



Emergency Proclamation to Address Homelessness Update 3

City Council Meeting - February 21, 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.

A nighttime photograph of a city waterfront. In the foreground, a body of water reflects the lights from buildings and streetlights. A large, multi-story building with a distinctive curved facade is prominent on the left. In the center, a large, white, multi-decked boat or ferry is docked. To the right, a tall, rectangular building is illuminated. The sky is dark, and the overall scene is vibrant with various colors of light.

Existing Efforts

Homelessness Emergency Response Efforts

- Mobile Access Vehicle (MAC)
 - Currently at
 - Corner of East 6th Street and Long Beach Boulevard (Tuesdays 1-4 pm)
 - The Promenade (Wednesdays 9am-12pm)
 - Billie Jean King Main Library (Thursdays 9am - 12pm)
 - Planned for future locations outside of downtown to be deployed within next two weeks
 - Received new staff members including 1 Public Health Nurse, 2 Case Managers, 5 Outreach Workers



Homelessness Emergency Response Efforts

- Selected firm to design, build and install modular non-congregate shelter facilities (tiny homes) for people experiencing homelessness
- These will be installed on MSC property to provide interim or temporary housing for people experiencing homelessness



Partnership Efforts

- Launched Community Partnerships Interest Form
 - Community members or groups can express interest in supporting those experiencing homelessness
 - 20 responses received from partners willing to contribute food, clothing, job training, community outreach and education and possible service sites

City of Long Beach Emergency Homelessness Response Community Partnerships Interest Form

On January 10, 2023, the City of Long Beach proclaimed a local homelessness emergency. The local emergency will strengthen the City's preparedness and ability to respond to homelessness. If your company/organization is interested in collaborating with the City as part of this homelessness emergency, we kindly ask that you complete this Community Partnerships Interest Form. Please note that both paid and volunteer community partnership opportunities are available.

Our goal through the Community Partnerships Work Group is to strengthen the collaboration and partnership with local organizations who can serve Long Beach residents experiencing homelessness. We are focused on both direct services and upstream homelessness prevention strategies. We are applying an equity lens to the City's work and encourage organizations that serve historically underserved populations to partner with us on this important work.

Please direct any follow-up questions to:

City of Long Beach
Emergency Homelessness Response
Community Partnerships
partnerships@longbeach.gov

Partnership Efforts

- Expanded locations across the City where people can donate items for people experiencing homelessness
- Donation bins for items are available at
 - All City Libraries
 - Boys and Girls Club (3635 Long Beach Blvd)
 - Donations to be dropped off during operating hours
- Developed a website where non-profit organizations can request items



Partnership Efforts

- Announced Mayoral Community Forum with local housing providers
 - February 22, 2023 from 12:00pm – 1:30pm
 - Housing Authority, 1500 Hughes Way Suite A-150
 - Share details about the City's monetary incentives to encourage new owners, landlords and other housing providers to lease up with people assisted through the Housing Authority's Housing Choice Voucher and Emergency Housing Voucher programs
- Actively developing the Community Partner Roundtables
 - Goal to host several citywide convenings in March 2023
- Began asset mapping
 - After-hours bed availability, mental health support and shelter resources

Education Efforts

- Livestreamed updates with Mayor Richardson and special guests
 - Held fifth livestream update with Police Chief Wally Hebeish
- Launched Housing Authority Information Line
 - Received 242 calls/sent 137 emails in first five days of service



Education Efforts

- Shared list of resources available to community for addressing issues related to homelessness
 - Information available at: longbeach.gov/homelessness
- Designing notification system so people experiencing homelessness are aware of when service opportunities are available
- Initial data dashboard being tested

The screenshot displays the website for 'EVERYONE HOME LONG BEACH'. At the top left is a logo of a house with a heart inside. The main header reads 'EVERYONE HOME LONG BEACH'. Below the header is a navigation bar with 'Home » Homelessness'. A prominent call-to-action box asks 'Experiencing homelessness or at risk and need help now?' with the phone number 'Call (562)570-4500'. The main content area features three large buttons: 'HOMELESS SERVICES' (with a house icon), 'LEARN MORE ABOUT HOMELESSNESS' (with a warning triangle icon), and 'VOLUNTEER, DONATE & GET INVOLVED' (with a hand holding a heart icon). A dark blue sidebar on the right contains links for 'HOMELESSNESS ASSISTANCE', 'DONATE', 'FAQ', and 'MULTI-SERVICE CENTER', along with the address '1301 W. 12th Street, Long Beach, CA 90813' and a map link.

