



Emergency Proclamation to Address Homelessness Update 4

City Council Meeting – March 7, 2023

Mission Statement

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

Everyone Home Long Beach

In 2017, 100+ community stakeholders met to produce a Statement of Possibility, which guides and defines the success of the City's strategies and initiatives to achieve its mission to end homelessness.

Everyone Home Long Beach Taskforce was comprised of 31 leaders, including leadership from major institutions, a diverse group of Long Beach organizations, community members and those with lived experience.

Taskforce met five times to define goals and recommendations, which were presented to the City Council in December 2018.



Statement of Possibility:
The experience of homelessness in Long Beach is rare and brief when it occurs.

Homelessness Strategic Plan

1. Strengthen Governance and Increase Funding
2. Increase Housing Access
 - Emergency Shelter
 - Permanent Supportive Housing
 - Low and Very Low-income Housing
3. Reduce Homelessness
 - Prevention
 - Immediate Intervention
 - Chronic Homelessness
4. Employ People (Adult and Transition-Age Youth)
5. Support Families
6. Connect to Health
 - Substance Use and Mental Health Services
 - Physical Health and Hospital Discharge
7. Develop Population Based Service Models
 - Older adults
 - Transition-Aged Youth (TAY)
 - LGBTQ+
 - Reentry



Existing Efforts



Homelessness Emergency Response Efforts

- Attended community meeting to discuss proposed second Winter Shelter at Silverado Park
- After community input, determined to explore alternative solutions to address the homelessness crisis, and City staff has committed to community engagement prior to proceeding with any future plans
- Set up 60 overnight warming beds at MSC to offer shelter during inclement weather from 2/26 - 3/5, potential for extension if cold night temperatures remain



Everyone Home Goal 2

Homelessness Emergency Response Efforts

- Announced new locations for the Mobile Access Center (MAC) in North and East Long Beach
- Launched applications for Visual Improvement Program (VIP) Grant
- Finalized the first iteration of the public facing dashboard



Everyone Home Goal 1

Partnership Efforts

- Convened summit with legislative delegation office staff and local partners, where we provided updates on City's homeless services, outreach, and advocacy priorities
- Met with LA Voice on February 21 to discuss faith-based collaboration opportunities
- Added Scherer Park Community Center to list of locations accepting donations for people experiencing homelessness during operating hours
- Launched Community Partnerships Interest Form in Spanish, Tagalog and Khmer to elicit support from community partners in our efforts to address homelessness across Long Beach



Everyone Home Goal 1

Partnership Efforts

- Hosted public forum with Mayor to encourage housing providers to lease to people assisted through Housing Voucher and Emergency Housing Voucher programs
 - Approximately 50 owner/property managers attended



Everyone Home Goal 2

Partnership Efforts

- City leadership alongside the Mayor's Office is working on opportunities to connect with partners to engage and support the City's efforts to address sheltering needs. This includes a recent meeting on March 3rd at Century Villages at Cabrillo. Through these efforts, the following critical commitments to the community include four key focus areas:
 1. Going forward, the City will conduct community engagement prior to making decisions about program specifics that have potential impacts, even for temporary operations.
 2. The City will not program at locations that are providing existing community services.
 3. The City commits to leaving locations in a better state than how they were found, making a net enhancement to the community.
 4. Programs and projects will be spread across Long Beach and not concentrated only in one area.



Everyone Home Goal 2

Education Efforts

- Livestreamed updates with Mayor Richardson and special guests
 - Held sixth livestream update with Parks, Recreation and Marine Director Brent Dennis and Public Works Director Eric Lopez
 - Held seventh livestream update with Homeless Outreach team member Joel Reynoza
- Launched Housing Authority Information Line
 - Received 994 calls, sent 740 emails since February 10



Everyone Home Goal 1

Financial Support

- Met with neighboring Continuum of Care (CoC) Cities – Glendale and Pasadena – to brainstorm a plan that would make Measure H funding more equitable for CoC cities
- Developed potential grants and funding tracker available to entire team
- Submitted proposal for the second round of the State Encampment Resolution Funding



Everyone Home Goal 1

Intergovernmental Efforts

- Participated in meeting with the Gateway Cities Mayors and City Managers to discuss a coordinated response to address homelessness throughout region
- Met with LA County Chair Hahn and CEO Davenport to discuss the City's priorities for the homelessness emergency
- Metro moved to initiate a discussion with Long Beach and County homeless service providers to create a homeless service hub in the city along with the agency's A Line route

Everyone Home Goal 1

A nighttime photograph of the Long Beach waterfront. In the foreground, the calm water reflects the vibrant city lights. A large, multi-story building with a distinctive curved facade is prominent on the left. To its right, a long, low structure, possibly a ferry or a pier, stretches across the middle ground. The background is filled with various city buildings, some with lit-up windows, and palm trees are visible along the waterfront. The overall scene is a colorful and lively representation of the city at night.

Response to Question from Previous Meeting

Question for Follow Up

- Can the homeless resources listed on the website be listed in the reference in the Go Long Beach app?
 - A banner will be placed atop Go Long Beach with a link to the homelessness page. The verbiage is currently undergoing translation to all of the language access languages before the banner and link are published.

A nighttime photograph of the Long Beach harbor and city skyline. The water in the foreground is dark, reflecting the colorful lights from the harbor, the city buildings, and the palm trees. A large white ferry with a red wheel is docked in the harbor. The city skyline is visible in the background, with several tall buildings illuminated. The sky is dark blue.

Focus Areas in Next Two Weeks

- Launch the text notification system to provide real-time information and connection to service locations such as the daily location on the Mobile Access Center (MAC)
- Complete design of extensive community outreach and engagement process for homeless services locations and launch engagement efforts
- Plan a drive-thru donation drop-off event to support people experiencing homelessness
- Continue identifying partners who will offer after-hours bed availability, mental health support and shelter resources
- Continue to staff up the Homeless Services Bureau to address case management and public health nursing needs

- Host series of community round table sessions with every council district represented, to have conversations about how partners can collaborate within the emergency response efforts and support short-term and long-term solutions to addressing homelessness
- Plan Interfaith convening of faith organizations from across the City who are committed to supporting the efforts of not only the emergency response, but ongoing efforts after the emergency has been lifted
- Continue researching all grants with homelessness connection that City has received in the last several fiscal years, to identify if those grants are available to pursue again
- Follow-up with LA County on request to support emergency

- Continue evaluating other properties citywide (both public and private) that could be temporarily used or acquired to further support the local emergency
- Work to identify potential emergency shelter locations as well as locations available for when the winter shelter program ends
- Perform outreach, announce location of next Safe Parking Program, and begin installation
- Complete RV Dump Station installation
- Continue evaluating potential Airport and Port of Long Beach properties that can support additional homeless services, including but not limited to a Safe Parking Site or Safe RV Parking Site

- Finalize reporting metrics to track, as well as those metrics for ending the emergency.
- Begin second iteration of dashboard to capture operational and outcomes metrics attached to the emergency.



Thank you

Kelly Colopy, Director

Department of Health and Human
Services

Eric Lopez, Director

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