



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

February 14, 2023

The Honorable Mayor Rex Richardson and City Councilmembers
411 W Ocean Blvd, 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Feasibility Study on Senior Safe Homes - Support Agenda Item 13 – February 14, 2023 Agenda

Dear Honorable Long Beach Mayor and City Councilmembers,

I am writing in support of Councilwoman Mary Zendejas' and Vice Mayor Allen's Agenda Item to investigate the feasibility of developing a Senior Safe Home for victims of elder abuse, who may be at risk of becoming homeless.

Many seniors in our community are subject to elder abuse, causing an increased risk of homelessness, early death, physical and psychological health deterioration, isolation, devastating financial loss and more. Long Beach's 2022 Point-in-Time Homeless Count announced that about thirty percent of people experiencing homelessness in Long Beach are over the age of 55. In addition, studies show that a tenth of adults 60 years or older will have been exposed to some form of elder abuse in the past year, and a tenth of those victims will be at risk of losing their homes.

How we care for some of our most vulnerable residents reflects our values as a community. Senior's experiencing abuse deserve a safe place to stay. A place to recover from any trauma experienced and away from any abusers. Currently, there is no such facility in the area.

In addition, as we maintain the state of a local homelessness emergency, we must recognize the risk that abuse can play in pushing seniors into homelessness and take proactive action to prevent this. A Senior Safe Home will provide refuge to seniors fleeing from an abusive household while they recover from drastic financial changes and hardships, thereby reducing the risk of seniors becoming homeless.

I urge you to support this item by voting yes on Agenda Item 13 for a Senior Safe Home.

Sincerely,

Dr. Claudia López, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology
Principal Investigator, House It SoCal
California State University, Long Beach
Claudia.Lopez2@csulb.edu



Heart of Ida

1150 E. 4th Street
Long Beach, CA 90802
(562) 570-3548
www.heartofida.org
Tax ID #27-1105150

February 14, 2023

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I urge you to support this item by voting yes on Agenda Item 13 for a Senior Safe Home.

Sincerely,

Dina Berg, MPA
Executive Director
The Heart of Ida
562-570-3548
dbheartofida@gmail.com



Long Beach City Council Member
Mary Zendejas

February 14, 2023

RE: Item 13 - Feasibility Study for Senior Safe Home

Dear Council Member Allen,

The Long Beach Aging Services Collaborative Advocacy Work Group is in strong support for Item #13 - Feasibility Report for a Senior Safe Home.

We know, as the city's older adult service providers, the extent and the effect of older adult neglect and trauma. We can not avoid or ignore the frightening conditions some of our older adults live in. We support your leadership on this issue.

The Long Beach Aging Services Collaborative provides a platform for advocacy, education, and networking for professionals dedicated to the well-being of seniors in Long Beach, CA. Our Collaborative network represents over 90 community stakeholders including service providers, businesses, and non-profit organizations. Aging services in Long Beach, as elsewhere in the United States, tend to be fragmented leading to inefficiencies and inequities in serving the needs of the increasingly diverse population of older adults. Long Beach older adults face a myriad of social issues including social and linguistic isolation, limited income/poverty, disability, and language barriers, as well as gaps in services. The LBASC works towards a more integrated aging service model by sharing current services, resources, and legislative information.

Advocacy Work Group - Long Beach Aging Services Collaborative

lbagingservices.com
lbagingservices@gmail.com



February 10 2023

The Honorable Mayor Rex Richardson and City Councilmembers

411 W Ocean Blvd, 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Feasibility Study on Senior Safe Homes - Support Agenda Item 13 – February 14, 2023 Agenda

Dear Honorable Long Beach Mayor and City Councilmembers,

I am writing on behalf of the Long Beach Gray Panthers in support of Councilwoman Mary Zendejas' and Vice Mayor Allen's Agenda Item to investigate the feasibility of developing a Senior Safe Home for victims of elder abuse, who may be at risk of becoming homeless.

Many seniors in our community are subject to elder abuse, causing an increased risk of homelessness, early death, physical and psychological health deterioration, isolation, devastating financial loss and more. Long Beach's 2022 Point-in-Time Homeless Count announced that about thirty percent of people experiencing homelessness in Long Beach are over the age of 55. In addition, studies show that a tenth of adults 60 years or older will have been exposed to some form of elder abuse in the past year, and a tenth of those victims will be at risk of losing their homes.

