Mayor and City Council Workshop – Final Report and Norms

City Council Meeting – October 17, 2023

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Background

• In the Fiscal Year 2023 (FY 23) Adopted Budget, the City Council allocated $50,000 in one-time funding to conduct a City Council Prioritization Process to better inform future City of Long Beach (City) programming.

• The City Manager's Office engaged consultant Baker-Tilly to facilitate a Mayor and City Council priority-setting workshop which was held and open to the public on March 30, 2023.

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Process Milestones

This process included three milestone activities:

- Activity 1 – Gathered background information and conducted interviews

- Activity 2 – Designed and facilitated the Mayor and City Council workshop

- Activity 3 – Facilitate Executive Team Session

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Comments About Setting Priorities

Need to align our **priorities**

It is important to **understand** what other Councilmembers have as their priorities

Need to recognize that there is **limited staff capacity**

We need an **authentic conversation** about priorities and goals

It is important to build **consensus**

Many of our existing plans and goals **overlap**

We need to get **clear** about our top priorities

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Choose **three words**, that describe your vision for the City as a whole.

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Accomplishments Cited

COVID response[1]	Work on infrastructure	Efforts towards environmental sustainability and climate action	Financial management
Enhanced interdepartmental coordination dealing with issues	Promoting equity and racial justice	Affordable and market-rate housing development	Local procurement efforts

[1]*Including testing and vaccination clinics, implementing worker protections, and use of relief funds*

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Key Challenges Noted

 Homelessness

 The economy/economic development/equity

 Infrastructure needs

 Affordable housing

 Public safety

 Reduced revenues/budget deficit and impact on service levels

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Priorities Noted by Mayor and City Council

The Mayor and City Council had the opportunity to review ten priorities that were developed from the informational interviews.

A. Homelessness
B. Fiscal sustainability
C. Economic development
D. Housing
E. Neighborhood livability

F. Parks and Recreation
G. Environment/sustainability
H. Infrastructure
I. Public safety
J. Staffing

[1]Not listed in priority order.

Refer to Handout

Each priority category will be discussed with the question....

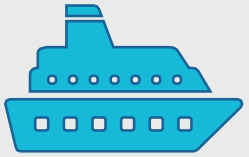"Why is this important?"

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Top Priorities of the Mayor and City Council

Homelessness and Housing

- Significant concerns expressed
- Include mental health and substance abuse treatment services
- Increase affordable housing
- Build more housing of all types
- Apply inclusionary housing incentives
- Identify funding sources for affordable housing production
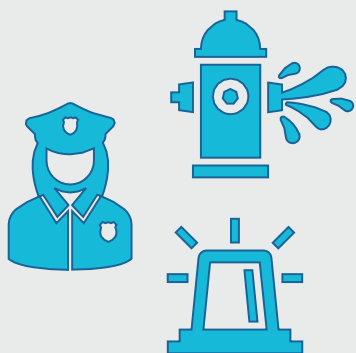
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Top Priorities of the Mayor and City Council

Economic Development

- Expand local business opportunity, business attraction and retention
- Plan for Queen Mary
- Increase cruise ships at port
- Plan for waterfront development
- Revitalize commercial centers
- Business friendly; streamline permitting
- More large-scale events
- Promote growth of business clusters
- Development opportunity for Elephant Lot
- Make Long Beach a destination city

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Top Priorities of the Mayor and City Council

Public Safety

- Concerns about rising crime

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Foundational Priorities

Staffing

- Concerns about recruitment and retention
- Staff capacity

Fiscal Sustainability

- Need new revenue streams
- Loss of tidelands money and reduced fossil fuels revenues
- Managing potential deficits and impacts on services
- Expectations from residents for higher level of services

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Mayor and City Council Norms

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1. Assume good intent
2. Work together as a body, modeling teamwork, respect and civility
3. Respect the roles the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and City Attorney in our form of government
4. Share information and avoid surprises
5. Stay focused on City Council priorities
6. Maintain a citywide perspective, while being focused on our districts
7. Disagree agreeably and professionally
8. Keep confidential things confidential
9. Utilize long-range plans to provide big picture context that is realistic and achievable
10. Communicate concerns about staff to the City Manager, while treating staff respectfully

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Recommendation

Receive and file the Mayor and City Council Workshop Final Report and adopt the Mayor and City Council Norms.

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Thank you

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