


Date: December 27, 2022

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager 

Subject: **FY 23 Congressionally Directed Spending Requests Update**

On December 23, 2022, Congress adopted the \$1.7 trillion Fiscal Year 2023 (FY 23) federal budget, including \$772.5 billion for non-defense discretionary spending programs. As explained in a [memorandum](#) on June 29, 2022, the City of Long Beach (City) submitted congressionally directed spending requests to the legislative delegation for consideration, and the FY 23 budget includes four of the City's priority project requests totaling \$10.75 million:

- **51st Street Greenbelt: \$2 million**
 - Congressman Nanette Barragán secured \$2 million to support the completion of the 51st Street Greenbelt. The project will transform nearly one acre of undeveloped land in a dense, park-poor, disadvantaged community of color into a thriving greenbelt that improves water and air quality, increases tree canopy and new park acreage, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Anaheim Street Corridor: \$7 million**
 - Congressman Alan Lowenthal secured \$7 million to advance the Anaheim Street Corridor project. The project will improve safety along the corridor with upgrades to traffic signals, protected turns, construction of pedestrian refuge medians, and turn restrictions in collision hotspots.
- **Community Learning Hubs: \$750,000**
 - Congressman Lowenthal also supported \$750,000 for community learning hub infrastructure in Long Beach, which will improve technology access for the community and give children a safe place to study by expanding high-speed internet access, improved Wi-Fi, and new computers at libraries and parks.
- **Long Beach Accelerator: \$1 million**
 - Senator Dianne Feinstein secured \$1 million to support the City's partnership with the Long Beach Accelerator. Funding will be used to acquire and improve a facility that will house the Long Beach Accelerator offices, staff, programming, and space for startup companies.

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The City has benefited greatly from the strong support of our congressional delegation through the FY 23 budget. These funded projects will have a lasting impact on the Long Beach community. Furthermore, we anticipate having more opportunities to submit congressionally directed spending requests in the upcoming congressional session. Additional information about the FY 23 budget can be found in the attached memorandum from the City's federal representative, Dentons.

If you have any questions, please contact Tyler Bonanno-Curley, Manager of Government Affairs, at (562) 570-5715 or Tyler.Curley@longbeach.gov.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The City of Long Beach
FROM: John Russell & Rachel Dembo
SUBJECT: Omnibus Provisions Breakdown
DATE: December 23, 2022
LINKS: [Legislative Text](#), [T-HUD Explanatory Statement](#) & [Financial Services Explanatory Statement](#)

Overview: The Senate passed the \$1.7T FY23 Omnibus Appropriations bill on Dec. 23rd. With a handful of amendments attached to the bill. This legislation includes \$772.5B for non-defense discretionary programs and \$858B in defense funding. Below is a short overview of the Congressional Directed Funding that Long Beach received as well as the topline numbers for funding opportunities that may be of interest to Long Beach next year.

Bill Riders

The following bills passed the senate and are attached to the legislation that the House is set to consider and pass later today.

1. Sen. Lee (R-UT): Navy Lt. Alkonis Pay and Benefits Continuation Amendment
 - This legislation directs the Secretary of the Navy to continue the pay and benefits of Navy Lt. Ridge Alkonis, who tragically was involved in a deadly car accident caused by the sudden onset of Acute Mountain Sickness while serving in Japan.
2. Sen. Cassidy (R-LA): Pregnant Fairness Workers Act
 - This legislation promotes women's health and economic security by ensuring that workers with limitations related to pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions are not forced out of their jobs or denied reasonable workplace accommodations.
3. Sen. Padilla (D-CA) & Sen. Cornyn (R-TX): State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Fiscal Recovery, Infrastructure, and Disaster Relief Flexibility Act
 - The bill makes several categories of infrastructure investments and disaster relief eligible for unspent COVID-19 relief dollars. It also extends the deadline to utilize relief funding if budgeted for eligible infrastructure projects
4. Sen. Graham (R-SC) & Sen. Whitehouse (D-RI): Asset Seizure for Ukraine Reconstruction Amendment
 - Sen. Gram's bill permits the sale and proceeds from assets - including seized mega-yachts, private jets, mansions, and expensive art - from sanctioned Russian oligarchs and entities supporting Putin to be used to the benefit of the Ukrainian people.
5. Sen. Merkley (D-OR) & Sen. Murkowski (R-AK): Providing Urgent Maternal Protections (PUMP) for Nursing Mothers Act
 - This bill ensures that hourly employees are provided space and time to pump and store breast milk at work.
6. Sen. Klobuchar (D-MN) & Sen. Lee (R-UT): The Merger Fee Filing Modernization Act
 - This antitrust legislation equips antitrust enforcers with sufficient tools and resources to protect consumers by updating merger filing fees and lowering the burden on small and medium-sized businesses.
7. Sen. Gillibrand (D-NY): 9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act
 - The Senator's legislation delivers \$3.624B in supplemental funding to close the impending funding gap in the World Trade Center Health Program (WTCHP).

