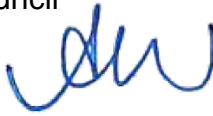


Date: June 20, 2024

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager 

Subject: **Congressionally Directed Spending Requests Update**

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In spring 2024, the City of Long Beach (City) had an opportunity to submit congressionally directed spending requests, commonly known as earmarks, to our federal delegation for consideration in the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY 25) federal budget. In preparation for the applications, City staff developed a list of citywide projects that could be competitive for direct funding as outlined in a January 10, 2024 [memorandum](#). 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 to the Senate and House Appropriations Committees for consideration in the FY 25 federal budget. The total funding allocation for each project could decrease through the appropriations process. Projects are only awarded if they make it through the congressional appropriations committees and are included in the final budget. Of the list of priority projects submitted by the City, our members advanced the following projects for consideration in the appropriations process, totaling approximately \$20,282,000:

- **Admiral Kidd Park Improvements: \$750,000**
  - Congressman Garcia submitted \$750,000 for park improvements at Admiral Kidd Park. Funding allocated to the project will be used to upgrade the fire alarm security system, including full panel system, emergency lighting, roof exhaust, and acoustic ceiling tiles.
  - *Status:* Submitted by member to the House Appropriations Committee.
- **Broadway Improvements Project: \$1,000,000**
  - Congressman Garcia submitted \$1,000,000 for improvements along the Broadway Corridor. Funding allocated to the project will be used to improve the public rights of way and placemaking along the Broadway corridor, including landscaping, wayfinding, public art, lighting, and street furniture.
  - *Status:* Submitted by member to the House Appropriations Committee.
- **Colorado Lagoon and Marina Vista Park: \$1,000,000**
  - Congressman Garcia submitted \$1,000,000 for investments in open space and placemaking in the Colorado Lagoon and Marina Vista Park areas of the City. Funding allocated to the project will be used to create more gathering spaces and amenities around the Colorado Lagoon to supplement the City's efforts to restore the lagoon and provide more outdoor activity space. Furthermore, while there are sports courts at Marina Vista Park, there is interest in expanding access to pickleball. The City has conducted a feasibility study to expand pickleball courts

throughout Long Beach, and funding is needed to develop this resource in an area that lacks access to dedicated pickleball courts.

- *Status:* Submitted by member to the House Appropriations Committee.
- **Community Crisis Response (CCR) Program: \$2,465,000**
  - Senator Butler submitted \$1,476,000, and Senator Padilla submitted \$989,000, for a total of \$2,465,000, to support expansion of the CCR Program operations, which currently responds to non-emergency 911 calls in West and South Long Beach from Monday through Friday, 9am – 5pm. Funding allocated to the program will be used to expand the operations of the CCR team to serve other parts of the city and for longer hours. Federal investment will better serve individuals in mental health crises while also easing the burden on our emergency response services.
  - *Status:* Submitted by member to Senate Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies.
- **DNA Lab: \$1,600,000**
  - Congressman Garcia submitted \$1,600,000 to help establish a locally hosted DNA Unit within the Long Beach Police Department (LBPD). Funding will be used to purchase instrumentation, equipment and software that is needed to operate the LBPD DNA Unit. By expediting the testing process and enhancing investigative capabilities, LBPD aims to swiftly identify and apprehend suspects, thereby effectively deterring future criminal activity within the Long Beach community and providing a safer community for all.
  - *Status:* Submitted by member to the House Appropriations Committee.
- **Houghton Park: \$2,000,000**
  - Congresswoman Barragán submitted \$2,000,000 for park improvements at Houghton Park. Funding allocated to the project will be used to expand a number of resources at Houghton Park based on the 2016 Houghton Park Vision Plan, including the development of a new community building, signature playground, and outdoor activity space.
  - *Status:* Submitted by member to the House Appropriations Committee.
- **Inspiring Youth to Pursue Aviation Careers: \$1,100,000**
  - Senator Butler submitted \$1,100,000 to support programming designed to inspire and prepare the next generation of aviation professionals. Funding allocated to the project will be used to help introduce Long Beach area youth to careers in aviation with a three-year pilot program that includes paid employment for high school students, field trips, and scholarships for aviation-related community college studies. By encouraging a passion for flight and aviation, this initiative would directly contribute to the broader effort in mitigating the pilot shortage that the aviation industry currently faces, and the need to get underrepresented groups in the industry.
  - *Status:* Submitted by member to Senate Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies.

- **LGB Unleaded Aviation Fuel Pilot Program: \$1,073,000**
  - Senator Padilla submitted \$1,073,000 for Long Beach Airport's (LGB) Unleaded Aviation Fuel Pilot Program, which aims to accelerate the transition of aviation fuel at LGB from leaded to unleaded. Since 2022, LGB has encouraged a safe and speedy transition to lead-free skies by introducing a series of incentives, culminating with the Long Beach City Council's authorization of a subsidy program known as the Subsidized Aviation Fuel for the Environment (SAFE) program. Funding allocated to the pilot program will help meet the demand for the program and help achieve lead-free skies in and around Long Beach Airport.
  - *Status:* Submitted by member to Senate Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development.
  
- **Marine Debris and Trash Capture System: \$3,000,000**
  - Senator Padilla submitted \$3,000,000 to support equipment, design, and permitting costs for a marine debris and trash capture system at the Los Angeles River. Funding allocated to the project will help stop and collect trash from flowing into the ocean.
  - *Status:* Submitted by member to Senate Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.
  
- **Mobile Mental Health Prevention Unit: \$1,594,000**
  - Senator Butler submitted \$1,594,000 to support the Mobile Mental Health Prevention Unit, which aims to fill gaps in the mental health care system by reaching underserved populations in a variety of geographic settings. Funding allocated to the project will be used to hire staff and purchase a mobile unit that provides mental health prevention services in communities disproportionately impacted by health inequities, violence, and poverty.
  - *Status:* Submitted by member to Senate Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies.
  
- **Scherer Park: \$2,000,000**
  - Congresswoman Barragán submitted \$2,000,000 for park improvements at Scherer Park. Funding allocated to the project will be used to install a signature playground and upgrade the playground facilities. This includes increased ADA accessibility through site-work improvements and enhanced outdoor recreational opportunities that promote active and healthy lifestyles.
  - *Status:* Submitted by member to the House Appropriations Committee.
  
- **Stormwater Master Plan: \$1,200,000**
  - Senator Padilla submitted \$1,200,000 to support the City's Stormwater Master Plan. Funding allocated to the project will be used to reduce chronic flooding, improve flood resilience, and create climate resilient infrastructure.
  - *Status:* Submitted by member to Senate Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.

- **Youth Center Feasibility Study: \$1,500,000**
  - Senator Butler submitted \$1,500,000 to support a study that would explore the feasibility of a Youth Center as part of the City's coordinated violence prevention efforts.
  - *Status:* Submitted by member to Senate Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies.

While members have submitted these project requests, the federal appropriations process is ongoing. City staff will continue to monitor these budget processes and advocate with our delegation for the inclusion of these projects in the adopted budget.

We greatly appreciate the support of our delegation for putting these City projects forward. 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, infrastructure, public safety, mental health and more through these funds. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Patterson, Manager of Strategic Partnerships and Government Affairs, at [sarah.patterson@longbeach.gov](mailto:sarah.patterson@longbeach.gov).

CC: DAWN McINTOSH, CITY ATTORNEY  
DOUGLAS P. HAUBERT, CITY PROSECUTOR  
LAURA L. DOUD, CITY AUDITOR  
APRIL WALKER, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER  
TERESA CHANDLER, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER  
MEREDITH REYNOLDS, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER  
GRACE YOON, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER  
TYLER CURLEY, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER  
KEVIN LEE, CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER  
MONIQUE DE LA GARZA, CITY CLERK  
DEPARTMENT HEADS