BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT RECRUITMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

CC: CHARLES PARKIN, CITY ATTORNEY
DOUGLAS P. HAUBERT, CITY PROSECUTOR
LAURA L. DOUD, CITY AUDITOR
LINDA F. TATUM, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
TERESA CHANDLER, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
KATY NOMURA, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
APRIL WALKER, ADMINISTRATIVE DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
KEVIN LEE, CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
MONIQUE DE LA GARZA, CITY CLERK
DEPARTMENT HEADS

**Long Beach Fire Department
Recruit Academy Demographics
2019A to 2022A**

Gender	2019A	2020A	2022A	Total
Count				
Female	2	0	0	2
Male	28	24	25	77
Other/Unreported	0	0	0	0
Total	30	24	25	79
Percentage				
Female	7%	0%	0%	3%
Male	93%	100%	100%	97%
Other/Unreported	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Race/Ethnicity	2019A	2020A	2022A	Total
Count				
Asian or Pacific Islander	6	1	2	9
Black	2	1	1	4
Hispanic	13	9	9	31
Native American	0	1	0	1
Other/Unreported	1	0	0	1
White	8	12	13	33
Total	30	24	25	79
Percentage				
Asian or Pacific Islander	20%	4%	8%	11%
Black	7%	4%	4%	5%
Hispanic	43%	38%	36%	39%
Native American	0%	4%	0%	1%
Other/Unreported	3%	0%	0%	1%
White	27%	50%	52%	42%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

**Long Beach Fire Department
 Engineer Exam Passing Demographics
 2019 to 2022**

Gender	2019	2021	2022	Total
Count				
Female	0	1	0	1
Male	12	11	11	34
Other/Unreported	0	0	0	0
Total	12	12	11	24
Percentage				
Female	0%	8%	0%	4%
Male	100%	92%	100%	142%
Other/Unreported	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Race/Ethnicity	2019	2021	2022	Total
Count				
Asian or Pacific Islander	2	3	2	7
Black	1	0	2	3
Hispanic	5	2	1	8
Native American	0	0	0	0
Other/Unreported	0	1	0	1
White	4	6	6	16
Total	12	12	11	24
Percentage				
Asian or Pacific Islander	17%	25%	18%	29%
Black	8%	0%	18%	13%
Hispanic	42%	17%	9%	33%
Native American	0%	0%	0%	0%
Other/Unreported	0%	8%	0%	4%
White	33%	50%	55%	67%
Total	100%	100%	100%	146%

**Long Beach Fire Department
Promotion Demographics
October 2019 to August 12, 2022**

*** As of Aug 12, 2022**

Gender	Oct 2019 to Dec 2019	2020	2021	2022 *	Total
Count					
Female	0	0	1	0	1
Male	11	2	22	4	39
Total	11	2	23	4	40
Percentage					
Female	0%	0%	4%	0%	3%
Male	100%	100%	96%	100%	98%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

*** As of Aug 12, 2022**

Race/Ethnicity	Oct 2019 to Dec 2019	2020	2021	2022 *	Total
Count					
Asian or Pacific Islander	1	0	2	2	5
Black	1	0	3	1	5
Hispanic	5	0	4	2	11
Native American	0	0	1	0	1
White	4	2	13	5	24
Total	11	2	23	10	46
Percentage					
Asian or Pacific Islander	9%	0%	9%	20%	11%
Black	9%	0%	13%	10%	11%
Hispanic	45%	0%	17%	20%	24%
Native American	0%	0%	4%	0%	2%
White	36%	100%	57%	50%	52%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%