8. Sen. Menendez (D-NJ) Sen. Cotton (R-AR): Fairness for 9/11 Families Act
- This legislation provides relief for 9/11 families and other U.S. victims of state-sponsored terrorism

Community Project Funding

| <u>Project Title</u> | <u>Member of Congress</u> | <u>Committee Request</u> | <u>Requested Amount</u> | <u>Bill</u> | <u>Omnibus Funding Amount</u> |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| North Long Beach 51st Street Greenbelt on the Los Angeles River | Rep. Nanette Barragán | \$ 2,000,000 | \$ 2,000,000 | THUD | \$ 2,000,000 |
| Anaheim Street | Rep. Alan Lowenthal | \$ 7,000,000 | \$ 7,000,000 | THUD | \$ 7,000,000 |
| Community Learning Hubs | Rep. Alan Lowenthal | \$ 1,742,000 | \$ 750,000 | THUD | \$ 750,000 |
| Long Beach Accelerator | Sen. Feinstein | \$ 1,000,000 | \$ 1,000,000 | Financial Services | \$ 1,000,000 |

Investing In Affordable Housing and Preventing Homelessness for Vulnerable Households

- \$1.5B for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program for the construction of nearly 10,000 new rental and homebuyer units
- \$6.39B for the Community Development Block Grant formula program (\$1.55B compared to FY22) and related local economic and community development projects that benefit low- and moderate-income areas and people
- \$3.63B for Homeless Assistance Grants (\$420M or 13% increase from FY22), which will serve over 1M people experiencing homelessness each year through a wide variety of service and housing interventions
- \$2B for the Rural Housing Service (\$183M increase over FY22)
- \$40M for Rental Assistance
- \$1.435B for the Housing for the Elderly and Housing for Persons with Disabilities programs, of which nearly \$258M will support new awards of capital advance and rental assistance opportunities to serve an estimated 2,910 additional households.
- \$130M for new incremental Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers to support over 11,700 additional low-income households, including families and individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness, survivors of domestic violence, veterans at risk of or experiencing homelessness, and youth aging out of foster care.

Supporting Law Enforcement and Other Justice Programs

- \$770.8M (\$96.3M increase) for Byrne-Justice Assistance Grants (JAG)
- \$700M, the highest funding level ever (22% increase over FY22), for grants provided by the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)
- \$324M (32% increase over FY22 enacted levels) for the COPS Hiring program.
- \$231M (5% increase over FY22 levels) for State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance and Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office grant programs related to police-community relations.
- \$45M for the COPS Community Policing Development program

- **Note:** This includes funding for de-escalation, implicit bias, and duty to intervene training (\$16M), crisis intervention teams to embed mental and behavioral health services with law enforcement (\$11M), and accreditation of law enforcement agencies (\$9M).
- \$10M to train law enforcement to appropriately respond to situations when individuals are mentally ill or disabled.
- \$50M for the Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative

Health Care Funding, Access, and Research

The bill makes core investments in the health and well-being of the people of this country, which include:

