Legislative & Funding Priorities
ABOUT THE CITY OF LONG BEACH

Long Beach is the seventh-largest city in California and second-largest city in the County of Los Angeles, with a population of 467,000; 18 historical districts; and 180 local neighborhoods and business organizations.

Long Beach is one of three municipal public health jurisdictions in the State.

As a diverse city, the population ethnically identifies as 40.8% Latino/Hispanic, 29.4% Caucasian, 13.0% African American, 12.6% Asian, and 1.1% Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander; and 46.8% of Long Beach residents speak a language other than English at home.

Long Beach has the fourth-largest Unified School District in the State, Long Beach City College and California State University, Long Beach, in addition to the award-winning Long Beach College Promise.

The Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana area ranks #2 in the nation for having the greatest number of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender (LGBT) persons.

Globally connected, Long Beach is home to the second-busiest port nationwide and the award-winning Long Beach Airport.
The City supports policies that maximize funding and flexibility for the development and enhancement of affordable, accessible housing.

OVERVIEW

Rising housing costs, limited supply, and an evolving economic landscape have resulted in a 47.1% rate of housing-cost burden in the City. Households with extremely low- and very-low incomes are experiencing a housing crisis, and households with moderate-incomes and above-moderate incomes are unable to afford housing in today’s market. Public funding to produce housing for lower-income households is dwindling, and there are currently limited programs to assist moderate-income households. Nonetheless, with the support of State and federal partners, the City has been able to provide a number of critical housing resources for the community.

- 6,800 households supported by the Housing Authority
- 6,695 Low-income housing choice vouchers
- 606 Veterans support through VASH Vouchers
- $3.8 billion housing investments
- 5,700 affordable and special needs housing units in last five years
- $65 Million Emergency Rental Assistance
AFFORDABLE HOUSING INITIATIVES IN THE CITY OF LONG BEACH

CITY STRATEGIES

- Creating a Right-to-Counsel program to keep people housed in safe conditions considering the national eviction crisis exacerbated by COVID-19.
- Adoption of a Short-Term Rental Ordinance (STR) to limit impacts on the rental housing market while providing hospitality options to all areas of the City. The City Council has updated the ordinance to allow the operation of both hosted and un-hosted STRs.
- Adoption of an Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance to ensure residents have access to affordable housing by encouraging the development of mixed-income housing.
- Adoption of an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance that permits ADUs in all residential use zones with development standards varying by type of zone and ADU.
- Updating its Zoning Code (partially funded by State SB 2 and LEAP programs) with pro-housing policies, streamlined review, expanded areas for housing production and other reforms to encourage housing development and implement its recently updated General Plan Land Use Element.
- Administering CalHome allocations to finance and construct ADUs on properties owned by low-income homeowners.
- Administering permanent housing allocations through SB 2 to expand the supply of low- and very-low income housing within the City.
- Provide 2,000 tenants and landlords with assistance and resources as part of outreach efforts for the Long Beach Emergency Rental Assistance Program.
- Updating the City’s Housing Element to plan for the development of more than 26,500 units through 2029.

SUPPORT REQUESTED

- Balance the needs of cities in compliance with the Regional Housing Needs Assessment by authorizing local control over secondary requirements;
- Increase funding for affordable housing when equitable to Long Beach;
- Stabilize California’s housing market for the consumer, by providing assistance to homeowners regarding reworking their mortgages, funding to combat the negative impacts of vacant residential foreclosed properties on local communities, and reforms that include establishing basic standards for fairness and transparency in the mortgage process, foreclosure proceedings, and tenant protections after foreclosures;
- Provide the City with tax increment financing for affordable housing and public infrastructure benefitting affordable housing; and,
- Support the development of allowable uses for low- to moderate-income housing funds for cities that have met their affordable housing requirements in past planning cycles.