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In addition, as we maintain the state of a local homelessness emergency, we must recognize the risk that abuse can play in pushing seniors into homelessness and take proactive action to prevent this. A Senior Safe Home will provide refuge to seniors fleeing from an abusive household while they recover from drastic financial changes and hardships, thereby reducing the risk of seniors becoming homeless.

I urge you to support this item by voting yes on Agenda Item 13 for a Senior Safe Home.

Sincerely,

Karen Reside

President

Long Beach Gray Panthers

From: Jessica Metzinger [mailto:jessicametzingergmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2023 8:56 AM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Comments From 2/14 City Council Meeting

-EXTERNAL-

To whom it may concern:

I have some comments regarding the City Council meeting on 2/14/23.

First and foremost, I want to share my appreciation for the forward movement on the following agenda items: the senior safe home, the increased funding for site operations for interim housing for the unhoused, and the creation of an arts and culture committee.

However, I was alarmed when I looked at the amount of money being put toward houselessness versus other agenda items. \$479,600 was recommended for site operations for the interim housing at 1725 Long Beach Boulevard, while multiple agenda items totaling \$4,829,879 were recommended for the Long Beach Airport. While the airport is important for the economy and tourism, houselessness has increased exponentially over the past few years, and the city itself has called it an emergency. As someone who has participated in the city's annual homeless count and interned at MHALA's Integrated Service Center, I have seen the impacts of houselessness firsthand.

Given that houselessness has been recognized as the emergency that it is, I am hoping to get some more information about what City Council is doing to both to prevent people from becoming unhoused and to give them shelter, provide necessary services, and get them back on their feet. The senior safe home is a great preventive measure and increased funding for interim housing is also excellent, but much more could and should be done.

Thank you for your time and commitment to making Long Beach the best it can be.

Sincerely,

Jessica Metzinger

District 3 Resident and CSULB Master of Social Work Student

From: LWcomm0610 [mailto:lwcommunity0610@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 4:03 PM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Silverado Park - Save it for the Community, Shelter Appropriately

-EXTERNAL-

Silverado Park is surrounded by single, multi, and senior housing with many residents and students in the area.

Driving through Long Beach and other cities seeing people without homes and knowing that many others must rely on homes of others or shelters is heartbreaking. Rarely a day goes by that tears and pain of this knowledge and seeing it goes deep and prayer goes up.

- I am for providing homeless with needed resources so that those who can become independent does. Also, that those who can not become independent gets the help they need.
- I am also for the community being safe and healthy at home, schools, work, play, activities and places in their communities.
- Taking away a public park space from its community, especially when the community depends on it for so many positive things in their lives, is a disaster waiting to happen. It can have a lifelong negative impact, especially on children.
- There is a time and a place for everything. A public park should be for the masses.

No one wants to expose themselves and family to things that occur at shelters. There is no other place for the community to go indoors.

Athletic teams from other parks don't want to play at Silverado now that they are aware of the projected homeless .

After reviewing the Silverado Park Winter Shelter FAQs, there are still many unknowns.

- Eighty-four is a lot of people in the gym for so many hours.
- How will the community not be exposed to seeing and hearing negative activities. Keep our children innocent seniors relaxed, and people from being intimidated.
- How would that work in a large, open space? There are no rooms.
- Concern for colds, flu, and COVID-19 should be enough to be concerned about. Length of time, close proximity to others.
- How will homeless children, women, and men be protected from abusers, addicts, and mentally ill? They should be in different facilities.
- If the homeless will only be on Silverado Park site at night, how will they have access to the resources and services that are supposed to be onsite'?
- What hours will homeless be transported from the Multi-Service Center to Silverado Park?
- Where is the homeless expected to go during daytime hours?
- Where will their personal belongings be stored?
- How will staff and security be able to monitor that many people indoors and outside?

Band-aids are only meant to last briefly. Sometimes the aide it provides is not appropriate for the injury at hand.

- Keep the community from feeling as though they must stay locked in the house or travel miles away for basic needs and enjoyment. Give community a reason to get out and connect with one another.
- There is a time and a place for everything. A public park is for the masses. Keep public areas of nature safe, friendly, and peaceful places to enjoy.
- Before becoming council members, is this a decision you would have accepted where your family and friends gather, on your block, in your neighborhood, by your Councilmember?

Lee White

EM: lwcommunity0610@gmail.com



February 10, 2023

The Honorable Mayor Rex Richardson and City Councilmembers
411 W Ocean Blvd, 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Feasibility Study on Senior Safe Homes - Support Agenda Item 13 – February 14, 2023,
Agenda

Dear Honorable Long Beach Mayor and City Councilmembers,

I am writing in support of Councilwoman Mary Zendejas' and Vice Mayor Allen's Agenda Item to investigate the feasibility of developing a Senior Safe Home for victims of elder abuse who may be at risk of becoming homeless.

Our organization, WISE & Healthy Aging (WISE), is deeply embedded in elder and dependent adult abuse prevention and intervention services throughout the County of Los Angeles, including targeted programming within the City of Long Beach. One of these programs, the Holistic Elder Abuse Response Team (HEART), is co-located at the Long Beach Police Department (LBPD), and primarily accepts referrals from LBPD and Adult Protective Services. Through our work providing field-based wraparound services to survivors of elder abuse, we have become well aware of the dearth of emergency shelter services for victims of elder abuse. In the absence of senior-friendly emergency shelters, our clients are often forced to continue to remain in unsafe, physically and/or emotionally abusive living situations.

Older adults experiencing abuse deserve a safe place to stay and recover from trauma. Currently, there is no such facility in the area. A Senior Safe Home will provide refuge to seniors fleeing from an abusive household while they recover from drastic financial changes and hardships, allowing them time to identify and access resources, and reducing their risk of becoming homeless.

I urge you to support this item by voting yes on Agenda Item 13 for a Senior Safe Home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Molly Davies".

Molly Davies, LCSW
President & CEO
WISE & Healthy Aging



February 10, 2023

The Honorable Mayor Rex Richardson and City Councilmembers
411 W Ocean Blvd, 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Feasibility Study on Senior Safe Homes - Support Agenda Item 13 – February 14, 2023, Agenda

Dear Honorable Long Beach Mayor and City Councilmembers,

I am writing in support of Councilwoman Mary Zendejas' and Vice Mayor Allen's Agenda Item to investigate the feasibility of developing a Senior Safe Home for victims of elder abuse, who may be at risk of becoming homeless. WelbeHealth supports the feasibility of developing a Senior Safe Home to provide safe housing for victims of elder abuse for seniors over 55.

How we care for our most vulnerable senior residents reflects all of our values as a community. Seniors who are victims of elder abuse deserve a safe place to stay. A place to recover from any trauma experienced and away from their abusers. Currently, there is no such facility in the area. So many seniors are subject to elder abuse, causing an increased risk of homelessness, early death, physical and psychological health deterioration, isolation, devastating financial loss and more.

Long Beach's 2022 Point-in-Time Homeless Count announced that about thirty percent of people experiencing homelessness in Long Beach are over the age of 55. In addition, studies show that a tenth of adults 60 years or older will have been exposed to some form of elder abuse in the past year, and a tenth of those victims will be at risk of losing their homes.

A Senior Safe Home will provide refuge to seniors fleeing from an abusive household while they recover from drastic financial changes and hardships, thereby reducing the risk of seniors becoming homeless.

I urge you to support this item by voting yes on Agenda Item 13 for a Senior Safe Home.

Sincerely,

Yvonne R. Battiste, RN, MBA

Marketing, Outreach & Enrollment Director
WelbeHealth PACE
(Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly)
1220 E. 4th St.
Long Beach, CA 90802
Direct: (562) 800-6919
Fax: (562) 800-6919
www.welbehealth.com



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RE: Feasibility Study on Senior Safe Homes - Support Agenda Item 13 – February 14, 2023 Agenda

Dear Honorable Long Beach Mayor and City Councilmembers,

I am writing in support of Councilwoman Mary Zendejas' and Vice Mayor Allen's Agenda Item to investigate the feasibility of developing a Senior Safe Home for victims of elder abuse, who may be at risk of becoming homeless.

Many seniors in our community are subject to elder abuse, causing an increased risk of homelessness, early death, physical and psychological health deterioration, isolation, devastating financial loss and more. Long Beach's 2022 Point-in-Time Homeless Count announced that about thirty percent of people experiencing homelessness in Long Beach are over the age of 55. In addition, studies show that a tenth of adults 60 years or older will have been exposed to some form of elder abuse in the past year, and a tenth of those victims will be at risk of losing their homes.

How we care for some of our most vulnerable residents reflects our values as a community. Senior's experiencing abuse deserve a safe place to stay. A place to recover from any trauma experienced and away from any abusers. Currently, there is no such facility in the area.

In addition, as we maintain the state of a local homelessness emergency, we must recognize the risk that abuse can play in pushing seniors into homelessness and take proactive action to prevent this. A Senior Safe Home will provide refuge to seniors fleeing from an abusive household while they recover from drastic financial changes and hardships, thereby reducing the risk of seniors becoming homeless.

I urge you to support this item by voting yes on Agenda Item 13 for a Senior Safe Home.

Sincerely,

Dina Berg, MPA
Executive Director
The Heart of Ida
562-570-3548
dbheartofida@gmail.com



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Long Beach, CA 90802

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Our organization, WISE & Healthy Aging (WISE), is deeply embedded in elder and dependent adult abuse prevention and intervention services throughout the County of Los Angeles, including targeted programming within the City of Long Beach. One of these programs, the Holistic Elder Abuse Response Team (HEART), is co-located at the Long Beach Police Department (LBPD), and primarily accepts referrals from LBPD and Adult Protective Services. Through our work providing field-based wraparound services to survivors of elder abuse, we have become well aware of the dearth of emergency shelter services for victims of elder abuse. In the absence of senior-friendly emergency shelters, our clients are often forced to continue to remain in unsafe, physically and/or emotionally abusive living situations.

Older adults experiencing abuse deserve a safe place to stay and recover from trauma. Currently, there is no such facility in the area. A Senior Safe Home will provide refuge to seniors fleeing from an abusive household while they recover from drastic financial changes and hardships, allowing them time to identify and access resources, and reducing their risk of becoming homeless.

I urge you to support this item by voting yes on Agenda Item 13 for a Senior Safe Home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Molly Davies".

Molly Davies, LCSW
President & CEO
WISE & Healthy Aging

February 08, 2023 **THE LONG BEACH SENIOR SAFE HOME COALITION**

To: Honorable Mayor Richardson and Council Members
411 W. Ocean Blvd. 11th. Floor
Long Beach, CA. 90802

From: Commissioner Allan Goldstein/Founding Member
of the Long Beach Senior Safe Home Coalition.
lbseniorc@ gmail.com

Re: Feasibility Study for a Senior Safe Home- Support for Agenda Item 23-0135 being presented on February 14, 2023.

Dear Honorable Mayor Richardson and City Council Members,

I am writing on behalf of the Long Beach Senior Safe Home Coalition in support of the Agenda Item 23-0135 authored by Councilwoman Mary Zendejas and Vice Mayor Cindy Allen which requests that the City manager investigate the feasibility of creating a senior-centric safe home in Long Beach for the victims of elder abuse both here in Long Beach and in L.A. County.

Long Beach has long been on the cutting edge of social change and has been a leader in supporting programs aimed at the prevention of elder abuse. There is however a vital missing link in a comprehensive and effective community wide response to elder abuse- a temporary safe sanctuary specifically designed for those who have been abused and have no where to go because their home has become toxic. Most older victims of abuse won't need shelter but providing for those who do is essential and within our reach. Of the eight thousand yearly reported cases of elder abuse in L.A. County, Adult Protective Services estimates 3% require immediate relocation, yet few if any accept the offer because there is no facility that takes their age specific needs into account. A half way home, a homeless shelter or even a domestic abuse shelter doesn't cut it and homelessness could be the result. The fact that 40% of the homeless in Long Beach are 50 and over is ample reason for a senior safe home.

The discovery of abuse should compel us to invest more time, money, and hope in an older person, not settle for less than we would if the victim were younger. Elders who have endured great harm deserve a chance to live out the rest of their lives with dignity, purpose and peace. This is precisely what the growing movement for elder justice champions- justice that for some begins with a senior-specific shelter where a helpless victim of elder abuse can find refuge and be helped to become an empowered survivor of elder abuse.

Presently there is only one senior safe home west of the Mississippi, it has six beds and it's located in Sacramento. Now is the time for Long Beach to lead the nation and create the first senior safe home in Southern California and the second sanctuary west of the Mississippi.

Allan Goldstein
Long Beach Senior Citizen Commission
Founding Member Long Beach Senior Safe Home
Coalition.





February 13, 2023

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411 W Ocean Blvd, 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

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How we care for some of our most vulnerable residents reflects our values as a community. Older adults experiencing abuse deserve a safe place to stay, a place to recover from any trauma, and away from any perpetrators of abuser. Currently, there is no such facility in our community.

In addition, as we maintain the state of a local homelessness emergency, we must recognize the risk that abuse can play in pushing older adults into homelessness and take proactive steps to prevent it from occurring. A Senior Safe Home will provide refuge to older adults fleeing from an abusive household while they recover from drastic financial challenges and hardships, thereby reducing the risk of becoming homeless.

