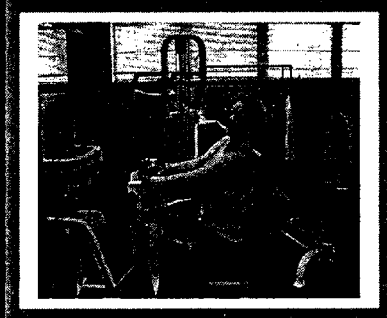


# SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION

# Annual Report

January 2003 through December 2003



City of Long Beach  
Department of Parks,  
Recreation & Marine  
Long Beach Senior Center  
1150 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St.  
Long Beach, CA 90802

# SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

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# SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT January 1, 2003 - December 31, 2003

The Senior Citizen Advisory Commission was established by City Ordinance C-5709, Chapter 2.57, in 1974. Members serving January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003, were:

## Executive Officers

Lu Wall	3 <sup>rd</sup> District	Chairperson
Betty Davenport	5 <sup>th</sup> District	Vice-Chairperson
Rose Cabanban	7 <sup>th</sup> District	Secretary

## Standing Committees

Betty Davenport	Community Relations
Pat Bergendahl	Crime and Safety
Debra Teofilo	Health
Teodoro Felix	Housing
Teresa Munoz	Legislative
Florence Dodge	Quality of Life
Nancy Higginson	Transportation

## Members at Large

### January 2003 – June 2003

Patricia Bergendahl	6 <sup>th</sup> District
Florence Dodge	3 <sup>rd</sup> District
Teodoro Felix	1 <sup>st</sup> District
Harold Goetz	5 <sup>th</sup> District
Rabbi Sidney Guthman	3 <sup>rd</sup> District
Nancy Higginson	3 <sup>rd</sup> District
Teresa Munoz	2 <sup>nd</sup> District
Debra Teofilo	3 <sup>rd</sup> District
Robert Wenke	3 <sup>rd</sup> District
Douglas Westfall	3 <sup>rd</sup> District

### July 2003 – December 2003

Patricia Bergendahl	6 <sup>th</sup> District
Florence Dodge	3 <sup>rd</sup> District
Teodoro Felix	1 <sup>st</sup> District
Harold Goetz	5 <sup>th</sup> District
Rabbi Sidney Guthman	3 <sup>rd</sup> District
Nancy Higginson	3 <sup>rd</sup> District
Candido Manal	7 <sup>th</sup> District
Teresa Munoz	2 <sup>nd</sup> District
Debra Teofilo	3 <sup>rd</sup> District
Bernice Van Steenbergen	4 <sup>th</sup> District
Robert Wenke	3 <sup>rd</sup> District
Berry Yolken	3 <sup>rd</sup> District

## City Staff (Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine)

Bert A. Srack, Acting Manager of Community Recreation Services  
 Belem Solis, Superintendent of Senior Services and Special Programs  
 Shelley Hellen, Community Services Supervisor  
 Del Ransom, Secretary

**Guests/Public Discussion of the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission**

**FEBRUARY**

Heather Mahood, Deputy City Attorney

**MARCH**

Ellen Patterson, City Resident

**APRIL**

Annie Spade, Verizon  
Faye Jarman, Disabled Resource Center

**JULY**

Candy Spahr, American Cancer Society

**AUGUST**

Dave Wodynski, City Managers Office

**SEPTEMBER**

Frank Colonna, Vice Mayor, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Bonnie Lowenthal, Councilmember, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Jackie Kell, Councilwoman, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Laura Richardson, Councilwoman, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Val Lerch, Councilmember, 9<sup>th</sup> District

**OCTOBER**

Jason Gewirtz, Press Telegram, Staff Writer

**NOVEMBER**

Adriana Yanez, Los Angeles Caregivers Resource Center  
Lee Alpern, Better Learning After School Today (BLAST)

## **OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION**

The duties and functions of the Commission, as stated by the City of Long Beach Charter, are as follows:

- To act in an advisory capacity to any City department, or City Council committee, concerned with senior problems on all matters pertaining to older Americans and their needs.
- To assemble information on problems and their solutions for older Americans through all available means, including public hearings.
- To be empowered on its own initiative to make recommendations to senior citizen service agencies on matters within its purview.
- To act to facilitate coordination between existing and proposed programs for the elderly.
- To carry out such studies as may be assigned to it by the City Council.
- To report to the Mayor and City Council its findings from time to time.

City Ordinance 2.57.030

## **STRUCTURE OF THE COMMISSION**

The Commission is comprised of 15 citizens of the City of Long Beach over the age of 55 years who are appointed for a two-year term and for a maximum of four terms. The regular meeting of the Commission is held on the third Thursday of each month from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., at the Long Beach Senior Center. The Executive Committee meets on the first Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m., to develop the Commission agenda and respond to any emergency business.