Financial Support

- Approved \$13 million in one-time funds to support homelessness emergency response
- Finalized letters in support of state and federal proposals for more homeless services and housing funding
- Met with state legislative budget staff to review options for additional direct funding to large cities for homelessness
- Engaged with the County of Los Angeles on their plans for Measure H funding to expand resources for Long Beach to prevent homelessness and provide services
- Held meeting with Senator Lena Gonzalez's office to discuss potential solutions that would make Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention funding more equitable for Long Beach
- Created list of potential grants/funds to pursue

Intergovernmental Efforts

- Met with LA County Supervisor Hahn to discuss County support of Long Beach homelessness efforts
- Set up meetings with LA County leadership and regional partners through the Gateway Cities COG to strategize regional engagement on the homelessness emergency
- Submitted two letters of support related to legislative bills related to homelessness
 - SB 24 (Feinstein) would provide additional federal dollars to support local homeless services and affordable housing efforts
 - SB 91 (Umberg) would streamline indefinitely the conversion of motels into transitional and interim housing

Intergovernmental Efforts

- Held meetings with regional partners such as LA County, LA Metro, and regional cities to discuss partnership opportunities to provide more resources and services for people experiencing homelessness
 - Expand affordable housing and shelter through County support of a permanent winter shelter and the redevelopment of Carmelitos
 - Expand mental health resources in Long Beach by increasing local funding and access to residential mental health sites and services
 - Make distribution of County homeless funding more equitable by addressing longstanding Measure H funding gaps and support City's Project Homekey operations
 - Collocate and streamline services with the City by dedicating County staff at the Multi-Service Center to support people from neighboring jurisdictions
 - Expand LA Metro's Transit Ambassador Pilot Program to support people experiencing homelessness on the A Line for time of service/as trains are taken out of service
 - Support the development of overnight shelter capacity for passengers deboarding the train at the end of line, provide additional outreach

A nighttime photograph of a city harbor. 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 by city lights. The sky is dark, and the overall scene is vibrant with various colors of light reflecting on the water's surface.

Response to Questions from Previous Meeting

Questions for Follow Up

- What type of resources is the City prioritizing when discussing Measure H funding with the County?
- What are stakeholder outreach plans?
- What are the current staffing needs to support the City's homelessness efforts?
- How can we organize Safe Parking programs to be a safe space for families and undocumented individuals who need services?

A nighttime photograph of a city waterfront. In the foreground, a body of water reflects the lights from buildings and palm trees. A large, multi-story building with a distinctive top section is prominent on the right. The sky is dark, and the overall scene is illuminated by various colored lights, including blues, greens, and yellows.

Focus Areas in Next Two Weeks

Forthcoming Actions

- Complete improvements and bring the second Winter Shelter online.
- Plan a drive thru donation drop-off event to support people experiencing homelessness
- Engage clergy workgroup and continue implementation of the stakeholder outreach and engagement plan
- Plan long-term schedule of locations and focus areas for Mobile Access Center
- Work to identify emergency shelter locations to be in place after winter shelter program ends
- Continue identifying partners who will offer after-hours bed availability, mental health support and shelter resources

Forthcoming Actions

- Finalize letters to state and federal partners outlining the City's requests for support to address the homelessness emergency
- Launch public-facing dashboard
- Continue to staff up the Homeless Services Bureau to address case management and public health nursing needs
- Explore implementing a change to the CDBG Security Deposit Program to now include rental assistance for households that cannot pay their rent due to emergency expenses.
- Research all grants with homelessness connection that the City has received in the last several fiscal years, to identify if those grants are viable to pursue again



Thank you

Kelly Colopy, Director

Department of Health and Human
Services

Eric Lopez, Director

Department of Public Works