Increased funding and policy assistance would help the City make even greater strides to increase affordable housing and develop new housing strategies that can be modeled statewide.
The City’s Department of Health and Human Services leads a multi-pronged approach to expand capacity and enhance service delivery to those most in need, in collaboration with other departments. Long Beach is one of three cities in California to operate its own local health jurisdiction, and the City manages its own Continuum of Care. The City’s Multi-Service Center (MSC) hosts nearly 13,000 visits per year for those at-risk of, or experiencing, homelessness. Additionally, specially trained officers of the Long Beach Police Department help individuals connect with services via the Quality of Life Unit, and the Restorative Engagement to Achieve Collective Health (REACH) outreach teams provide physical and mental health resources as part of their outreach efforts to help people in Long Beach who are experiencing homelessness.

### 2020 PIT Results

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Individuals</th>
<th>Persons in Families</th>
<th>Unaccompanied Youth (Under 18)</th>
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<td>Sheltered</td>
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<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>1,582</td>
<td>1,253</td>
<td>258</td>
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### Race

- White: 50.8%
- Black/African-American: 37.9%
- Asian or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 6.3%
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 1.9%
- Multiple Races Reported or Other: 3.0%

### Ethnicity

- Hispanic or Latino: 68%
- Non Hispanic or Latino: 32%

### Gender

- Male: 72%
- Female: 27%
- Transgender: <1%
- Non-conforming: <1%
In October 2020, the City unveiled the Atlantic Farms Bridge Housing Community, a year-round supportive facility with room for 125 people experiencing homelessness, made possible by $8 million in State Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funding and over $3 million in Los Angeles County Measure H funding. Convert four public community centers into interim housing units for 267 people experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic, funded by the State of California’s emergency aid to local governments issued by Governor Newsom specifically to protect Californians experiencing homelessness. Undergo a $21 million project to rehabilitate a 102-unit motel into supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness using $16.7 million awarded by Project Homekey. The County of Los Angeles was awarded $108 million by Project Homekey to operate 10 Project Homekey properties, including two in Long Beach, one of which has 43 rooms and the other with 135 rooms. In October 2020, the nationally recognized Multi-Service Center celebrated two decades of connecting people experiencing homelessness or at-risk of experiencing homelessness in Southern California with services. Operate a 45-unit Project Roomkey site, as well as offer an average of 45 motel vouchers per night, to support vulnerable individuals and families throughout the pandemic. Fund four partner agencies to hire 25 new case managers providing supportive services through the City’s Emergency Housing Voucher program. The Homeless Outreach and Mental Evaluation team made over 6,200 contacts offering services to persons experiencing homelessness, resulting in temporary housing for 166 and permanent housing for 48 individuals. Activate the Restorative Engagement Towards Achieving Collective Health (REACH) team, an alternative response model that provides physical and mental health services with a public health nurse, mental health clinician, and outreach workers.

Unrestricted, ongoing State funding to support administrative, communications and outreach teams, and ongoing operations for the City’s myriad homeless services and rehousing programs; Advance funding and access to housing assistance and case management services; Investments to create rapid housing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness and longterm affordable housing; and, Encourage mental health treatment programs, funding for substance-use treatment, and homelessness intervention efforts to better serve and reduce the number of people who are incarcerated or involved with the justice system.

Preventing and addressing homelessness requires sustained collaboration with partners to provide stable, affordable housing and services to those who need it most.
The City works collaboratively on a shared vision and long-term plan that will modernize broadband infrastructure to meet the future economic needs.

## OVERVIEW

The City’s Digital Inclusion Initiative (Initiative) strives to ensure that everyone has equitable access to and use of digital inclusion resources and services, regardless of background, neighborhood, or identity. These resources and services include:

- **Capacity**: Free multilingual computer literacy training and support;
- **Connectivity**: Low-cost and free high-speed, quality in-home Internet services and support; and,
- **Technology**: Low-cost and free quality, Internet-enabled computers and support.

- $1 Million CARES Act funding
- 1,100 free mobile hotspots
- 1,600 free computing devices
- 2,500 inquiries to the Digital Inclusion Resources Hotline
- 9 Community-based organization partners
- Khmer, Spanish, and Tagalog Multilingual Resource Guides
In June 2021, the Long Beach City Council approved the Digital Inclusion Roadmap, a blueprint for ensuring everyone in Long Beach has equitable access to and use of computer literacy training, the Internet, technology devices, and other digital inclusion resources and services. The foundation of the Roadmap includes a vision statement, goals, objectives, and strategies to advance capacity, connectivity, and technology. Two major components of the Roadmap development included stakeholder and community engagement.

- Multilingual digital literacy training and support;
- Job preparedness and digital literacy skills;
- Infrastructure development to accommodate low-cost and/or free high-speed, quality in-home internet services;
- Free public Wi-Fi and a citywide fiber network infrastructure;
- Low-cost and/or free quality, internet-enabled technology devices, and technical support; and,
- Free community computer labs.

Named a Digital Inclusion Trailblazer by the National Digital Inclusion Alliance for the third year; one of only 17 jurisdictions in the nation recognized for this award

Received What Works Cities Silver certification - the national standard of excellence for well-managed, data-driven local government

**CITY STRATEGIES**

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**SUPPORT REQUESTED**

- Increase the number of households and businesses that have access to and use of low-cost or free high-speed, quality Internet as well as affordable quality, Internet-enabled technology devices and technical support;
- Restore local control in regulatory matters concerning Internet tele-communications, including instituting requirements for Internet Service Providers (ISP) to share data on infrastructure and subscribers with the City to assess equitable access to the Internet;
- Protect Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) by prohibiting broadband Internet access service providers from using, disclosing, or permitting access to individually identifiable personal information;
- Assure children and youth have access to resources that aim to reduce the poverty level of the City’s children and youth, including emancipated youth;
- Increase the availability of free multilingual digital literacy, financial literacy and wealth-building training opportunities for young people and disadvantaged families; and,
- Increase funding for local and county governments to advance digital inclusion efforts.

Fortifying digital infrastructure will facilitate the growth of regional economies and decrease negative impacts on public health and quality of life.
The City supports infrastructure investments that reduce long-term operations and maintenance expenditures for the City.

OVERVIEW

Long Beach has significant infrastructure needs across the City, totaling $4 billion in upgrades to streets and alleys; ADA improvements to sidewalks and curbs; stormwater infrastructure and treatment; bridge repairs and replacement; traffic signals and street lighting; multimodal transportation improvements; community facilities and other assets. The City will continue to advocate for external funding opportunities to address critical infrastructure needs and projects that promote long-term economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, advance equity and sustainability, and provide workforce development opportunity in key industry sectors.

City Infrastructure Investments

- **$160 million**: Measure A projects
- **41**: Parks and Recreation Project
- **$52 million**: invested in ADA accessibility
- **11**: Public Safety Facilities Projects
- **16**: Community Facilities Project
- **$200 million**: invested in streets over 5 years
INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE CITY OF LONG BEACH

CITY STRATEGIES

• Measure A—initially passed voters in 2016 and extended indefinitely in 2020—is the largest local infrastructure investment in decades.
• To date, Measure A has invested nearly $160 million in local infrastructure projects (FY 17-FY 22).
• Measure A and direct State funding are vital to funding infrastructure improvements such as street rehabilitation, public facilities, parks, and mobility improvements.
• Recently updated infrastructure plans, including the Pavement Management Plan for streets and alleys; Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan for pedestrian facilities; and Facilities Condition Assessments for public safety, park, library, parking, and community center facilities.

SUPPORT REQUESTED

• Funding to support the City’s pavement management plan (estimated at $1.77 billion), ADA accessible sidewalks and curbs (estimated at $260 million), and facility conditions improvements (estimated at $293 million);
• Sustainable infrastructure funding to advance the City’s climate resiliency and organics waste objectives;
• Regional planning and investments in electric vehicle charging infrastructure and zero-emissions equipment;
• Streamlined funding to incorporate technology into infrastructure programs, including “dig once” and “build once” opportunities that modernize technology in City and public facilities;
• Support the construction of and improvements to vital public safety infrastructure such as fire and police stations, health facilities, and emergency preparation and response resources;
• Development of a preventative and responsive public health infrastructure to identify early and respond swiftly to emerging infectious disease threats;
• Funding for public facilities such as swimming pools, parks and open space, arts and cultural resources, and community centers in historically marginalized communities;
• Investments to create housing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness, long-term affordable housing, and mortgage down payment assistance programs;
• Funding to complete the City’s “8 by 28” infrastructure initiative in preparation for the 2028 Olympics; and,
• Opportunities to facilitate economic development through leveraging private investments to promote quality infrastructure benefiting all communities within the City.

