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# THE LB B.U.I.L.D. INITIATIVE

**Building  
Upgrades  
Incentivizing  
Long-Term Economic  
Development**



## THE PROBLEM

- City received TFF from Development Services May 11<sup>th</sup>
- Full-time staff dropped from 11 to 6, 50% vacancy rate
- Permitting delays

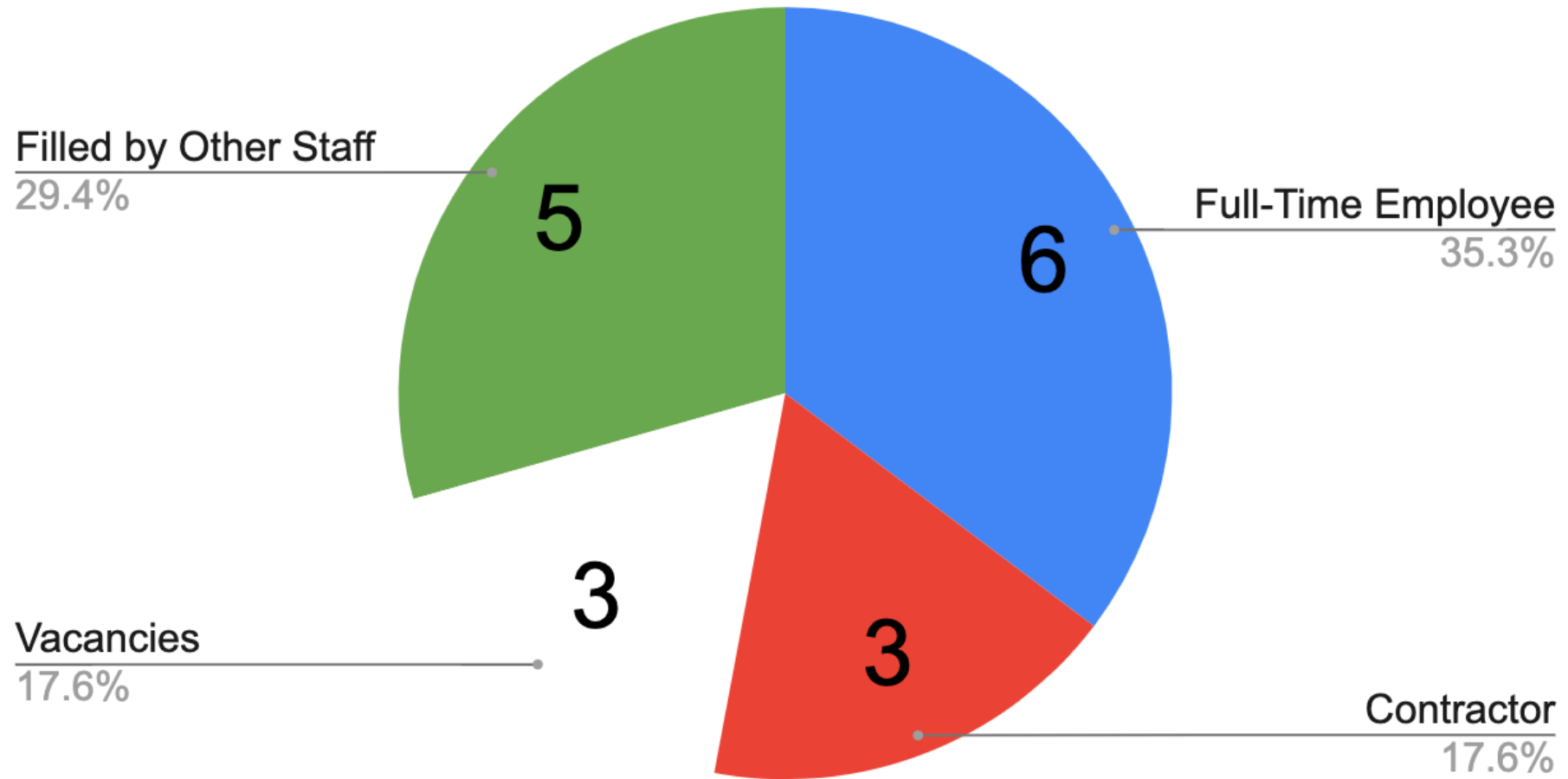
# FULLY STAFFING OUR PERMIT CENTER

- More full-time employees, less contractors and overwork
- Length of city hiring process is an issue
- May need to get data on other positions dealing w/ permitting to fully assess

Month	Filled by FTE	Filled by Contractor	Vacancies	Filled by Other Staff
January 2020	11	1	0	0
February 2020	10	1	1	0
March 2020	10	0	2	0
April 2020	10	0	2	0
May 2020	10	1	1	0
June 2020	9	2	1	0
July 2020	8	2	2	2
August 2020	8	2	2	2
September 2020	8	3	1	0
October 2020	8	4	0	0
November 2020	8	4	0	0
December 2020	8	4	0	0
January 2021	6	6	0	0
February 2021	6	4	2	0
March 2021	6	4	2	2
April 2021	6	3	3	5

