

From: Dan Knapp [mailto:dknapp@cclb-corps.org]
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 2:22 PM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Long Beach City Council meeting Agenda Item 43 Youth Climate Corps

-EXTERNAL-

Hello,
Please see the Conservation Corps of Long Beach's official public comment to council on Agenda item 43 of the November 9th 2021 City Council Meeting attached. Please let me know if you have any questions or require further information.

In gratitude,
Dan

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R-43

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

November 9, 2021

To: Members of the City Council

From: Mayor Robert Garcia

RECOMMENDATION:

Request the Climate Action Committee of the City Council to take up a proposal to create a \$5 million Long Beach Youth Climate Corps program and provide recommendations to the Council.

DISCUSSION:

Earlier this year, the Big City Mayor's coalition made it a priority to secure funding for youth workforce development with a focus on climate. After numerous meetings with the Governor's Office and other State officials, the State agreed to create this funding stream.

As part of the State's 2021 budget, \$150 million is now available to support a youth workforce jobs program in California's 13 largest cities. The State's goal is to increase youth employment, develop youth interest in and experience towards a career in public service, and strengthen city capacity to address key areas of education, climate, and food insecurity.

Funding for this program will be allocated to each major California city depending on population; Long Beach is expected to receive \$6.3 million. These State dollars give our city an opportunity to support local youth, engage in workforce development and instill a focus on climate change and adaptation in future Long Beach jobs. This is also an opportunity to expand upon the work we do with the Conservation Corps of Long Beach.

Organizations that do job training programs across the country are beginning to shift their programs to systemically include considerations to the environment. This is critical because we need workers who are trained to support climate change adaptation work. Long Beach has the potential to lead in this effort and leverage State dollars to do so.

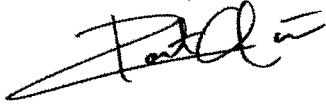
FISCAL IMPACT:

The \$5 million is expected to be funded from the new State dollars with no impact to the General Fund.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Garcia", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Mayor Robert Garcia

Dated: October 25, 2021



Conservation Corps of Long Beach (CCLB) Climate Resiliency Initiative

Over the past year, the California Association of Local Conservation Corps (CALCC) has been working with State Legislators, the Governor's Office, and California Volunteers to ensure State Climate Resiliency funding is allocated to underserved communities in the most need of assistance. CALCC, a membership organization made up of the 14 State Certified Community Conservation Corps programs, specifically rallied and advocated for youth workforce development as it relates to conservation, environmental, and climate resiliency.

As a founding member organization of CALCC, the Conservation Corps of Long Beach (CCLB) is extremely excited and poised to implement the Governor's Office of Planning and Research allocation of \$6 million to the City of Long Beach for youth workforce development. CCLB has the experience, resources, and expertise to bolster and scale the services we are currently providing the City of Long Beach. And, we have a waiting list of young people eager to join CCLB and serve their community.

While not fully inclusive or complete, CCLB is eager to expand and implement the following programming in the City of Long Beach:

1. URBAN GREENING

- Urban Forestry/Arboriculture/Tree Planting & Maintenance
- Park and greenspace development
- Community Garden Development and Construction

2. WATER CONSERVATION

- Rainwater catchment & collections systems design, installation, and maintenance
- Bio-swale and groundwater recharge system installation and maintenance
- Smart irrigation system installation and maintenance
- Turf removal & drought tolerant landscape installation
- Landscape irrigation leak remediation and repair

3. URBAN CONSERVATION

- Recycling Services
- Litter abatement & waste management
- Community beautification & stewardship
- Steam cleaning, hard-scape maintenance, & graffiti removal

4. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION/STEWARDSHIP

- Resource Conservation & Environmental Education
- Community Outreach, Engagement, & Canvassing
- Disaster preparation, response, and relief

5. ENERGY CONSERVATION

- Solar photovoltaic installation and maintenance
- Weatherization

6. RESOURCE CONSERVATION

- Wildfire prevention and mitigation (Urban/Wildland interface fuel reduction)
- Habitat Restoration “Plant propagation, Weed removal, etc...”
- Trail development & maintenance, erosion control, & habitat protection

7. CONSTRUCTION & CONSTRUCTION TRAINING

- Park & landscape construction
- Construction equipment operation and safety training
- Hard-scape construction
- Demolition and de-construction
- Industry recognized (NCCER) training & certification via our new YouthBuild Program

Utilizing our City master agreement, the Conservation Corps of Long Beach will be able to enroll another 50 members annually for every \$1 million invested. That is 50 more Long Beach youth helping the City improve parks, greenspaces, streetscapes, and other public spaces. Along with on-the-job training, our corpsmembers earn industry-recognized certifications, post-secondary scholarships, internships, and receive wrap-around social services and support.

A leader in youth and workforce development, the CCLB has received national recognition from the National Youth Employment Coalition (NYEC) as a PEPNet Awardee for demonstrating best practices in the field of youth and workforce development. The CCLB has been recognized and Accredited by the Corps Network, formerly known as the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps, as an Excellence in Corps Operations (ECO) Corps for high standards in program operations and outcomes. CCLB is also an inaugural member of the US Department of Interior’s 21st Century Conservation Service Corps Program. As a State Certified Local Conservation Corps as defined by California Resources code section 14507.5, CCLB’s designation is included in the State of California Public Resources code, Labor code, Public Safety code, and Education code.

We are eager to partner with the City of Long Beach and excited to bring more young people through our doors to learn and grow while also serving their City.