



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

100 West Broadway, Suite 400

Long Beach, CA 90802

(562) 570-2633

FAX (562) 570-6034

CODE ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

August 14, 2018

Dear Property Owner:

You are receiving this letter because our records indicate that the vacant lot that you own and/or manage is subject to registration and associated fees for the Long Beach Vacant Lot Registry. On October 3, 2017, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 17-0025 amending the Long Beach Municipal Code by adding Chapter 18.29 to require owners of vacant lots within the City to maintain and secure these lots. The Long Beach Department of Development Services Code Enforcement Bureau will monitor these lots to ensure adherence to the City's vacant lot maintenance standards.

The intent of the vacant lot registry is to protect neighborhoods and commercial areas from the negative impacts associated with vacant lots that lack adequate maintenance and security enforcement. Vacant lots, particularly those that are not well-kept, are associated with visual and other blight such as vandalism, graffiti, illegal dumping, and the accumulation of litter and debris, which can reduce property values. Vacant lot registration will enable proactive inspections that will alleviate these negative impacts.

As an owner of a vacant lot(s), this letter serves to inform you of a letter that you will receive in the coming weeks from the Code Enforcement Bureau outlining the responsibilities and fees associated with this program.

The ordinance also enables property owners to apply for a fee exemption in exchange for having their vacant lot used temporarily for a City approved community-serving purpose permitted by the applicable zoning district. Through the new vacant lot registry, fee exemptions may be granted for uses including urban agriculture, community gardens, community programming or events, or pop-up businesses. In addition to a potential fee waiver, there are also tax incentives for property owners who allow their property to be used for urban agriculture for a minimum of five years. Agreeing to have your vacant lot used for a community-supporting purpose can reduce costs, create less maintenance and upkeep work, and help improve the community.

For more information on the City's Vacant Lot Registry and opportunities for fee exemptions, visit: www.lbds.info/code_enforcement/vacant_lot_ordinance.asp. For questions about the program, contact Karl Wiegelman, Principal Building Inspector, at (562) 570-6286 or karl.wiegelman@longbeach.gov.

We look forward to working together with you to make our city the best that it can be.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Oscar Orci".

Oscar Orci, Deputy Director
Development Services Department