

March 7, 2023

**C-8**

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the submission of an application to the California State Department of Housing and Community Development to receive a Prohousing Designation; and,

Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute all documents and agreements necessary to participate in the Prohousing Designation Program. (Citywide)

**DISCUSSION**

In 2019, Assembly Bill (AB) 101 established the Prohousing Designation Program (Program) administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). The Program provides incentives to cities and other jurisdictions in the form of additional points or other preference in the scoring of competitive funding applications for housing, community development, and infrastructure grant programs. Jurisdictions that receive a Prohousing Designation will have a competitive advantage in grant funding for the acceleration of housing production. HCD programs that add Prohousing Designation points to their scoring include the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program and the Infill Infrastructure Grant Program, both of which the City of Long Beach (City) has applied for in the past. The Program is designed to further assist jurisdictions that are compliant with their General Plan Housing Elements and have enacted or are in the process of enacting policies that promote housing. The program is consistent with the City's overall housing strategy as well as the current emergency measures related to homelessness.

Eligibility to receive the Prohousing Designation requires the applicant to have an adopted Housing Element, be current on submission of the Annual Progress Report, and be in compliance with applicable state housing law. Applicants must also submit a formal Resolution for the Program. Applicants that meet these requirements qualify for the validation phase of the application, which is based on the following four scoring categories:

- Favorable Zoning and Land Use;
- Acceleration of Housing Production Timeframes;
- Reduction of Construction and Development Costs; and,
- Providing Financial Subsidies.

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A minimum score of 30 points is required to receive a Prohousing Designation, and applicants must demonstrate that they have enacted or proposed at least one policy in each of the four categories. An initial review by City staff indicates the City will receive a score in excess of 30 due to the programs and reforms already adopted by the City Council in the form of the Land Use Element (2019), Inclusionary Housing (2021), Housing Element (2022), Consolidated Plan (2022) and other related housing efforts.

If this item is approved, City staff will submit the application and Resolution to HCD for review. HCD will then either approve or provide feedback on the application within 60 days. If awarded, the Prohousing Designation remains valid for three years.

This matter was reviewed by Principal Deputy City Attorney Rich Anthony on January 31, 2023 and by Revenue Management Officer Geraldine Alejo on February 15, 2023.

#### TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on March 7, 2023 so that the City can submit the application for the Program and score valuable additional points on an upcoming competitive application for AHSC funds.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal or local job impact associated with this recommendation. With the approval of this recommendation, the City will submit an application to the HCD for Prohousing Designation. If awarded, the City will be competitive for various affordable housing funding programs totaling several million dollars in loans and grants for multiple projects over the next three years. This recommendation has no staffing impact beyond the normal budgeted scope of duties and is consistent with existing City Council priorities.

#### SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



CHRISTOPHER KOONTZ  
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

APPROVED:



THOMAS B. MODICA  
CITY MANAGER

ATTACHMENT: RESOLUTION

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RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF LONG BEACH AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO  
AND PARTICIPATION IN THE PROHOUSING  
DESIGNATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 65589.9 established the Prohousing  
Designation Program (“PDP” or “Program”), which creates incentives for jurisdictions that  
are compliant with state housing element requirements and that have enacted Prohousing  
local policies; and

WHEREAS, such jurisdictions will be designated prohousing, and, as such,  
will receive additional points or other preference during the scoring of their competitive  
applications for specified housing and infrastructure funding; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Housing and Community Development  
(“Department”) has adopted emergency regulations (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 25, §6600 et  
seq.) to implement the Program (“Program Regulations”), as authorized by Government  
Code section 65589.9, subdivision (d); and

WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach (“Applicant”) desires to submit an  
application for a Prohousing Designation (“Application”);

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as  
follows:

Section 1. Applicant is hereby authorized and directed to submit an  
Application to the Department.

Section 2. Applicant acknowledges and confirms that it is currently in  
compliance with applicable state housing law.

Section 3. Applicant acknowledges and confirms that it will continue to  
comply with applicable housing laws and to refrain from enacting laws, developing policies,

1 or taking other local governmental actions that may or do inhibit or constrain housing  
2 production. Examples of such local laws, policies, and action include moratoriums on  
3 development; local voter approval requirements related to housing production;  
4 downzoning; and unduly restrictive or onerous zoning regulations, development standards  
5 or permit procedures. Applicant further acknowledges and conforms that it commits itself  
6 to affirmatively furthering fair housing pursuant to Government Code section 8899.50.

7 Section 4. If the Application is approved, Applicant is hereby authorized  
8 and directed to enter into, execute, and deliver all documents required or deemed  
9 necessary or appropriate to participate in the Program, and all amendment thereto (the  
10 "Program Documents").

11 Section 5. Applicant acknowledges and agrees that it shall be subject to  
12 the Application, the terms and conditions specified in the Program Documents, the  
13 Program Regulations, and any and all other applicable law.

14 Section 6. The City Manager or designee is authorized to execute and  
15 deliver the Application and the Program Documents on behalf of the Applicant for  
16 participation in the Program.

17 Section 7. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption  
18 by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

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OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY  
DAWN MCINTOSH, City Attorney  
411 West Ocean Boulevard, 9th Floor  
Long Beach, CA 90802-4664

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I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council  
of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 by the  
following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Noes: Councilmembers: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Absent: Councilmembers: \_\_\_\_\_

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Recusal(s): Councilmembers: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk