

HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER & YOU



June 2021

HELLO, PARTICIPANTS!

It is with great pleasure that I announce our move is complete. You should have received a notice in the mail with our new address:

**1500 Hughes Way, #A-150
Long Beach, CA 90810**

We are so excited to welcome you to our new facility when we reopen to the public later this month.

In this issue, we will introduce you to our new Housing Authority Chairperson, Mary Zendejas. Mary is a tireless advocate for our community. We welcome her to her new role as our chair and look forward to her leadership. Additionally, the Housing Authority Commission also needs Tenant Commissioners, for which we will be opening applications this fall. Stay tuned for more information.



The MyHousing Portal is still in production but coming soon. You will be able to submit paperwork, track inspections, receive messages from your caseworker, and many other benefits, all online. Please read below for more information.

Did you know the City of Long Beach goes through a redistricting process every 10 years? This year, they are asking for your help. We have included instructions on how you can get involved. This is a great way to be a part of what happens in our community.

Lastly, the Long Beach Water Department is partnering with Long Beach Community Action Partnership (LBCAP) to help pay your water bill. Many residents got behind in their bill during the COVID-19 pandemic, and LBCAP wants to help. Please read how to apply further down in the newsletter.

As always, we wish you good health!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Alan Krug".

Meet Mary Zendejas – Our New Housing Authority Commission Chairperson



Mary Zendejas was elected to the City Council on Tuesday November 5, 2019. She is the first Latina wheelchair user to be elected in the nation. Her passion for living and working hard is rooted in seeing her parents, a field hand and a factory worker, provide their children a better life. Their hard work allowed Mary to go to California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) and become the first in her family to graduate from college.

Her advocacy dates back nearly three decades starting in high school, where she organized citizenship fairs to help community members follow their American dream of becoming US citizens. She is also the founder of Professional Abilities Association of America, an organization created for working professionals with disabilities by working professionals with disabilities, focusing on inclusion in the workforce. Additionally, she is a two-time graduate of Leadership Long Beach, served as a member of Mayor Robert Garcia’s Transition Team, a former board member of Housing Long Beach, and a past Ms. Wheelchair California.

Mary has been widely recognized and honored throughout her career. She has received several awards including the American Women’s Business Association’s Diamond in the Sky award, The California Conference for Equality and Justice (CCEJ) Gene Lentzner Human Relations Award, the Teachers Association of Long Beach (TALB) Human Rights Award, Patrick O’Donnell’s “Women of Distinction” Award and The Long Beach Post “40 under 40” Award, to name a few.

Welcome, Chairperson Zendejas, to the Housing Authority Commission!

*<https://www.longbeach.gov/district1/>

The Housing Authority Commission is Seeking Tenant Commissioners

Are you interested in becoming more involved in your local Housing Authority? Can you commit to attending meetings once a month for two or more years? The Housing Authority of the City of Long Beach is looking for two participants to serve as Tenant Commissioners on the Housing Authority Commission. The positions serve on the panel with all nine City of Long Beach Councilmembers, who also make up the Housing Authority Commission. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, reviewing Housing Authority policies and procedures, and voting on matters affecting Housing Authority operations. We will be opening the application process this fall, so if this is something that interests you, stay tuned for more information.

MYHOUSING PORTALS COMING SOON!

We are excited to announce the acquisition of the MyHousing Portal. This new mobile-friendly system will allow for 24/7 access to information concerning your case as an applicant or participant in our program. To prepare for this milestone you will be required to obtain a valid email address. Your email will be used to create your username and password to securely access data pertaining to your case.

As an applicant, you can access waiting list position, days on waiting list, and current status. Applicants can also report changes in your address, phone number, and family composition.

As a participant, you can complete your annual recertification and upload all required documents from the convenience of your home. The system allows you and your caseworker to work together through the recertification process from beginning to end. Additionally, you may also use the portal to communicate with staff should you have other questions or concerns.

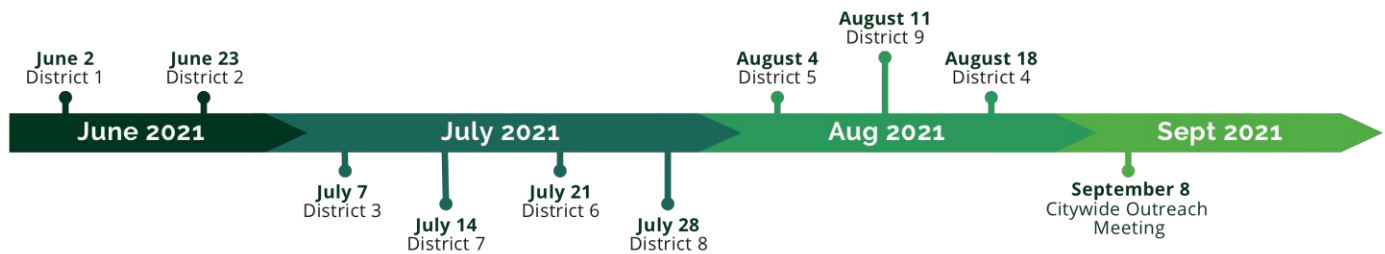
Resources to obtain affordable internet and a free email address:

- Affordable internet: <https://www.human-i-t.org>
- Free email:
 - Google – www.google.com
 - Yahoo – www.yahoo.com

THE CITY OF LONG BEACH IS REDISTRICTING AND YOU CAN HELP



LONG BEACH INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE



HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

- Attend the Long Beach Independent Redistricting Commission Outreach Meetings
- Complete the Community of Interest Form
- Map Your Community of Interest

Subscribe to updates:

bit.ly/RedistrictLB2021



For more information visit, www.longbeach.gov/redistricting

LB COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP CAN HELP PAY YOUR WATER BILL



Long Beach Community Action Partnership (LBCAP) is partnering with the Long Beach Water Department to provide direct financial assistance to help families **currently living in low-income households** offset the cost of their water bills accumulated during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Water Bill Assistance Program for Customers Impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic

Qualified Long Beach Water Department (LBWD) customers may receive:

- A one-time \$200 benefit
- Paid to LBWD and credited directly to your account
- Program funding is limited and distributed on a first come first served basis

Who is eligible (must meet all three requirements):

- Residents with a Long Beach water bill in their name AND
- Households meeting income eligibility requirements ([View 2021 Federal Poverty Guidelines](#)), AND
- Households negatively impacted by COVID-19

How to apply:

You may download application documents below, or call 562-216-4614 to receive them by mail.

1. Call 1-562-216-4614 for an eligibility screening or to make an appointment
2. Complete a [Program Application](#)
3. Complete an [Intake Form](#)
4. Gather the following documents and bring them to your appointment or have them available for your screening:
 - a. A current Long Beach utility bill with current water charges
 - b. Copies of all household income for the past 30 days for all adults 18 years or older
 - i. Signed affidavits from all household members age 18 or older who do not have any source of income
 - c. A copy of your valid California driver's license or other valid California picture ID
5. Complete [COVID-19 Impact Statement](#)
 - a. Provide all applicable supporting documentation requested
6. Attend your scheduled processing appointment – in total, this appointment may take up to one hour

OR
Mail in all documents – if mailed, may take up to 2 – 3 weeks to receive and process. You will be notified of your qualification from Long Beach Community Action Partnership, and your one-time benefit will be applied directly to your water bill account.