

RESOLUTION NO. RES-18-0066

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH SUPPORTING THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY'S SEMI-ANNUAL NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK EVENTS AND SUPPORTING THE AVAILABILITY AND USE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG DROP-BOXES ACROSS THE CITY

WHEREAS, safe disposal of unused or expired prescription drugs, including controlled substances such as opioid pain relievers, reduces the risk of nonmedical use that might lead to drug abuse; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the results of the National Survey on Drug Use found that more than 54.4 million people in the United States had misused prescription drugs for nonmedical reasons; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County coroner data shows that prescription opioids were involved in about sixty percent (60%) of all drug related deaths from 2006 to 2012 in LA County; and

WHEREAS, about forty-five percent (45%) of Long Beach residents reported that it is "not difficult" for youth living in Long Beach to get prescription drugs not prescribed to them; and

WHEREAS, medications flushed down the toilet or in drains pass through the sewer system and eventually enter our oceans and water systems, which could lead to increased bacterial resistance to antibiotics and interference with growth and reproduction in aquatic organisms; and

WHEREAS, in order to minimize the potential negative and irreversible impacts to our oceans and waterways, it is important that we limit the disposal of waste medications to the sewer; and

1 WHEREAS, one component of a comprehensive public health approach to
2 addressing drug abuse is the safe disposal of unused prescription drugs, including
3 controlled substances; and

4 WHEREAS, about forty-nine percent (49%) of Long Beach residents
5 reported they did not know that the City has disposal locations to drop off unused
6 prescription drugs; and

7 WHEREAS, per an October 2014 U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency rule,
8 police departments and pharmacies may now provide safe disposal boxes for controlled
9 substances like OxyContin, Vicodin, Valium and Ritalin; and

10 WHEREAS, South Bay Communities Creating Change, a coalition of
11 substance abuse prevention agencies located in the South Bay, has launched a new
12 effort to enhance safe prescription drug disposal efforts through community education
13 and outreach;

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

16 Section 1. The City Council supports the Drug Enforcement Agency's
17 semi-annual national prescription drug take back events and other community based
18 drug prevention education awareness activities.

19 Section 2. The City Council supports the availability and use of
20 prescription drug drop-boxes for the safe disposal of unused and expired prescription
21 drugs.

22 Section 3. The City Council asks that community agencies help ensure
23 that drop-box disposal programs in the City are designed to be regionally accessible and
24 language appropriate for limited English speaking residents.

25 Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption
26 by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

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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 May 1, 2018

by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Gonzalez, Pearce, Price, Supernaw,
Mungo, Andrews, Uranga, Austin,
Richardson.

Noes: Councilmembers: None.

Absent: Councilmembers: None.



City Clerk

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
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