- \$9.2B for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), an increase of \$760M
 - **Note:** Over half of the \$9.2B went to core public health activities, including the Public Health Infrastructure and Capacity Program, the Infectious Disease Rapid Response Reserve Fund, the Forecasting and Outbreak Analytics Center, Public Health Workforce, and Data Modernization.
- \$3.3B for the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), an increase of \$560M
 - **Note:** These investments will strengthen our nation's biosecurity by accelerating advanced research and development of medical countermeasures for pandemic threats and fortifying our stockpiles and supply chains for drugs, masks, and other lifesaving medical supplies
- \$613M for the fourth year of the domestic HIV/AIDS elimination initiative (\$100M increase over FY22)
- \$575M for bilateral family planning/reproductive health programs to support access to voluntary family planning services and other related healthcare
- \$324M (60% increase over FY22) in HRSA, CDC, and NIH initiatives aimed at improving maternal health and reducing the nation's alarmingly high maternal mortality rate

Medicaid

In addition to several Medicare and mental health provisions, Lawmakers reached an agreement on Medicaid re-determinations, providing states the authority to restart Medicaid eligibility, which has been paused since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. These so-called "checks" will recommence in April of 2023. While this agreement helps reduce federal spending, millions of people are set to lose Medicaid coverage. Moreover, the omnibus extended the Children's Health Insurance Program until 2029, allowing children on Medicaid to receive an additional year of continuous eligibility and ensuring they will not lose coverage despite any or all changes to their socioeconomic status.

Mental Health

To further confront the mental health crisis and provide people with the resources that they need, the omnibus included:

- \$1.01B for the Mental Health Block Grant to provide mental health treatment services and support community mental health services.
- \$501.6M (\$400M increase) for the Suicide Prevention Lifeline to successfully transition to 988
- \$385M (\$70M increase) for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics
- \$140M (\$20M increase) for Project Aware

- \$130M for Children's Mental Health Services (\$5M increase over FY22)

Telehealth

Pandemic-era telehealth flexibilities were also extended for two years (until Dec. 31st, 2024), which was a major ask from the healthcare industry.

Pandemic Preparedness

The pandemic preparedness package negotiated by Senate Health Committee leaders Patty Murray (D-WA) and Richard Burr (R-NC) also made it into the omnibus. Importantly, the package includes a policy requiring Senate confirmation for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention director.

Funding Child Care

The omnibus currently appropriates the following resources to the existing childcare crisis:

- \$8B for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (30% increase over FY22)
- \$11.996B (8.6% increase over FY22) for the Head Start program.

Transportation, Infrastructure, & Environment

- \$10.135B for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (\$576 million increase over FY22), which includes:
 - \$72M increase for EPA enforcement and compliance programs
 - \$32M increase for clean air programs
 - \$33M increase for water programs
 - \$20M increase for toxic chemical programs
 - \$ 8.013M increase for brownfield programs
 - \$5M for Energy Community Revitalization Program (orphan wells)
- \$94 million for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), which includes:
 - \$340M for the air traffic organization and includes up to 1,500 new air traffic controllers to help reduce airline flight delays as air traffic continues to surge
- \$62.9B for the Federal Highway Administration (\$2.3B increase over FY22), which includes:
 - \$58.765B is for the highway trust fund to meet the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act obligations for Federal-aid highway programs
 - \$1.145B to reduce the backlog of structurally deficient bridges

Disaster Recovery

- \$803M for the Federal Highway Administration Emergency Relief Program to reimburse states for costs to repair damaged roads and bridges from eligible disasters
- \$3B for the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program (CDBG-DR) to help communities recover from major declared disasters.

Looking Ahead

With the package set to pass Congress and sent to President Biden's desk before the holidays, it is important to note that this may also be the last bill we see in quite some time that will have as many provisions due to what we anticipate will be a partisan stalemate. While Congress will still get some legislative accomplishments, an expansive funding package that includes Community Project Funding (Earmarks), such as the currently proposed omnibus, remains unclear. Following several swearing-in ceremonies early next year, the Republican-controlled House of Representatives will vote on several regulatory priorities, including whether the House

Appropriations Committee includes Earmarks in the FY24 appropriations bills. That said, Senate leadership has already indicated that Earmarks will remain part of the Senate Appropriations process.