Funding for infrastructure at the local level would help the City address its significant $4 billion need, while advancing equity and preparing workforce for jobs of the future.
The City supports proposals that protect and expand the health care safety net and improve the health outcomes of residents.

OVERVIEW

The City's Department of Health and Human Services (Health Department) is one of three municipal health departments in the State. This allows for better engagement with the communities served and a greater understanding of community needs. The Health Department offers a myriad of services at nine sites throughout Long Beach, including social supportive service programs at the Multi-Service Center for the Homeless.

The Health Department offers an array of services to prevent chronic illness and promote healthy living such as HIV services, sexual health clinic, Tuberculosis clinic, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Children and Infants (WIC), and injury prevention. Healthy living includes mental health for which the Health Department publishes a comprehensive resource guide and incorporates mental health services within all programs. Strong Environmental Health programs and education are other key components of the Health Department's functions.

- **6** Testing sites
- **5** Mobile vaccine vehicles
- **2** Mass vaccine locations
- **250** employees hired, reassigned or trained for COVID-19 response
- LB Resource Line responded to more than **30,000 calls and 60,000 emails**
- Administered more than **270,000 COVID-19 vaccinations**
CITY STRATEGIES

• As a local health jurisdiction, the City has led the public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic, administering more than 270,000 vaccinations and implementing mobile vaccine and testing programs.
• The Immunization Clinic held a two-day Back-to-School Drive-up Vaccination Clinic and provided vaccinations required for school enrollment to more than 100 school-age children.
• Launched the Integrated System of Care (ISC) in the Health Department to serve as a one-stop intake and referral system to all Health Department programs and services.
• Opened a 75,000-square-foot permanent distribution site for personal protective equipment (PPE) and medical countermeasures.
• Through the CARES Act, the Health Department funded 10 programs to meet community needs during the pandemic, giving out 185 funding awards to community-based organizations comprising $10.7 million in total.
• Long Beach was one of the first cities in the country to approve a recovery plan utilizing Recovery Act funding. The City received more than $135 million for the areas of economic recovery, healthy and safe community investments, and securing our City’s future.
• The Black Infant Health (BIH) Program implements bi-monthly contactless resource drives to provide pregnant and parenting program participants with PPE, diapers/wipes, formula, early childhood education materials, and gift cards to supplement losses due to the pandemic.
• The Long Beach Healthy Aging Center Senior Links Program serves hundreds of older adults with referral services and case management support.
• Provide asthma case management services to 96 adults and asthma education to 4,048 people through 60 outreach events in the Cambodian community and the I-710 Corridor.

SUPPORT REQUESTED

• Ensure residents have access to plentiful and affordable healthy foods;
• Ensure workplaces offer health insurance to employees so that workers and residents have equitable access to healthcare;
• Increase the percentage of children and adults with health insurance;
• Ensure children have the healthiest start possible, by improving birth outcomes for mothers and infants of color;
• Recognize public health as it supports public safety, particularly violence prevention efforts and mental health treatment;
• Enable public health providers and partner agencies to provide treatment to mentally ill individuals who are unable to provide urgently needed medical care for him or herself due to a mental disorder as part of a grave disability;
• Promote public safety prevention strategies that consider health, violence, trauma and other social determinants of health;
• Improve the air quality and health issues associated with construction improvements and operations of the I-710 Freeway and Port of Long Beach;
• Enhance services, such as facilities, senior housing, housing for the disabled, social services, mental health services, health care, supportive care, recreational programs and transportation to address the diverse needs of older adults; and,
• Protect local health jurisdiction funding for core public health services, including the State Public Health Realignment Program, as well as funding for public health programs, such as mental health, substance abuse programs, services, infrastructure and capacity, debt service relief, seismic upgrades, and bio-terrorism response enhancements.