I urge you to support this item by voting yes on Agenda Item 13 for a Senior Safe Home.

Sincerely,

Christopher A Langston

Christopher A. Langston
President and CEO
Archstone Foundation



Long Beach City Council Member
Mary Zendejas

February 14, 2023

RE: Item 13 - Feasibility Study for Senior Safe Home

Dear Council Member Allen,

The Long Beach Aging Services Collaborative Advocacy Work Group is in strong support for Item #13 - Feasibility Report for a Senior Safe Home.

We know, as the city's older adult service providers, the extent and the effect of older adult neglect and trauma. We can not avoid or ignore the frightening conditions some of our older adults live in. We support your leadership on this issue.

The Long Beach Aging Services Collaborative provides a platform for advocacy, education, and networking for professionals dedicated to the well-being of seniors in Long Beach, CA. Our Collaborative network represents over 90 community stakeholders including service providers, businesses, and non-profit organizations. Aging services in Long Beach, as elsewhere in the United States, tend to be fragmented leading to inefficiencies and inequities in serving the needs of the increasingly diverse population of older adults. Long Beach older adults face a myriad of social issues including social and linguistic isolation, limited income/poverty, disability, and language barriers, as well as gaps in services. The LBASC works towards a more integrated aging service model by sharing current services, resources, and legislative information.

Advocacy Work Group - Long Beach Aging Services Collaborative

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lbagingservices@gmail.com



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Sincerely,

Dr. Claudia López, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology
Principal Investigator, House It SoCal
California State University, Long Beach
Claudia.Lopez2@csulb.edu

AMERICAN GOLD STAR MANOR
3021 GOLD STAR DRIVE
LONG BEACH, CA 90810
(562) 426-7651

February 10, 2023

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Long Beach, CA 90802

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I urge you to support this item by voting yes on Agenda Item 13 for a Senior Safe Home.

Sincerely,



Glen Patrick

American Gold Star Manor

To: [William Smith](#)
Subject: City Council Item - Long Beach Senior Safe Home Study
Date: Monday, February 13, 2023 3:18:18 PM

Februrary 12, 2023

My name is Bill Smith and I am a commissioner on The Long Beach Senior Citizen Commission. I am commenting today in support of Council Member Zendejas' and Vice Mayor Allen's request for a feasibility study for a senior safe home in Long Beach. Demographic projections indicate that the fastest growing population sector in Long Beach and L.A. County are men and women over the age of sixty. 90% of these seniors choose to age independently at home. The National Institute on Aging, reports that one in ten will experience some form of elder abuse while living at home at the hands of their adult children, spouses or trusted family members. Currently there are over 8 thousand annual cases of elder abuse in LA County of which 800 cases are right here in Long Beach. That means that we will be seeing cases of elder abuse sky rocket in the years to come with no alternative senior specific temporary shelter for to seek refuge. Although Long Beach has worked diligently to help prevent elder abuse, the fact that there is no senior safe home specifically designed to address the needs of our elder abuse victims is frankly mind boggling. We need to ask ourselves what the consequences are if we do not address this dire situation? Relegating our seniors to a half way home, a homeless shelter or a domestic abuse shelter is not the solution. We need to create a safe harbor where properly trained staff can help elder abuse seniors evolve from being helpless victims to empowered survivors. Please take the first step in solving this problem by voting in favor of the feasibility study for a senior safe home here in Long Beach

Sincerely,
William Smith
Commissioner
Long Beach Senior Citizen Advisory Commission

From: **Gretchen Swanson, DPT, MPH** <gretchen.swanson3@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Feb 14, 2023, 7:53 AM

Subject: Item #13 - Senior Safe Home Support

To: Cindy Allen <cindy.allen@longbeach.gov>, Mary Zendejas <mary.zendejas@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Danielle Potter <eunetta76@msn.com>, Chris Robson...618 Ohio <chrisprob@gmail.com>

Dear Councilmembers - The Rose Park Neighborhood Association is in strong support of item #13 - Feasibility of a Senior Safe Home. We work to identify isolated seniors in our area and provide social contact. But there is a huge gap between what we can identify and the needs of older adults that experience neglect and trauma within their own home environments. The City of Long Beach is in a unique position to address this critical and tragic situation. Thank you both for your leadership on this issue.

Gretchen Swanson, President
Rose Park Neighborhood Association