

Date: August 27, 2024

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager



From: Lea Eriksen, Director of Technology & Innovation



For: Mayor and Members of City Council

Subject: **Data Privacy Community Workshops**

Data privacy and digital rights are a priority for the City of Long Beach Technology and Innovation Department (TID). TID is committed to keeping residents' personally identifiable information (PII) safe and ensuring that all residents feel confident, secure, and understand the role of civic technologies in the City of Long Beach.

In support of these strategic initiatives, TID is conducting a series of community workshops designed to inform the public about our approach to data privacy, enhance the visibility and engagement with the City's data privacy resources, and develop community members' practical skills to protect their personal data while navigating the ever-changing landscape of our digital world.

Background

In September 2023, TID hosted a Digital Rights 101 workshop with City technology subject matter experts (SMEs) across all Long Beach City departments. This workshop marked the beginning of a collaborative effort to elevate transparent data privacy practices across the City. During the session, TID introduced its data privacy initiatives and the Digital Rights Platform, laying the foundation for future actions and enhancements.

Building on this momentum, in February 2024, TID launched an enhanced [Digital Rights Platform](#) (Platform) webpage and signage that provides Long Beach residents with detailed information about the technologies the City deploys and how it uses the data it collects. TID promoted the improved Platform through community "data walks" throughout the City that invited over 80 residents to share input on the Platform and overall perceptions of the City's data privacy practices.

Meanwhile, TID's Data Privacy Analyst is working to systematically implement the Long Beach [Data Privacy Guidelines](#) and subsequent [Implementation Plan](#). The Analyst actively engages with a network of Data Privacy Champions from each City Manager Department in the development of a Citywide Data Privacy Policy and Program. This initiative is aimed at ensuring that all technology systems are evaluated, implemented, and managed based on privacy risk, reinforcing the City's commitment to safeguarding residents' data.

Overview

To inform the public about its ongoing data privacy efforts, TID is launching a series of community workshops to educate the public on how to protect their online personal information and explore the tools the City of Long Beach has created to protect data privacy and strengthen their digital rights. Long Beach residents can participate in any of the following community workshops:

- Tuesday, September 17, 6:00 p.m. – Houghton Park (6301 Myrtle Ave.)
- Wednesday, September 18, 6:00 p.m. – Veteran’s Park (101 E 28th St.)
- Thursday, September 19, 6:00 p.m. – Silverado Park (1545 W 31 St.)

Residents can register to participate in one of the community workshops [here](#).

Food and drink will be provided, and registrants can request accommodations on the sign-up form.

TID is eager to work with Long Beach residents to advance our initiatives to raise awareness about data privacy, improve data transparency, and encourage insightful discussions on new civic technologies. We look forward to partnering with the community to foster a more informed and engaged public.

If you have any questions, please contact Lea Eriksen, Director of the Technology & Innovation Department, at (562) 570-6234 or lea.eriksen@longbeach.gov.

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