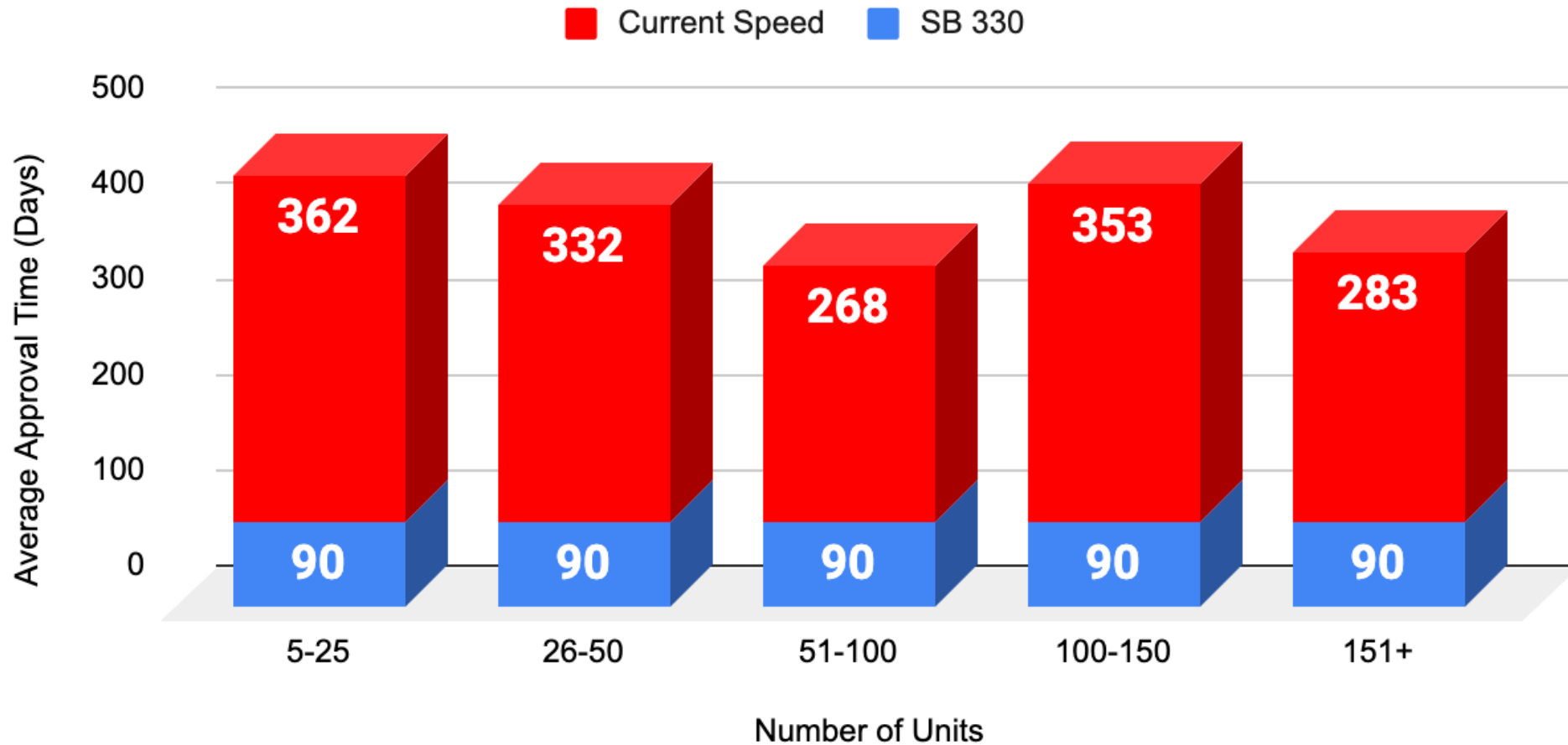
April 2021

Permitting Office Staff Situation



# Average Approval Time of Discretionary Projects in Long Beach

vs SB 330 Requirements by no. of Units



Source: UC Berkley Institute of Urban and Regional Development

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## THE OPPORTUNITY

- Invest in our post-pandemic future
- Continue to be a leader in the recovery
- Address the housing crisis
- Use this momentum for real reform

## THE WAY FORWARD



Conduct a review of the city's hiring practices and issue a directive which prioritizes fully staffing the Permit Center as well other offices dealing with the review and approval of building permits.



Provide Council a report regarding the status of the city's permitting software and provide options for optimizing and expediting the building permit review processes.



Explore the creation of a "Development Shot Clock" for the review of local development in line with transparency, timelines, and standards consistent with state law.

**LESSONS FROM  
OTHER CITIES**

Oakland: Affordability

San Jose: Resiliency

San Diego: Sustainability

Huntington Beach: Transparency



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## THE SHOT CLOCK

- Speeds up production of housing
- Improves habitability
- Brings us in line with state law
- Makes our process more transparent







# CONCLUSION

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