



R-17

Date: March 18, 2008

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell, Fourth District
Councilmember Dee Andrews, Sixth District
Councilmember Val Lerch, Ninth District

Subject: Long Beach Surf Bus Update

On August 14, 2007 the City Council approved a recommendation to request the City Manager to explore the development of a Long Beach Surf Bus Program. The concept was based on LA Surf Bus, which is a community-based partnership that transports thousands of children, aged five to seventeen, to the beach for Surf Academy. The Council requested that City Management explore the creation of a similar program, without the use of general funds.

Since this recommendation was approved, staff has been working diligently with numerous stakeholders, including the founder of LA Surf Bus. It is appropriate at this time that the Council is updated on the progress of Long Beach Surf Bus.

Recommendation:

Receive and file report from staff on the progress of a potential Long Beach Surf Bus program.



City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve

Memorandum
Councilmember
Patrick O'Donnell
4th District

~~R-19~~

Date: August 14, 2007

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell, Fourth District
Councilmember Dee Andrews, Sixth District
Councilmember Val Lerch, Ninth District *Val*

Subject: Long Beach Surf Bus

LA Surf Bus was founded in 2003 with the goal of linking inner-city youth with the beach and ocean. Every year, LA Surf Bus transports thousands of children, aged five to seventeen years old, to Santa Monica and Huntington Beach. Through a coalition of municipalities, non-profits, businesses and individuals, at-risk youth throughout Los Angeles County get the opportunity to participate in Surf Academy. In addition to learning to surf, there are several educational components, including environmental awareness.

Chartered buses to the beach are made possible through a variety of sources, including local cities and Los Angeles County officials. In order to support the goals of LA Surf Bus, serve our community's youth and engage Long Beach in this effort, the City should consider the development of a Long Beach Surf Bus. This new program would serve Long Beach youth, giving further opportunities to those who may not get to experience local beaches. Additionally, developing a Long Beach Surf Bus would further the City's goals of providing recreation and education citywide. It is likely that there are a variety of non-general funding options for a program like the Surf Bus.

Recommendation:

Request City Manager to explore the concept and review non-general funds available for the creation and operation of a Long Beach Surf Bus and return to Council within sixty days.