CITY OF LONG BEACH

**Memorandum**

Date: August 13, 2026

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager

From: Christopher Koontz, Director of Community Development

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Invitation to Neighborhood Leadership Program 32nd Anniversary Graduation – Saturday, August 22, 2026**

The Community Development Department cordially invites you to attend the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2026 graduation. This event will be held on Saturday, August 22, 2026, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at The Grand, located at 4101 E Willow St, Long Beach, CA 90815.

This year's graduation has special significance since all Council Districts are represented and it's a celebration of the **900th** graduate program of The Neighborhood Leadership Program. The 23 participants in the Class of 2026 will join other Long Beach alumni who have completed the program since 1992. Attached please find a current roster indicating the City Council district in which each participant resides.

If you would like to issue Certificates of Recognition to the graduates from your district, or to the class, please contact Francisco Rodriguez, Community Program Specialist, at (562) 570-3817 by Thursday, August 20, 2026, to arrange for pick up. The certificates will be distributed at the graduation ceremony.

The Neighborhood Leadership Program has operated for 32 years and is proposed to continue next year. The program continues to evolve as funding and community needs within the City of Long Beach change. The program represents a partnership between the City, the alumni of the program, neighborhood associations and other nonprofit entities. Major funding is provided by the Unites States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) as well as the City's General Fund.

For more information, please contact Meggan Sorensen, Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau Manager, at (562) 570-5269.

ATTACHMENTS

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 BONANNO-CURLEY, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
KEVIN LEE, CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
MONIQUE DE LA GARZA, CITY CLERK
DEPARTMENT HEADS

**Attachment A**

## 2026 Graduating Class

| ID | First Name | Last Name | CD |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Vanessa | Acosta | 7 |
| 2 | Tony | Aldana | 9 |
| 3 | Ruby | Arrington | 6 |
| 4 | Sherrina | Barnes | 4 |
| 5 | Ramon | Antonio Cabiling | 8 |
| 6 | Lauren | Chambers | 8 |
| 7 | Guillermina | Cruz Lopez | 6 |
| 8 | Herbert | Flournoy, Jr. | 6 |
| 9 | Xochilt | Landeros | 8 |
| 10 | Candace | Leos Valdepena | 7 |
| 11 | De'Gina | Logan | 2 |
| 12 | Michelle | Mancilla | 2 |
| 13 | Pamela | Marshall | 1 |
| 14 | Isaac | Martinez | 9 |
| 15 | Melvin | McDuffie III | 9 |
| 16 | Lane | Mykel Medina | 3 |
| 17 | Nicole | Miles | 7 |
| 18 | Yelois | Nicholson | 7 |
| 19 | Angie | Rebennack | 4 |
| 20 | Cat | Santacruz | 1 |
| 21 | Bryan | Sierra | 2 |
| 22 | Oluwatosin | Williams | 9 |
| 23 | Rodrigo | Zamorano | 5 |

You are cordially invited to join
The Long Beach
Community Development Department

Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau

In Celebration of
The Neighborhood Leadership Program
Class of 2026

**Saturday, August 22, 2026**

**10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**
**The Grand Long Beach**
**4101 E. Willow Street**
**Long Beach, CA 90815**

**11:00 a.m. Program**
**12:30 p.m. Lunch Reception**

**Please RSVP by**
**Wednesday, August 19, 2026**
**to Reyna Ochoa at (562) 570-6658 or**
Reyna.Ochoa@longbeach.gov

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DEVELOPMENT