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Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council,

I strongly support the creation of a suicide prevention plan and community task force. The mental health, wellbeing and psychiatric care services in the Long Beach community should be evaluated and understood as we continue to address this complex issue.

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States. In California, it is the 2nd leading cause for ages 25 through 34. Establishing a community task force will give our city and community partners the opportunity to work together to develop strategies and best practices on intervention, procedures, education, outreach, and support. This is an effort to reduce deaths by suicide, increase awareness and understanding, and connect individuals to resources.

Thank you to Councilmember Jeannine Pearce for leading this effort. I offer my strong support in Long Beach's call to action on suicide prevention and thank you for your efforts on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alan Lowenthal".

Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress