



## OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

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**DAWN A. MCINTOSH**  
City Attorney

**GARY J. ANDERSON**  
Assistant City Attorney

July 18, 2023

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

### RECOMMENDATION:

Declare an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Long Beach amending the Long Beach Municipal Code by adding Chapter 2.45 relating to the Commission on Women and Girls; read the first time and laid over to the next regular meeting of the City Council for final reading. (Citywide)

### DISCUSSION

Pursuant to City Manager's request, we have prepared the attached Ordinance adding Chapter 2.45 to the Long Beach Municipal Code for your consideration.

### SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

DAWN MCINTOSH, City Attorney

By: Anita Lakhani  
Deputy City Attorney

AL:kd  
A23-00650

ATTACHMENT: CITY COUNCIL ORDINANCE

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ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF LONG BEACH AMENDING THE LONG BEACH  
MUNICIPAL CODE BY ADDING CHAPTER 2.45 RELATING  
TO THE COMMISSION ON WOMEN AND GIRLS

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2021, the City Council of the City of Long Beach (“City”) directed the City Manager to create a plan for a Commission on Women and Girls, as recommended by the City of Long Beach’s Equity and Human Relations Commission; and

WHEREAS, on January 10, 2022, the City Manager released a memorandum outlining the process and fiscal impact of creating a local Commission on Women and Girls; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2023, the Office of Equity presented updates on City’s efforts, which included partnering with an Ad Hoc Community Advisory Team to develop a community engagement plan, apply for grant funding to support the creation of the Women and Girls Commission, hire a Program Specialist to facilitate the community engagement efforts, create the Women and Girls’ Community Survey to identify the Commission of Women and Girls’ priorities, and provided an overview of the survey’s findings; and

WHEREAS, on July 18, 2023, the City Manager’s office presented a report to the City Council on the results of the Long Beach Women and Girls’ Community Survey; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to create an advisory body titled the Commission on Women and Girls with the authority to provide recommendations on matters related to establishing and maintaining equal rights, equity, social justice, representation, and opportunities for all regarding gender, specifically serving women and

1 girls who live or work in Long Beach. This includes all who live as female-identified:  
2 cisgender and transgender, and those who identify as gender-expansive, non-binary,  
3 non-conforming, and genderqueer;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach ordains as  
5 follows:

6 Section 1. Chapter 2.45 of the Long Beach Municipal Code is hereby  
7 added to read as follows:

8  
9 CHAPTER 2.45

10 COMMISSION ON WOMEN AND GIRLS

11  
12 2.45.010 Created.

13 There is created a Commission to be known and designated as the  
14 Commission on Women and Girls.

15  
16 2.45.020 Definition.

17 For the purposes of this Chapter, the following definition shall be applicable:

18 A. "Women and girls" means all who live as female-identified, including:  
19 cisgender and transgender, and those who identify as gender-expansive, non-  
20 binary, non-conforming, and genderqueer.

21  
22 2.45.030 Duties.

23 A. To gather information and evaluate the needs and concerns of women  
24 and girls in Long Beach within the broader context of gender equity;

25 B. To inform and advise the City Council on issues and inequities  
26 affecting women and girls in Long Beach;

27 1. Recommend changes related to gender equality in existing City  
28 policies, programs and practices;

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2. Recommend new policies, programs and practices that promote and ensure equal rights and opportunities for all genders;
3. Recommend protecting and promoting visibility for women who are mothers, caregivers or older adults;
4. Identify matters of discrimination, prejudice, health and safety;
5. Encourage the participation, visibility and leadership of all women and girls.

C. To recommend policy changes using an intersectional feminist lens, ensuring that women’s overlapping identities, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, disability, class, religion, and marital status, are considered in decision-making related to City policies, programs, practices and resource allocation;

D. To consult and coordinate with other public agencies, commissions, and organizations serving women and girls on matters related to the Commission;

E. To conduct studies and surveys on the status of women and girls related to gender equity, as requested by the Mayor and City Council, and provide a report back to the City Council thereafter;

F. To submit a report to the City Council annually that details the status and progress on activities and recommendations.

2.45.040 Members.

The Commission on Women and Girls shall consist of eleven (11) members who demonstrate a commitment to advocating and advancing the well-being of Long Beach women and girls. It is the intent that the Commissioners appointed shall be from a diverse cross-section of Long Beach, including women of all racial backgrounds, ethnicities, sexual orientation, age, disability, class, religion, and partner status. There shall be one (1) commission member appointed to represent each of the nine (9) City Council districts and two (2) members appointed at large.

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Members of the Commission will be nominated by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council.

2.45.050 Authority.

A. The Commission shall make only advisory recommendations to the City Council related to establishing and maintaining equal rights, equity, social justice, representation, and opportunities for all regarding gender, specifically serving women and girls who live or work in Long Beach. This includes all who live as female-identified: cisgender and transgender, and those who identify as gender-expansive, non-binary, non-conforming, and genderqueer. Accordingly, the Commission shall not sit as an adjudicatory body on any such matters and shall have no authority to compel the attendance of persons before it.

B. Neither the Commission nor any individual member thereof shall have any administrative or operational duties, functions or responsibilities and shall have no supervisory power or any authority over any officers, agents or employees of the City or the operation or conduct of any City department.

C. Recommendations from the Commission shall follow the established processes set by the City Manager for advisory commissions, committees, and boards to transmit their recommendations to the City Council.

2.45.060 Applicability of Chapter 2.18.

Except as provided in this Chapter, the Commission shall be governed by and shall operate and conduct its business in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 2.18 of this Code entitled "Advisory Boards, Commissions and Committees."

Section 2. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance by the City Council and cause it to be posted in three (3) conspicuous places in the City of

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Long Beach, and it shall take effect on the thirty-first (31st) day after it is approved by the Mayor.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor