

# NB-18

May 16, 2023

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

## RECOMMENDATION:

Continue the local emergency caused by conditions or threatened conditions of homelessness within the City of Long Beach, which if not corrected, constitute an imminent and proximate threat to the safety of persons and property within the City; and

Receive and file an update on the emergency declaration and associated activities and provide any additional direction to City staff regarding the emergency. (Citywide)

## DISCUSSION

The City of Long Beach (City) has designated significant resources to address homelessness in Long Beach. Since 2020, more than 530 new interim housing units have been developed. The City opened the first year-round Atlantic Bridge Community Shelter, secured three hotels along with the County of Los Angeles (County), and recently purchased the 78-bed Luxury Inn and more than 30 modular shelter units. The City also implemented three Restorative Engagement to Achieve Collective Health (REACH) teams, increased the number of outreach staff and call takers from 4 to 27, expanded hours for weekend outreach, began conducting localized interdepartmental response, partnered to provide mobile health care services, and doubled Police Department Quality of Life teams. In 2023, the City has implemented mobile Multi-Service Center (MSC) outreach teams, will launch a mobile mental health and substance use treatment van, and will continue to focus on mental health prevention and treatment access.

The City continues to have 3,447 people experiencing homelessness throughout Long Beach, which is a 4.6 percent increase from 2022, the smallest increase Long Beach has reported since 2019. For reference, homelessness increased 7 percent from 2019 to 2020, and increased from 62 percent from 2020 to 2022 (the 2021 Count was canceled due to the pandemic). Of these 3,447 people, 2,456 are unsheltered. The City and local community-based organizations provide approximately 1,300 interim shelter beds, and most of these shelters are operating at capacity, leaving few options for those currently without shelter.

## **Declaration of the Emergency**

On January 10, 2023, the City Council proclaimed the local emergency, in accordance with the provisions of Long Beach Municipal Code Chapter 2.69. This item will be reviewed every fourteen (14) days until the City Council terminates said local emergency or amends requirements for reporting frequency. A local emergency must be terminated at the earliest possible date as the conditions warrant.

The Mission of the Emergency:

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.

The Everyone Home Long Beach leads with the following statement of possibility: The experience of homelessness in Long Beach is rare and brief when it occurs. The Mission, goals and actions outlined in the local homeless emergency are aligned with the Everyone Home Long Beach Plan.

## **Actions Taken in the Past Two Weeks**

Over the past two weeks, the City emergency structure has taken several actions and below is a summary of the major items worked on. Supporting information is included in Attachment A.

### **Increase access to services**

- Working on identifying alternate sites for Safe Parking after Queensway ends on May 21<sup>st</sup>
- Housing Authority is working to update its Housing Choice Voucher List.

### **Engage community in data, planning and assistance**

- Refreshed Homelessness Dashboard data on May 4. Restructured dashboard to incorporate the Point in Time Count, prevention, and outcomes data.
- Received over 800 donated items at the second drive thru donation event held on April 29<sup>th</sup>

### **Build capacity to address homelessness crisis**

- Met with Big City Mayors to learn more about the Senate's proposed budget, which proposes to create an ongoing funding source for the HHAP program totaling \$1 billion annually.

- Engaged with consultants to identify grants to support efforts

#### Focus Areas for the Next Two Weeks

Staff will provide an oral report on May 16, 2023, on some of the areas of focus for the next two weeks that contribute to the progress of the short-term goals. Topics will include:

#### **Increase access to services**

- 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<sup>st</sup>
- Housing Authority will continue to work to update its Housing Choice Voucher List.

#### **Engage community in data, planning and assistance**

- 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

#### **Build capacity to address homelessness crisis**

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

#### **Increase interim and long-term housing access**

- Continue to conduct enhanced engagement with housing providers to boost housing access
- Working to identify a long-term emergency shelter site
- Reviewing sites for a potential Project Homekey application

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Anita Lakhani and Recovery Budget Officer Dee Okam on May 10, 2023 .

#### TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on May 16, 2023, in accordance with the Long Beach Municipal Code requirements for the review of the local emergency. In order to report back every two weeks and to allow time for updates with the actions of the past two weeks, the item will

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

May 16, 2023

Page 4

generally be released on the Supplemental Agenda with a presentation with the latest information provided to the City Council and community during the meeting.

