

Date: June 29, 2022

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager 

Subject: **Priority Project Funding Requests Update**

In spring 2022, the City of Long Beach (City) had an opportunity to submit priority project requests to the legislative delegation for consideration in the Fiscal Year 2023 (FY 23) State and federal Budgets. In preparation for earmark applications, City staff developed a list of projects citywide that could be competitive for direct funding as outlined in a [memorandum](#) on April 11, 2022. The list was sent to the entire delegation and City staff briefed the delegation offices on the City projects to identify strategic alignment with member priorities.

At this point in the appropriations processes, our delegation members (members) have submitted project requests and are awaiting confirmation of which projects will be funded in the adopted FY 23 State and federal Budgets. Of the list of priority projects submitted by the City, our members advanced the following projects, totaling more than \$35 million:

- **51st Street Greenbelt: \$2 million**
 - Congressman Barragan prioritized \$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.
 - *Status:* Submitted by member, approved by Appropriations Subcommittee, and sent to House Appropriations Committee.

- **Anaheim Street Corridor: \$7 million**
 - Congressman Lowenthal submitted a \$7 million funding request to advance the Anaheim Street Corridor. 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.
 - *Status:* Submitted by member, approved by Appropriations Subcommittee, and sent to House Appropriations Committee.

- **Community Learning Hubs: \$750,000**
 - Congressman Lowenthal also requested \$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.

- *Status:* Submitted by member, approved by Appropriations Subcommittee, and sent to House Appropriations Committee.

- **El Dorado Park: \$11.8 million**

- State Assemblymember O'Donnell included two requests for projects at El Dorado Park in the FY 23 State Budget. \$1.6 million will support the completion of the El Dorado Regional Park Youth softball and baseball fields, and \$10.2 million will support a myriad of infrastructure improvements at the park, such as parking lot and street repair, building restoration, and accessibility.
- *Status:* Submitted by member and included in proposed budget.

- **Health Facilities: \$4 million**

- Senator Padilla requested \$4 million in the FY 23 federal Budget for improvements at the City's public health facilities, including Main, Central, and West Health facilities and Miller Family Health Education Center. Funding will support maintenance improvements, exterior and interior renovation, façade improvement, and more.
- *Status:* Submitted by member to Appropriations Subcommittee.

- **Long Beach Accelerator: \$1 million**

- Senator Feinstein submitted a request for \$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.
- *Status:* Submitted by member to Appropriations Subcommittee.

- **Multi-Service Center: \$6 million**

- Senator Padilla and State Senator Gonzalez advanced a total of \$6 million in funding to support infrastructure improvements at the Multi-Service Center. The facility is essential for the City's wrap-around services and resources for people experiencing homelessness, and funding will address significant deferred maintenance and infrastructure needs.
- *Status:* State request of \$4 million submitted by member and included in proposed budget; federal request of \$2 million submitted by member to Appropriations Subcommittee.

- **Stearns Park: \$1.6 million**

- State Assemblymember O'Donnell included \$1.6 million in the FY 23 State

Budget for softball and baseball field improvements at Stearns Park. This funding can support the development of batting cages and other infrastructure needs at the site.

- *Status:* Submitted by member and included in proposed budget.
- **Wrigley Greenbelt: \$1.2 million**
 - State Senator Gonzalez prioritized \$1.2 million in State funding to help complete the Wrigley Greenbelt restoration project. Funding will advance accessibility, translated wayfinding, interpretive signage, and more.
 - *Status:* Submitted by member and included in proposed budget.

While members have submitted these project requests, both the State and federal appropriations processes are ongoing. The State Legislature has introduced a proposed budget that includes the City's projects mentioned above, and we expect them to vote on the FY 23 State Budget and the Governor to sign it this week. They will then finalize additional budget details in follow-up trailer bills through August. At the federal level, the House has moved earmark requests forward to the Appropriations Committee, while the Senate is still working through Appropriations Subcommittees. Once both Appropriations Committees approve their versions of the budget, Congress will reconcile differences and adopt the FY 23 federal Budget as early as September, prior to the current fiscal year end. City staff will continue to monitor these budget processes and advocate with our delegation for the inclusion of additional City project funding.

We greatly appreciate the support of our delegation for putting these City projects forward. State Senator Gonzalez and State Assemblymember O'Donnell have helped secure more than \$18 million in the FY 23 State Budget for the City's parks and health facility needs. Our congressional delegation—Senators Feinstein and Padilla and Congressmembers Barragan and Lowenthal—have also submitted nearly \$17 million for consideration in the FY 23 federal Budget. These projects will have a lasting impact on the Long Beach community, and we look forward to continuing our strong partnership to advance park equity, transportation infrastructure, public health, and more through these funds.

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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