



# Emergency Proclamation to Address Homelessness Update 9

City Council Meeting – May 16, 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

- 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.



A nighttime photograph of a city waterfront. In the foreground, several boats are docked at a pier, their lights reflecting in the water. A large, multi-story building with a distinctive architectural style is visible in the background, illuminated against the dark sky. Palm trees and other vegetation are scattered throughout the scene, adding to the urban atmosphere. The overall lighting is a mix of warm and cool tones, creating a vibrant and lively scene.

# Homelessness Emergency Metrics

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- Decrease number of persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness
  - 381 currently enrolled in interim housing programs
  - 24,313 bed nights in interim housing
- Increase permanent housing placements
  - 165 currently enrolled in permanent housing programs
- Decrease number of persons falling into homelessness
  - 289 households/\$2.837 million for emergency rental assistance since emergency proclamation
  - 357 people have participated in the Homeless Prevention Program
    - 77 currently in program; 92% remain housed
- Increase intergovernmental (regional) partnerships to address the homeless crisis
  - 22 meetings held with partners
  - 21 letters sent
  - 38 agencies/offices engaged

A nighttime photograph of a city waterfront. In the foreground, a body of water reflects the colorful lights of buildings and palm trees. A large, multi-story building with a distinctive tower is prominent on the right. The sky is dark, and the overall scene is illuminated by artificial city lights.

# Homelessness Emergency Goals - Update

# Increase Access to Services

## Immediate (<3 months)

- ✓ Increase access to services through Mobile Access Center
- ✓ Open temporary Safe Parking program
- ✓ Open RV Sanitation and Water Filling Site
- ✓ Launch text notification system to provide real-time information and connection to service location

## Short Term (4 - 6 months)

- ✓ Provide business support services
- ✓ Increase access to mental health services throughout Long Beach
- Open long-term safe parking and safe RV parking
- ✓ Initiate discussions and collaboration on better models for local mental health services



Mobile Access Center:  
1,109 Interactions  
611 Accepted Services



Safe Parking:  
657 Stays  
Avg 17 vehicles per night



Multi Service Center:  
14,373 Visits  
Avg 189 people per day



Business Support:  
\$350,000 in Grants

# Progress on Goals

## Past two weeks:

- Working to finalizing alternate site for Safe Parking after Queensway ends on May 21
- Launched a new evening mental health services program, including 45-minute therapy session for sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness

## Next two weeks:

- Continue partnership conversations with LA County Department of Health Services and LAHSA
- Increase outreach and education regarding availability of the RV Sanitation and Water Filling site
- Finalize location for an alternative Safe Parking site after Queensway ends on May 21



PD Quality of Life Contacts:  
3,643

Encampment Visits with People:  
512  
279 accepted services

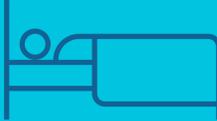
# Increase Interim and Long-term Housing Access

## Immediate (<3 months)

- ✓ Open Winter Shelter
- ✓ Create Landlord education campaign and outreach, including launch of outreach line

## Short Term (4 - 6 months)

- Lease up all Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs)
- Identify and implement ongoing interim shelter site
- Formalize additional contracts with motels to take motel vouchers
- Establish process for warming centers during cold weather beyond winter shelter program



Short-Term Warming Center:  
60 Beds



Emergency Shelter:  
81+ Beds



Outreach Line:  
2,486 Calls & Emails



Emergency Housing Vouchers:  
91% Filled

# Progress on Goals

## **Past two weeks and next two weeks:**

- Continue to conduct enhanced engagement with housing providers to boost participation
- Work to identify a long-term emergency shelter site
- Review sites for a potential Project Homekey application
- Completing scope of work for Everyone Home 2.0 planning process
- Housing Authority is working to update its Housing Choice Voucher List to ensure all on the list continue to be eligible and interested.

# Build Capacity to Address Homelessness Crisis

## Immediate (<3 months)

- ✓ Identify and apply for funding opportunities
- Identify specific roles and assistance from partner agencies such as Harbor, Utilities, and Long Beach Transit
- ✓ Make specific resource requests from the County, Metro, and State to build local Long Beach capacity
- ✓ Initiate regional discussions on building regional capacity in the Gateway Cities

## Short Term (4 - 6 months)

- Identify and implement operational improvements in staffing, funding, and processes
- Secure one-time Measure H/HHAP funding for local investment



City Staff Reassigned:  
146



Reassigned Staffing:  
15,551 Hours



Funding:  
\$13 Million Identified



New Grants:  
\$31M in Applications  
\$5.2M received

# Progress on Goals

## **Past two weeks:**

- Met with Big City Mayors to learn more about the Senate's proposed budget, which proposes to create an ongoing funding source for the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program totaling \$1 billion annually
- Engaged with consultants to identify grants to support efforts

## **Next two weeks:**

- Continue evaluating potential Port of Long Beach properties that can support additional homelessness services

# Engage Community in Data, Planning and Assistance

## Immediate (<3 months)

- ✓ Launch dashboard featuring local homelessness data
- ✓ Implement community engagement and outreach process for homeless services-related efforts
- ✓ Incorporate the City's commitments for site selection into Homelessness Activation
- ✓ Launch a donation effort to collect materials and engage the community in supporting City efforts

## Short Term (4 - 6 months)

- ✓ Improve public access data for homelessness efforts
- ✓ Hold stakeholder meetings throughout Long Beach to engage community in idea generation, prioritization, and understanding
- ✓ Engage clergy and non-profits to bolster capacity
- Engage businesses in education and brainstorming



Dashboard Elements:  
56 Data Points



Outreach Events:  
9 Events



Donated Items:  
10,595 items  
6,391 distributed



Community Organizations:  
62 signed up

# Progress on Goals

## Past two weeks:

- Refreshed Homelessness Dashboard on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Restructured dashboard to incorporate Point in Time Count, prevention, and outcomes data.

## Next two weeks:

- Plan an Interfaith convening of faith organizations from across the City who are committed to supporting the efforts of not only the emergency response, but ongoing after the emergency has been lifted

CITY OF  
LONG BEACH

Emergency  
Response

Prevention

Demographics

Services

Outcomes

Reset  
Filters

## Addressing the Emergency

Long Beach declared homelessness a local emergency on January 10, 2023. Since then, your City staff, elected officials, community leaders, non-profits, and neighbors have come together to aid those in need. This dashboard shows some of the many services that are offered to people experiencing homelessness. [Definitions and calculations](#) are available for all elements displayed on this dashboard.

## Overview of Services and Utilization Since Emergency Proclamation



**Thank you**

**Kelly Colopy, Director**

Department of Health and Human  
Services

**Eric Lopez, Director**

Department of Public Works