### FISCAL IMPACT

The full fiscal impact is unknown at this time and will be based on the work required and projects implemented to respond to the homelessness crisis. As the Citywide strategy is developed, and funding is identified, staff will return to the City Council with fiscal impacts and requests for appropriation. This recommendation will result in significant staffing impacts beyond the normal budgeted scope of duties and is expected to affect Citywide staffing workload and will cause priorities to shift due to this emergency. There is no local job impact associated with this recommendation.

### SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



THOMAS B. MODICA  
CITY MANAGER

Attachments:                   A – Supporting Documentation on Actions Taken in the Past Two Weeks



MAYOR  
**REX RICHARDSON**

ATTACHMENT A

May 1, 2023

The Honorable Reggie Jones-Sawyer  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 5210  
Sacramento, CA 94249

**RE: Support for AB 1734 (Jones-Sawyer)—Local Government: Surplus Land**

Dear Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of AB 1734. This bill would expand the definition of exempt surplus land to include land that is disposed of by certain local agencies for emergency shelters, supportive housing, transitional housing, or affordable housing. AB 1734 would help the City facilitate the development of interim housing for people experiencing homelessness.

In an effort to address homelessness in recent years, the City has added more than 530 new interim housing units and nearly 600 new affordable housing units, opened the first year-round bridge housing facility, secured four hotels for interim housing, and purchased more than 30 modular shelter units. The City is also strengthening strategic partnerships with educational institutions to support housing production and add to Long Beach's housing stock for students, families, teachers, and education staff—through the program known as the Long Beach Housing Promise.

Despite historic investments in prevention, housing, outreach, and other solutions, we have continued to see people fall into homelessness. On January 10, 2023, the City declared an emergency on homelessness, which expedites the permitting and review process for development projects related to addressing homelessness, including but not limited to emergency shelters, transitional housing, supportive housing, and affordable housing. AB 1734 will strengthen the City's capacity to address the homelessness crisis by providing additional pathways for interim housing development.

For these reasons, the City supports AB 1734.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rex Richardson", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mayor Rex Richardson  
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Lena Gonzalez, State Senate, 33<sup>rd</sup> District  
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 65<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Josh Lowenthal, State Assembly, 69<sup>th</sup> District

[Select Language](#) ▼

## PRESS RELEASE

City of Long Beach  
Public Information Office  
411 W. Ocean Blvd,  
Long Beach, CA 90802

---

**4/28/2023**

Press Release # 042823FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **City of Long Beach Opens Temporary Emergency Shelter for People Experiencing Homelessness**

City of Long Beach Joint Information Center  
562.570.NEWS  
JIC@longbeach.gov

Long Beach, CA – The City of Long Beach has opened a temporary emergency shelter for people experiencing homelessness. The new emergency shelter opened on April 27 and holds more than 85 beds, offers a variety of onsite amenities and access to services, and will serve as a critical resource moving forward after the Community Hospital Winter Shelter concludes operations today, per the lease agreement.

In order to access emergency shelter services, people will first need a referral from the Multi-Service Center (MSC) or Mobile Access Center (MAC) in order to access the shelter. Participants will be able to access the Emergency Shelter via the shuttle bus, which will make daily pick-ups at the MSC (1301 W. 12th St.) in the mornings and will return people to the shelter in the evenings. Prior to concluding operations, existing Winter Shelter participants were notified of their opportunity to receive priority placement at the emergency shelter and 55 people accepted.

In addition to amenities including three meals per day, onsite showers and restrooms, an enclosed outdoor area and space for service animals and pets under 30 pounds, shelter participants will also have access to a variety of services, including housing-focused case management, screening for housing programs, referrals to year-round shelter programs, assistance obtaining identification and documents and connections to behavioral health resources. The nonprofit organization First to Serve Outreach Ministries will manage the shelter's day-to-day operations.

The emergency shelter is located at 702 W. Anaheim St. and will operate for a period of three months, now through July 28, 2023, with the possibility for services to be extended at the site in the future. The City first [announced](#) the shelter's anticipated operations earlier this month.

More information about the emergency shelter is available on the [FAQs](#), with additional information about other shelter beds and interim housing offered by the City and its partners at [longbeach.gov/homelessness/homeless-services](https://longbeach.gov/homelessness/homeless-services).

For more information on the City's efforts to reduce homelessness in Long Beach, people may visit [longbeach.gov/homelessness](https://longbeach.gov/homelessness) and follow @lbhealthdept and @longbeachcity on social media and follow the hashtag #EveryoneHomeLB.

Media inquiries may be directed to the City of Long Beach Joint Information Center at 562.570.NEWS or [JIC@longbeach.gov](mailto:JIC@longbeach.gov).

---

For more news, pictures, videos and announcements of what's happening in Long Beach, follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).

Select Language | ▼



## PRESS RELEASE

City of Long Beach  
Public Information Office  
411 W. Ocean Blvd,  
Long Beach, CA 90802

---

**4/28/2023**

Press Release # 042823-2FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Long Beach's Mobile Access Center to Continue Homeless Services Outreach Throughout May**

City of Long Beach Joint Information Center  
562.570.NEWS  
JIC@longbeach.gov

Long Beach, CA - The City of Long Beach will continue to deploy its Mobile Access Center (MAC) in select areas throughout May. Additionally starting in May, the MAC will be deployed during the afternoon on select days to allow outreach staff to engage with more individuals and follow up with existing clients.

Beginning Monday, May 1, the MAC will be stationed at the following locations from 9 a.m. to noon:

- **Mondays** – North Los Altos Shopping Center, parking lot northeast of Stearns Street and Bellflower Boulevard intersection.
- **Tuesdays** – Houghton Park (6301 Myrtle Ave.), Atlantic Avenue side of park.
- **Wednesdays** – Billie Jean King Main Library (200 W. Broadway), Pacific Avenue side of Library.
- **Thursdays** – Drake Park (951 Maine Ave.), parking lot.
- **Fridays** – Granada Beach Parking Lot near Rosie's Dog Beach, area of E. Ocean Boulevard and Granada Avenue.

The MAC will also be deployed from 1:30 to 4 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the locations listed below:

- **Mondays** – Ximeno Avenue near Traffic Circle
- **Tuesdays** – Ramona Park (3301 E. 65th St.)
- **Wednesdays** – 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Long Beach Boulevard, on 6<sup>th</sup> Street between Long Beach Boulevard and Elm Avenue.

To date, the MAC has over 900 recorded engagements with people experiencing homelessness, and of those engagements, services have been provided to more than 500 people, including referral and transport to shelter, enrollment into the homeless services system, connections to community resources and basic medical services.



For more information on the City's efforts to reduce homelessness in Long Beach, people may visit [longbeach.gov/homelessness](https://longbeach.gov/homelessness) and follow @lbhealthdept and @longbeachcity on social media and follow the hashtag #EveryoneHomeLB.

Media inquiries may be directed to City of Long Beach Joint Information Center at 562.570.NEWS or [JIC@longbeach.gov](mailto:JIC@longbeach.gov).

---

For more news, pictures, videos and announcements of what's happening in Long Beach, follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).

## REQUEST TO ADD AGENDA ITEM

**Date:** May 12, 2023

**To:** Monique De La Garza, City Clerk

**From:** Thomas B. Modica, City Manager 

**Subject:** Request to Add Agenda Item to Council Agenda of May 16, 2023

Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 2.03.070 [B], the City Councilmembers signing below request that the attached agenda item (due in the City Clerk Department by Friday, 12:00 Noon) be placed on the City Council agenda via the supplemental agenda.

The agenda title/recommendation for this item reads as follows:

**To continue the local emergency caused by conditions or threatened conditions of homelessness within the City of Long Beach, which if not corrected, constitute an imminent and proximate threat to the safety of persons and property within the City; and**

**Receive and file an update on the emergency declaration and associated activities and provide any additional direction to City staff regarding the emergency. (Citywide)**

<b>Council District</b>	<b>Authorizing Councilmember</b>	<b>Signed by</b>
1	Mary Zendejas	(Digital – attached email)
2	Cindy Allen	(Digital – attached email)
5	Megan Kerr	(Digital – attached email)

## April Walker

---

**From:** Lynn Ward  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 11:34 AM  
**To:** Robert Allarte; Rahul Sen; April Walker; Connor Lock  
**Cc:** Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs  
**Subject:** Re: SUPPLEMENTAL SIGN ON (3 Signatures Needed) - Homelessness Emergency Updates

Confirming for councilwoman Zendejas.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Robert Allarte <Robert.Allarte@longbeach.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:58:13 AM  
**To:** Rahul Sen <Rahul.Sen@longbeach.gov>; April Walker <April.Walker@longbeach.gov>; Lynn Ward <Lynn.Ward@longbeach.gov>; Connor Lock <Connor.Lock@longbeach.gov>  
**Cc:** Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs <Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: SUPPLEMENTAL SIGN ON (3 Signatures Needed) - Homelessness Emergency Updates

Good Morning April,

Confirming for Councilwoman Kerr.

