Date: January 20, 2022

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager

From: Meredith Reynolds, Special Deputy City Manager for Recovery

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: Long Beach Recovery Act Update - January 2022

Since March 2021, when the City Council approved the Long Beach Recovery Act, City staff have designed the Recovery Programs with a focus on equity and collective impact and submitted them for approval to begin implementation. This memo provides a high-level update on the status of various programs including highlights of the procurement processes underway, as well as an update on programs currently underway or those that are anticipated to be rolled out in the near term. The memo also provides an update on recent Recovery funding received as well as funding opportunities for which staff has applied.

Long Beach Recovery Act Program Highlights

The following Recovery Programs are currently available to the public:

- **Mobile Recess Program**, December 6, 2021 – February 25, 2022
  Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
  Press Release: [Mobile Recess Program (11/17/21)]

  Mobile Recess provides recreational supplies and equipment to designated closed neighborhood streets and provides supervised recreation, physical fitness, and arts and craft activities for youth ages 5 through 14 (Grades K-8). Registration for the new series, operating weekdays from 2:30 to 5 p.m., began Monday, November 22, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. in person and online. The Mobile Recess Program will be held at the following locations: Atlantic Plaza and Craftsman Village Parks (Mondays and Wednesdays), Rose Park and 17th Street between Henderson Avenue and Chestnut Avenue (Tuesdays and Thursdays), and 23rd Street between Cedar Avenue and Chestnut Avenue and Burton Chace Park (Fridays). Advance sign-ups are required and beginning November 22, 2021, people were able to register online on LBParks.org, or in person at any of the participating Mobile Recess locations, Monday through Friday, from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m.

- **Community Learning Hubs Program**, January 3, 2022 – April 15, 2022
  Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
  Press Release: [Community Learning Hubs (12/17/21)]

  Free Community Learning Hubs provide a safe space with high-speed internet for
kindergarten through eighth-grade students enrolled in Independent Study through Long Beach Unified School District to complete distance learning assignments during the school day and the option to participate in safe and enriching after-school activities, including academic support, sports, fitness and more. Community Learning Hubs take place weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Houghton, McBride, Orizaba and Veterans Parks. Registration is required and was made available online at LBParks.org and in person beginning December 22, 2021.

- Inclusive Procurement Vendor Survey, October 15, 2021 – November 12, 2021

  **Department of Financial Management**

  Press Release: [Inclusive Purchasing Vendor Engagement (10/15/21)](#)

  In collaboration with the Harvard Kennedy School Government Performance Lab (GPL), the City completed a comprehensive evaluation and remaking of its procurement systems and processes to make procurement more efficient, consistent, and forward-looking, so that all vendors, including local, minority- and women-owned businesses, are better positioned to do business with the City and provide services on the City's behalf that best serve the Long Beach community. The City recently featured an online survey, available in English, Spanish, Khmer, and Tagalog, that collected input from previous and current vendors as well as from unsuccessful and prospective vendors. The survey helped identify barriers faced by prospective and current vendors and will be used to improve vendor outreach with a focus on Long Beach businesses, and design and implement new solutions to increase opportunities for contracting. This engagement survey is one important step in a series of purchasing improvements that include a user-centered redesign of the request for proposals document; implementation of a new user-centered online proposal submittal system; forecasting of upcoming City procurement needs; and training staff on procurement best practices, all of which focus on building stronger connections to local and diverse businesses to build equity and inclusion among the vendors working with the City.

- Emergency Food Distributions, November 9, 2021 - Ongoing

  **Department of Health and Human Services**

  On November 9, 2021, the Department of Health and Human Services Community Health Bureau received approval to implement emergency food distribution events to meet the immediate nutrition security needs of Long Beach residents. This program is made possible by funds from the Long Beach Recovery Act and is implemented through partnerships with Special Events & Filming, the Long Beach Police, Public Works, Parks, Recreation and Marine, and the Health and Human Services Departments, and multiple community organizations.

  On Tuesday, December 21, 2022, the Department of Health and Human Services partnered with Supervisor Hahn’s Office, the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, LA Department of Parks and Recreation, and Special Events and Filming to host a drive-thru food distribution event at Jordan High School. Open to anyone in need, the event provided 50-70 lbs. of food and resources to 996 households.
Long Beach Recovery Act Program Events

The implementation of many Recovery Programs includes public events or activities where services are offered and supplies are distributed, which are promoted throughout the Long Beach community. The following Recovery Program event(s) funded by the Long Beach Recovery Act have recently taken place:

- Power of Giving at Houghton Park, December 11, 2021
  **Black Health Equity Program**

The Power of Giving was a free event that included toy giveaways, health screenings, food trucks, and various vendors providing resources for the wellbeing of Long Beach residents. The event reached over 700 families and was made possible by a collaboration of partners, including Project Optimism & the Black Health Equity Collaborative (Organizers), the April Parker Foundation, Long Beach News Today, Ian Michael Realities, Urban Society Long Beach, Mattel, Elite Skills Development, Target Corporation, and Vice Mayor Rex Richardson. The Black Health Equity Collaborative (BHEC), a group initially funded through CARES Act and critical to informing recovery strategies, addresses health inequities and disparities in Black communities through acknowledging and addressing the social determinants of health that contribute to health outcomes in Black communities.

Long Beach Recovery Act Contracts

Many Recovery Programs are designed to partner with community-based organizations and businesses for program implementation. The City is currently seeking qualified businesses and/or community-based organizations to provide services as a part of the City’s recovery programs in the following procurement opportunities:

- Black Health Equity Mental Health Services RFQ Opportunity
  Release Date: January 3, 2022
  Statements of Qualifications Due: 11:00 a.m., February 14, 2022

  The City of Long Beach, Department of Health & Human Services, is seeking Black-serving mental health providers to provide culturally affirming mental health services to under and uninsured Black Long Beach residents experiencing negative mental and emotional well-being. The City is looking for providers well-versed in the Black experience to serve the Black community at large and the various communities that make up the Black Long Beach population including, but not limited to, youth, LGBTQ+, veterans, individuals without homes, and people with disabilities.

  These procurement opportunities are advertised on the City’s recovery website and social media accounts, in the Press Telegram and the Long Beach Business Journal, and through direct emails to a wide array of businesses and community-based organizations that have expertise and may be interested in providing recovery-related programs and services. These
opportunities to do business with the City are specifically advertised to local minority and women-owned businesses and those who work with communities of color.

Once procurement processes are completed and partners/service providers are selected, contracts will be executed with the City to provide recovery-related programs and services. The following contracts have been awarded to community partners:

- **Long Beach Nonprofit Partnership**, executed December 21, 2021 ($235,000)
  
  *Early Childhood Emergency Supplies Program*
  
  Service(s): Distribute a minimum of 500 diapers, 500 packages of wipes, 200 containers of diaper cream, and 100 containers of formula each week for six months at multiple LBUSD locations and at five PRM locations in zip codes 90802, 90805, 90810, 90813, and 90815. Other local community partners or organizations interested in hosting a sub-distribution will be able to request supplies for their events in the community and distributions can be coordinated with community-facing programming, such as the Early Learning Festival, hosted in partnership with the Long Beach Public Library.

- **Gecko Inc.**, approved by the City Council January 4, 2022 ($690,000)
  
  *Direct Relief for Business Programs*
  
  Service(s): Administer multiple small business and non-profit grant programs through an online grant application software system that will provide direct financial relief to small businesses and non-profits impacted by COVID-19 and State and local Health Orders, provide training on the application process to City staff and partners, intake grant applications, review applications to determine eligibility, provide case management, administer grant payments, and deliver other related services. The following programs will be supported by this contract:

  - Restaurant, Brewery, and Bar Grants
  - Fitness and Personal Services Sector Grants
  - Small Business Relief Grants
  - Non-Profit Relief Grants
  - Business License Taxes and Fees Grants

**New Long Beach Recovery Act Funding**

Since the adoption of the Long Beach Recovery Act in March 2021, the City continues to seek and secure additional recovery funding. The City will be receiving the following new recovery funding:

- **Long Beach Youth Climate Corps Program**
  
  *Californians For All Youth Workforce Development Grant* ($6,300,000)
  
  Lead: Office of Sustainability, Economic Development Department
As part of $150 million in the State Budget to support a youth workforce jobs program in California’s 13 largest cities, with the goal to increase access to pathways that expand economic and social capital for youth and young adults, increase programming and services that promote prosocial engagement for youth and youth adults, especially those who are systemically impacted, and create healthier communities by addressing climate change through occupational training, community awareness, and education. On November 7, 2021, the City Council voted to approve a $5 million Long Beach Youth Climate Corps program with these funds and directed staff to provide program recommendations to the Climate Action Committee and the City Council, which is anticipated to occur in January-February 2022. Staff submitted an initial grant application the last week of December 2021 and funding is anticipated to be awarded in Summer 2022.

- Park Improvements at Bixby, El Dorado, MacArthur and Ramona Parks
  *California State Parks* ($12,050,000)
  Lead: Parks, Recreation and Marine and Public Works Departments

The City will receive over $12 million from a $75.7 million budget surplus in the State Budget, identified to fund various park capital improvements at Bixby Park ($850,000), El Dorado Park ($1,200,000), MacArthur Park ($8,500,000), and Ramona Park ($1,500,000). Grant applications were approved by the City Council on December 7, 2021, and funds are anticipated to become available in Spring of 2022 with all grants expiring on June 30, 2024.

Staff are also tracking County, State and Federal grant opportunities that would bring additional recovery-related funding to support recovery for vulnerable populations and business sectors or fund critical infrastructure improvements. The following are current grant applications the City has applied for:

- Travel, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Grant Program ($5,000,000 grant request)
  *U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA)*
  Lead: Economic Development and Public Works Departments

The Travel, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Grant Program provides $750 million in funding to help communities hit hardest by challenges facing travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors to invest in infrastructure, workforce development, or other projects that support the recovery and economic resilience of the community. The City requests $5 million to construct the Long Beach Tourism Media and Training Center in the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center. The grant would fund the construction of a digital media broadcast studio and teaching/training space that would be utilized by educators and trainers from local colleges to educate hospitality/tourism businesses to adapt to new technologies that are required to successfully operate in today’s digital environment, and will support virtual and hybrid convention and special event programming to support the local and regional hospitality and tourism industry.
• Outdoor Equity Grant Program ($175,000 grant request)
  *California State Parks*
  Lead: Parks, Recreation and Marine and Health and Human Services Departments

The Outdoor Equity Grant Program provides $57 million in funding statewide to provide outdoor recreational opportunities for under-resourced communities. The grant program provides outdoor recreation experiences to multi-generational residents, with an emphasis on youth. The City requests $175,000 to fund the Adventures in Outdoor Education and Exploration Program, headquartered at McBride and Martin Luther King Junior Parks. The grant would fund a series of recreation, swim and nature-based classes and educational trips to offsite park/nature locations in and around Long Beach, coupled with mental health trainings and experiences designed to reduce the stigma of mental health, normalizing the experiences of residents during the pandemic, and the offering of healing through self-care.

Staff are also closely tracking future opportunities for recovery funding, including federal infrastructure funding. Staff is preparing a comprehensive memo, anticipated to be completed in January 2022 to communicate the strategy for federal infrastructure funding, much of which is anticipated to be distributed through competitive grants.

**Long Beach Recovery Act Website Updates**

The City launched the Recovery website, where all Long Beach Recovery Act information is available to the public: [https://longbeach.gov/recovery](https://longbeach.gov/recovery). Since the initial launch, Staff have added a *Current Opportunities* tab which will detail:

- **Assistance Programs:** The Recovery programs that are currently live and ready for enrollment and participation
- **Grant Opportunities:** The grant opportunities for businesses, nonprofits, or artists that are available for application as well as technical assistance for application.
- **Contracting Opportunities:** Current, past, and future contracting opportunities for community-based organizations and other businesses to partner with the City to deliver Recovery programs.

The Recovery Website also features a procurement forecast, which provides a greater level of advance and up-to-date information pertaining to future contracting opportunities so that local businesses and community-based organizations wishing to do business with the City can plan ahead to learn about what they will need to be successful and how the procurement process works. This information, along with educational and technical assistance information about how to become a City vendor, helps to create equitable economic opportunities for residents, workers, investors, and entrepreneurs in Long Beach for sustained economic recovery. The procurements identified in this forecast are expected to be solicited and/or awarded in the current fiscal year and beyond, based on the best information available to the City at the time of publication, and additional recovery-related contracting opportunities will be added on a regularly basis as more information becomes available.
This web portal is the one-stop resource for all recovery program information to residents, businesses and community organizations providing economic recovery and safe and healthy cities program announcements and resources as well as communicating progress in implementing recovery programs.

**Recovery Reporting**

As Long Beach Recovery Act Programs are implemented, regular updates such as this memo will be provided in addition to a summarized report that will be prepared every six months as shown below. Report 2 will be prepared in April 2022.

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<th>Recovery Reports</th>
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The City will proceed with implementation using the Council-approved goals and funding guidelines unless staff receives further direction from the City Council, no later than the January 18, 2022 City Council meeting. The City’s Recovery Act website will be updated to reflect the information included in this memo. Additional program announcements and highlights will be shared in late January 2022 to communicate the status of various programs including highlights. If you have any questions, please contact Meredith Reynolds, Special Deputy City Manager for Recovery, at (562) 570-6677 or Meredith.Reynolds@longbeach.gov.

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  
APRIL WALKER, ADMINISTRATIVE DEPUTY CITY MANAGER  
MONIQUE DE LA GARZA, CITY CLERK  
DEPARTMENT HEADS
LONG BEACH RECOVERY ACT PROGRAMS – IMPLEMENTATION

Mobile Recess Program

How to Register

In-Person
Stop by any of our program locations during their designated hours to register your child on the spot!

Online
1. Visit LBParks.org or scan the QR code below to fill out our registration form.
2. Stop by your neighborhood site and join us for fun activities.

Locations

Monday & Wednesday
Atlantic Plaza Park
Craftsman Village Park
841 Orange Ave.

Tuesday & Thursday
Rose Park
Corner of Orange Ave. & 1st St.
17th Street
Between Henderson & Chestnut Aves.

Friday
Burton Chace Park
65 E. Market St.

Games • Enrichment • Fitness • Crafts

Our Mobile Recess staff drive trucks loaded with supplies and equipment to designated neighborhood streets and provide activities for youth. The streets will be blocked off for safety.

For more information, call (562) 570-3336

Community Hub Program
Community Hub Program

Inclusive Procurement Program

Black Health Equity Collaborative

Black Health Equity Collaborative