



# Emergency Proclamation to Address Homelessness Update 16

City Council Meeting - October 10, 2023

# Mission Statement

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To reduce the number of persons experiencing homelessness in the city and the region by increasing housing opportunities and by enhancing current initiatives that provide field-based outreach, engagement, and supportive services while maintaining the safety and security of the people experiencing homelessness, the general public and staff, and improving overall public safety for the entire community.

# Homelessness Strategic Plan

- The Statement of Possibility from the Everyone Home Homelessness Strategic Plan continues to define success in Long Beach in its mission to end homelessness
- Statement of Possibility: The experience of homelessness in Long Beach is rare and brief when it occurs



# Goals of the Emergency

Build overall capacity to improve our approach to this systemic societal problem

Prevention

Behavioral  
health  
services

Housing

Increase funding and resources available to implement new programs

Speed up our overall response

Create longer-term goals and organizational structures to sustain work after the emergency

# Actions Taken the Past Four Weeks



# Progress – Increase Access to Services

- The Mobile Access Center (MAC) schedule for October was released and will operate Monday through Friday with varied hours and locations (<https://longbeach.gov/homelessness/homeless-services/>)
- Launched the 2<sup>nd</sup> MAC to provide services in multiple places throughout the community, extending MAC services reach

## SEPTEMBER MAC SCHEDULE

DAY	TIME	Location
<b>Mondays</b>	9 a.m. - noon	MacArthur Park (1321 E Anaheim St.). On west side of the park located on Warren Ave.
	9 a.m. - noon	Orizaba Park (1435 Orizaba Ave.). Near the street parking
	1:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Traffic Circle, in the area of Ximeno Avenue and East Atherton Street
<b>Tuesdays</b>	1:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Billy Jean King Main Library (200 W. Broadway), Backside of the library off Ocean Blvd.
	9 a.m. - noon	East Village, Christian Outreach in Action (515) E. 3rd St.), parked on Linden Avenue.
	9 a.m. - noon	Scherer Park (4600 Long Beach Blvd.). On the east side of the park in the parking lot off Atlantic Avenue.
	1:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Houghton Park (6301 Myrtle Ave.). Atlantic Avenue side of the park.
	1:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Granada Beach Parking Lot (5100 E. Ocean Blvd). Parked near Roycroft Avenue and Ocean Boulevard.
<b>Wednesdays</b>	9 a.m. - noon	Billy Jean King Main Library (200 W. Broadway), Backside of the library off Ocean Blvd.
	9 a.m. - noon	South Street and Cherry Avenue parked near on the northeast corner of the intersection, off South Street.
	1:30 - 4:00 p.m.	6 <sup>th</sup> Street and Long Beach Boulevard. On 6 <sup>th</sup> Street between Long Beach Boulevard and Elm Avenue.
<b>Thursdays</b>	1:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Heartwell Park (5801 Parkcrest St.). In the parking lot of East Carson Street between Woodruff Avenue and North Bellflower Boulevard.
	9 a.m. - noon	Drake/Chavez Soccer Fields (903-999 Fairbanks Ave.) Van will be parked facing Los Angeles River near the parking lot located on De Forest Avenue just south of the soccer fields.
	9 a.m. - noon	Houghton Park (6301 Myrtle Ave.). Atlantic Avenue side of the park.
<b>Fridays</b>	9 a.m. - noon	Alamitos Beach Parking Lot Near the south end of the parking lot, parking lot of Shoreline Drive and Beach Access Road.
	9 a.m. - noon	Bixby Park (130 Cherry Ave.). Near the corner of Cherry Avenue and East 1 <sup>st</sup> Street.

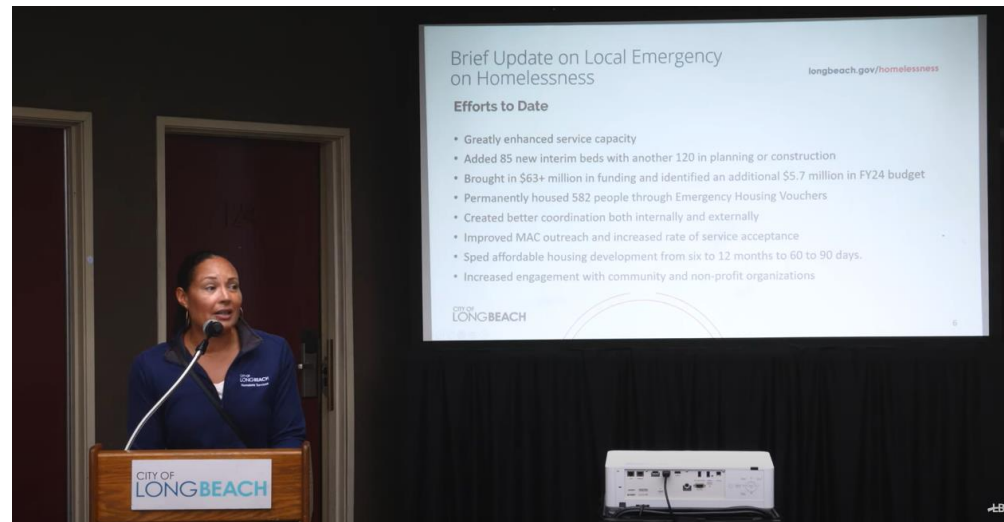
# Progress – Increase Access to Services

- Hosted the sixth Donation Drive on September 23rd at the Health Department for the Multi Service Center with more than 2,000 items donated
- Identified a new safe parking location at Anaheim and Santa Fe that will open by the end of October. New site can host 50 vehicles and provide more stability for the safe parking program
- Staff continue to provide case management services at the Queensway Safe Parking program Monday through Friday from 5-8pm. Will shift to the new site upon opening
- Implemented Spanish language notifications for the Long Beach homelessness text alert program to increase accessibility to services and resources



# Progress – Engaging the Community

- Completed 5950 Long Beach Blvd. (formerly Luxury Inn) outreach and canvassing to over 450 residents in the Longwood and Coolidge Triangle neighborhoods
- Completed 5950 Long Beach Blvd. outreach and canvassing to over 20 businesses along the Long Beach Blvd. corridor





# Progress – Engaging the Community

- Met with business owners who are near the new Safe Parking site to provide education and answer questions
- Increased outreach with the Interdepartmental team to locations across the city.
- Health Department hosted the older adult housing work group to bring together community partners and stakeholders
- Data incorporated with VA and LA County Department of Health Services
- Mental Health Transformation Bill – SB 326 will be on the ballot in March 2024



# Progress – Building Capacity

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- With the award from the State for the second Encampment Resolution Grant, geared to focus on BJK Library, Lincoln Park and other downtown areas, the focus will be on increasing access to housing and services through
  - Increased outreach engagements and supports;
  - Including additional Fire and Police staffing within the encampment area;
  - Funding interim housing for 60 people; and
  - Funding additional permanent housing resources to support 100 people
- Submitted annual application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to renew existing Continuum of Care programs, as well as applied for \$1.2 million in new funding to create additional housing programs
- Met with Community Champions group on October 5<sup>th</sup> to explore ways in which the community can get further engaged in providing services

# Progress – Interim and Long-Term Housing

- Provided status update and education to the community about the Tiny Home transitional housing project and why it is important to have interim housing solutions while people work to secure long term housing
- Finalized escrow with Rescue Mission for the 702 W. Anaheim Site for the long-term interim shelter



# Focus Areas for the Next Four Weeks



# Increase Access to Services

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- Meet with Los Angeles County and Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority to discuss upcoming funding opportunities with HHAP Round 5 as well as the recent court settlement by Los Angeles County and Los Angeles City
- Continue to coordinate outreach to RV's in the West Side businesses areas near the LA River and the Magnolia Industrial Group (MIG)
- Staffed the mobile therapy and substance use program and will be working to launch over the next month
- Move the Safe Parking site from Queensway to the new location off Anaheim St
- Continue to develop a plan for a second access point to expand capacity beyond the MSC
- Engage Los Angeles County DMH around timeline for reconvening co-located staffing at the MSC

# Engage Community

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- Continue to educate the community about the importance of Tiny Homes
- Homelessness Emergency Dashboard data refresh on October 9, 2023

# Build Capacity to Address the Crisis

- Continue to work with identified community champions to address homelessness as a community
- Work with community champions, the County, and city partners to identify inclement weather sheltering locations in preparation for the cold, wet months to come
- The Houghton Park workgroup has been formed via the interdepartmental team and will convene to address ongoing matters concerning the park
- Work on getting positions and process going to move towards the launch of the Encampment Resolution Funds Round 2 program in downtown



# Increase Interim and Long-Term Housing

- Begin planning process for 702 W. Anaheim and how the property will be developed now that escrow has closed. This will include:
  - Permanent sleeping areas
  - Indoor restrooms
  - Indoor common space
- Three affordable housing projects that include supportive housing units for PEH are in the process of having people matched to units. Lease ups for those matches will begin within the coming month at:
  - Heritage Gardens
  - Wellspring
  - 26.2





# Responses to Questions from Previous Meeting



# Questions from the Last City Council Report

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- 1) How are police officers kept informed regarding available beds, including beds at nonprofit organizations?
  - A) How are we providing shelter after hours for those who want it?
- 2) The LB Municipal Code currently prohibits sleeping in your car and sleeping on the beach between sunset and sunrise. Are these laws being enforced? If not, why not?
- 3) When do we enforce restrictions against encampments blocking rights of way? Can we ban encampments next to schools?



Thank you

**Kelly Colopy,  
Health and Human Services Director**

**Teresa Chandler,  
Deputy City Manager**