Thank you,

Robert Allarte

**Chief of Staff**

**Office of Councilwoman Megan Kerr**

411 W Ocean Blvd, 11<sup>th</sup> Fl. | Long Beach, CA 90802

Office: 562-570-5555 | robert.allarte@longbeach.gov

---

**From:** Rahul Sen <Rahul.Sen@longbeach.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:44:10 AM  
**To:** April Walker <April.Walker@longbeach.gov>; Lynn Ward <Lynn.Ward@longbeach.gov>; Connor Lock <Connor.Lock@longbeach.gov>; Robert Allarte <Robert.Allarte@longbeach.gov>  
**Cc:** Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs <Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: SUPPLEMENTAL SIGN ON (3 Signatures Needed) - Homelessness Emergency Updates

Good Morning April,

Vice Mayor Allen will sign on to the supplemental form for this item.

Best,

**Rahul Sen**

Policy Director

Office of Vice Mayor Cindy Allen

411 West Ocean Blvd, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor

Long Beach, CA 90802

(562) 570-6849

---

**From:** April Walker <April.Walker@longbeach.gov>

**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:00 AM

**To:** Lynn Ward <Lynn.Ward@longbeach.gov>; Rahul Sen <Rahul.Sen@longbeach.gov>; Connor Lock <Connor.Lock@longbeach.gov>; Robert Allarte <Robert.Allarte@longbeach.gov>

**Cc:** Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs <Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs@longbeach.gov>

**Subject:** SUPPLEMENTAL SIGN ON (3 Signatures Needed) - Homelessness Emergency Updates

**Importance:** High

Good morning -

The City Manager's Office would like to add on an item to the May 16<sup>th</sup> Supplemental agenda (due to the Clerk today at noon), related to the following:

**Continue the local emergency caused by conditions or threatened conditions of homelessness within the City of Long Beach, which if not corrected, constitute an imminent and proximate threat to the safety of persons and property within the City, and;**

**Receive and file an update on the emergency declaration and associated activities and provide any additional direction to City staff regarding the emergency. (Citywide)**

We are hoping that your Council Office will be a signatory for the DRAFT attached item. This letter is with Tom for review and we will get you the final version. I hope this advanced notice will allow you to review now for signatory consideration. I will follow up if any changes have been made (since these are bi-weekly we do not typically see any substantive changes with Tom's review).

If you have any challenges obtaining approval from your member, please let me know and I'll work with another office.

As always, we appreciated your attention and response to this request.

**April Walker**

*Administrative Deputy City Manager*

**Office of the City Manager**

411 West Ocean Blvd., 10<sup>th</sup> Floor | Long Beach, CA 90802

Office: 562.570.6561

*My working hours may not be your working hours. Please do not feel obligated to reply outside of your normal work schedule.*



## April Walker

---

**From:** Rahul Sen  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:44 AM  
**To:** April Walker; Lynn Ward; Connor Lock; Robert Allarte  
**Cc:** Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs  
**Subject:** RE: SUPPLEMENTAL SIGN ON (3 Signatures Needed) - Homelessness Emergency Updates

Good Morning April,

Vice Mayor Allen will sign on to the supplemental form for this item.

Best,

**Rahul Sen**

Policy Director  
Office of Vice Mayor Cindy Allen  
411 West Ocean Blvd, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
(562) 570-6849

---

**From:** April Walker <April.Walker@longbeach.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Lynn Ward <Lynn.Ward@longbeach.gov>; Rahul Sen <Rahul.Sen@longbeach.gov>; Connor Lock <Connor.Lock@longbeach.gov>; Robert Allarte <Robert.Allarte@longbeach.gov>  
**Cc:** Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs <Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** SUPPLEMENTAL SIGN ON (3 Signatures Needed) - Homelessness Emergency Updates  
**Importance:** High

Good morning -

The City Manager's Office would like to add on an item to the May 16<sup>th</sup> Supplemental agenda (due to the Clerk today at noon), related to the following:

**Continue the local emergency caused by conditions or threatened conditions of homelessness within the City of Long Beach, which if not corrected, constitute an imminent and proximate threat to the safety of persons and property within the City, and;**

**Receive and file an update on the emergency declaration and associated activities and provide any additional direction to City staff regarding the emergency. (Citywide)**

We are hoping that your Council Office will be a signatory for the DRAFT attached item. This letter is with Tom for review and we will get you the final version. I hope this advanced notice will allow you to review now for signatory consideration. I will follow up if any changes have been made (since these are bi-weekly we do not typically see any substantive changes with Tom's review).

If you have any challenges obtaining approval from your member, please let me know and I'll work with another office.

As always, we appreciated your attention and response to this request.

**April Walker**

*Administrative Deputy City Manager*

**Office of the City Manager**

411 West Ocean Blvd., 10<sup>th</sup> Floor | Long Beach, CA 90802

Office: 562.570.6561

*My working hours may not be your working hours. Please do not feel obligated to reply outside of your normal work schedule.*



## April Walker

---

**From:** Robert Allarte  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:58 AM  
**To:** Rahul Sen; April Walker; Lynn Ward; Connor Lock  
**Cc:** Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs  
**Subject:** Re: SUPPLEMENTAL SIGN ON (3 Signatures Needed) - Homelessness Emergency Updates

Good Morning April,

Confirming for Councilwoman Kerr.

Thank you,

Robert Allarte  
**Chief of Staff**  
**Office of Councilwoman Megan Kerr**  
411 W Ocean Blvd, 11<sup>th</sup> Fl. | Long Beach, CA 90802  
Office: 562-570-5555 | robert.allarte@longbeach.gov

---

**From:** Rahul Sen <Rahul.Sen@longbeach.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:44:10 AM  
**To:** April Walker <April.Walker@longbeach.gov>; Lynn Ward <Lynn.Ward@longbeach.gov>; Connor Lock <Connor.Lock@longbeach.gov>; Robert Allarte <Robert.Allarte@longbeach.gov>  
**Cc:** Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs <Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: SUPPLEMENTAL SIGN ON (3 Signatures Needed) - Homelessness Emergency Updates

Good Morning April,

Vice Mayor Allen will sign on to the supplemental form for this item.

Best,

**Rahul Sen**  
Policy Director  
Office of Vice Mayor Cindy Allen  
411 West Ocean Blvd, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
(562) 570-6849

---

**From:** April Walker <April.Walker@longbeach.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Lynn Ward <Lynn.Ward@longbeach.gov>; Rahul Sen <Rahul.Sen@longbeach.gov>; Connor Lock <Connor.Lock@longbeach.gov>; Robert Allarte <Robert.Allarte@longbeach.gov>  
**Cc:** Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs <Agenda\_Supporting\_Docs@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** SUPPLEMENTAL SIGN ON (3 Signatures Needed) - Homelessness Emergency Updates  
**Importance:** High

Good morning -

The City Manager's Office would like to add on an item to the May 16<sup>th</sup> Supplemental agenda (due to the Clerk today at noon), related to the following:

**Continue the local emergency caused by conditions or threatened conditions of homelessness within the City of Long Beach, which if not corrected, constitute an imminent and proximate threat to the safety of persons and property within the City, and;**

**Receive and file an update on the emergency declaration and associated activities and provide any additional direction to City staff regarding the emergency. (Citywide)**

We are hoping that your Council Office will be a signatory for the DRAFT attached item. This letter is with Tom for review and we will get you the final version. I hope this advanced notice will allow you to review now for signatory consideration. I will follow up if any changes have been made (since these are bi-weekly we do not typically see any substantive changes with Tom's review).

If you have any challenges obtaining approval from your member, please let me know and I'll work with another office.

As always, we appreciated your attention and response to this request.

**April Walker**

*Administrative Deputy City Manager*

**Office of the City Manager**

411 West Ocean Blvd., 10<sup>th</sup> Floor | Long Beach, CA 90802

Office: 562.570.6561

*My working hours may not be your working hours. Please do not feel obligated to reply outside of your normal work schedule.*

**CITY OF  
LONGBEACH**

