



# MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA

## 2022 BUDGET MESSAGE

# BH-22.1

I am presenting the FY 2022 Budget in partnership with City Manager Tom Modica and like the previous seven budgets, it is balanced and responsible. The City's total proposed FY 2022 budget is \$3 billion and reflects the city's recovery from the largest public health crisis of our lifetime. COVID-19 had a significant impact on the previous budget cycle -- which was marked by sacrifice and hard budget decisions to preserve the future of our city. While our city's revenues are still in the process of returning to pre-pandemic levels, we are fortunate to have federal and state funds to support existing programs and services.

Earlier this year, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan into law. As a result, a historic \$249 million in federal and state dollars was allocated to support city programs.

In March of 2021, our city became the first in the nation to release a local recovery plan. The Long Beach Recovery Act is a plan to bolster the Long Beach economy, keep our community healthy and safe – and secure our city's future.

**Thanks to the Long Beach Recovery Act, this year's budget includes no cuts, no deficit, and replenished reserves.**

We are placing \$41.5 million into the city's reserve accounts to restore reserves for future emergencies and eliminating the city's FY 22 General Fund budget deficit with \$30 million. We also ended furloughs for city employees with \$5.2 million in federal dollars. Without this one-time funding, the city would have had to make painful reductions with substantial adverse impacts to services during a recovery year.

These investments make it possible to support economic recovery programs with confidence. Significant funds will be dedicated to support local small businesses and our city's business corridors as they recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding will also be used to support a healthy and safe community by addressing basic needs for vulnerable residents, violence prevention and health equity.

The City's FY 22 budget also makes key community investments that include support for the arts, aging and older adult programs, exploring community land trusts, expanding language access, ongoing funding for the Justice Fund, and an expansion of digital inclusion programs. We also fund and address key recommendations within the city's Framework for Reconciliation. And Measure US, approved by voters, makes significant new investments in our city's youth, health outcomes, and climate resiliency.

Long Beach has made it through the hardest year in our city's history. With support from the Long Beach Recovery Act and a plan for our future, our city is poised to build back even better.

For more information on the budget, community budget meetings, and budget survey, visit: [longbeach.gov/finance](http://longbeach.gov/finance)



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