## CHAIRPERSON'S SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

- The election of officers was held, and the results for 2003 were as follows:  
  
Chairperson — Lu Wall  
Vice-Chairperson — Betty Davenport  
Secretary — Rose Cabanban
- The Commission's 2003 Annual Report was prepared and submitted.
- Chairperson, Lu Wall established goals and objectives for each of the Commission's sub-committees for 2003.
- The Commission hosted a Council forum with Frank Colonna, Vice-Mayor; Bonnie Lowenthal, Councilmember, 1<sup>st</sup> District; Jackie Kell, Councilwoman, 5<sup>th</sup> District; Laura Richardson, Councilwoman, 6<sup>th</sup> District; and Val Lerch, Councilmember, 9<sup>th</sup> District; at the Long Beach Senior Center to provide seniors with the opportunity to meet and question the City Councilmembers on various issues throughout the city.
- The Commission took an active role in the City's ongoing effort to lease property to address the shortage of parking at the Long Beach Senior Center.
- Chairperson Lu Wall reviewed the final draft of the Senior Resource Directory.
- Chairperson Lu Wall conducted outreach to the Cambodian Community throughout the year to encourage their participation in senior programs and activities provided throughout the city by attending meetings and involving their groups in Commission events.
- Chairperson Lu Wall secured funding for a second year for the *English as a Second Language* class at the Long Beach Senior Center.
- Chairperson Lu Wall continues to serve as a member of the Legal Aide Foundation of Long Beach and the Legal Aide Foundation of Los Angeles.
- The Commission held quarterly senior briefings to present information on issues of concern to seniors:
  - Housing, Government Benefits, and Family Law
  - Homeland Security
  - Successful Aging and Lower Prescription Costs

## **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Legislative Committee is to provide information to the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission and the City Council regarding federal, state, and local legislation that would impact the senior population of the City of Long Beach and to make appropriate recommendations for Commission action.

### **SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Several Commissioners continue to serve as members of Assemblymember Lowenthal's Senior Advisory Committee.
- Commissioner Munoz represented the Commission on the California Senior Legislative Council.
- Heather Mahood, Deputy City Attorney, spoke to the Commission regarding the 700 Form (Conflict of Interest Statement).
- The Commission sent a letter to City Council to thank them for alternative plans for the 710 freeway expansion.
- Dave Wodynski, from the City Manager's Office, spoke to the Commission regarding the Three-Year Financial Strategic Plan and gave an overview of the FY-04 Proposed Budget.
- Commissioner Munoz distributed pamphlets, flyers, and information concerning legislative issues related to seniors.



## **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Transportation Committee is to provide information to the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission and the City Council regarding public and private transportation opportunities for seniors within the City of Long Beach and to make appropriate recommendations for Commission action.

### **SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- The Commission received a letter from Lawrence W. Jackson, President and General Manager of Long Beach Transit, notifying the Commission of 39 new replacement buses, 14 Dial-a-Lift vans, and the expansion of their Transit Police Program with six full-time Long Beach Police Officers to patrol their system.
- The Commission sent a letter to the Citizens Advisory Commission On Aging (CACOD) regarding serving people with disabilities at service stations.
- Mr. Terry Dunder of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Long Beach, notified the Commission that he is willing to enter into an agreement authorizing the use of their parking lot on 4<sup>th</sup> Street/East of Bonito for Senior Center staff.
- The Commission received letters from Councilmembers Dennis Carroll, 4<sup>th</sup> District and Robert Webb, 8<sup>th</sup> District, regarding traffic signals located at: Lakewood/Stearns and Los Coyotes/Stearns in the 4<sup>th</sup> District and San Antonio/California in the 8<sup>th</sup> District.
- Commissioner Higginson reported on the minutes from the August 25 meeting of the Long Beach Transportation Company stating that the General Manager be authorized to enter into a contract with Gruen Associates for consulting, architectural, and engineering services for the Bus Stop Amenities Project — Phase Two, at a cost not to exceed \$ 120,000 and the public should begin to see modifications to bus stops in the near future.
- Commissioner Higginson distributed pamphlets, flyers, and information concerning transportation issues related to seniors.

## **QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Quality of Life Committee is to provide information to the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission and the City Council regarding recreation programs and facilities offered by the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine for the senior population of Long Beach and to make appropriate recommendations for Commission action.

### **SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Members of the Commission assisted with the annual North Long Beach Veterans Day Parade.
- Commissioner Dodge monitored use of senior programs provided by Parks, Recreation and Marine.
- Commissioner Bergendahl participated in the activities at the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity and Peace Parade.
- Members of the Commission supported the California Special Olympics Summer Games at California State University, Long Beach.
- Members of the Commission began receiving the Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine s Monthly Highlights informing the Commission of various activities and services in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine.
- Commissioner Dodge distributed pamphlets, flyers, and information concerning quality of life issues related to seniors.

# **HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Housing Committee is to provide information to the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission and City Council regarding the availability of affordable housing for seniors and to make appropriate recommendations for Commission action.

## **SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- The Commission sent letters to the Downtown Long Beach Association and the Redevelopment Bureau requesting that they look into senior housing in the City Place Plaza.
- The Commission assisted seniors with concerns of safety conditions in their senior complex located at 714 Pacific Avenue, regarding stairwell lighting and the building generator. The Rehabilitation Division of the City's Housing Department responded to the tenant's concerns and the unsafe conditions were corrected.
- Commission sent a letter to the Mayor and City Council in support of the Mother-in-Law quarters and the purpose for which they were originally intended.
- Commissioner Felix distributed pamphlets, flyers, and information concerning housing issues related to seniors.

## **CRIME AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Crime and Safety Committee is to provide information to the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission and City Council regarding issues that are critical to the safety of seniors within the City of Long Beach and to make appropriate recommendations for Commission action.

### **SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- The Commission continues to exchange information and concerns regarding relevant senior issues with the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles.
- Members of the Commission continue to serve on the Police Chief's Senior Advisory Committee and share valuable information with the Commission.
- Members of the Commission attended the National Night Out entitled Turn on Your Lights and Lock Your Doors, sponsored by the Long Beach Police Department.
- Commissioner Bergendahl attended Mayor Beverly O'Neill's Define the Future Forum, an educational and informational forum on public safety.
- Lt. Randy Hausauer, Long Beach Police Department's Emergency Preparedness Section, spoke to the public for the Commission's Senior Briefing entitled Homeland Security.
- Commissioners Bergendahl and Davenport attended various forums and community meetings with the Long Beach Police Department.
- Commissioner Bergendahl received an award from the Long Beach Police Department's Community Relations Division/Crime Prevention Unit, for her work in the community.
- Commissioner Bergendahl and Davenport distributed pamphlets, flyers, and information concerning crime and safety issues related to seniors.

## **HEALTH COMMITTEE**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Health Committee is to provide information to the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission and the City Council regarding federal, state, and local issues that would impact the health of seniors within the City of Long Beach and to make appropriate recommendations for Commission action.

### **SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Commissioners volunteered their time to assist with flu shot clinics offered at various sites by the Department of Health and Human Services.
- Faye Jarman, Director of the Disabled Resource Center, spoke to the Commission regarding their goals to empower people with disabilities to live independently in the community and to make their own decisions about their lives.
- Commissioners Davenport, Munoz and Yolken with staff from the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, served on the Department of Health and Human Services Senior Strategic Planning Task Force.
- Commission sent a letter to The Citizens Advisory Commission On Aging (CACOD), requesting that their Commission examine the 2003 Neighborhood Organization Guide s choice of font size and dark colored paper on which it is printed.
- The Commission received a letter from Zev Yaroslavsky, Supervisor, Third District of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervision informing the Commission of the current health crisis to the residents of Los Angeles County.
- Commissioner Teofilo distributed pamphlets, flyers, and information concerning health issues related to seniors on the following subjects:

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Community Relations Committee is to disseminate to the public, the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission, and the City Council, information regarding issues relevant to seniors and to actively participate and advocate on behalf of the seniors at appropriate public functions.

### **SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- The Chairperson worked with the United Cambodian Center for outreach to the Cambodian community and encouraged their participation in programs and activities offered at the Long Beach Senior Center and other senior satellite facilities throughout the City of Long Beach.
- The Commission continued to recognize and honor the Long Beach Senior Center's Volunteer of the Quarter at their regular meetings.
- The Commission completed the Senior Resource Directory and it was distributed to the satellite senior centers of Long Beach.
- Commissioners supported the pancake breakfast hosted by Assemblymember Lowenthal at the Long Beach Senior Center.
- Candy Spahr, American Cancer Society, Relay for Life, spoke to the Commission requesting support for their overnight team event which raises awareness and funds to cancer in the community.
- The Commission sent a letter to Citizens Advisory Commission On Aging (CACOD) requesting that their Commission look into the 2003 Neighborhood Organization Guide's choice of font size and dark color of paper on which it is printed.
- The Commission sent a letter to CACOD regarding seniors with disabilities refueling at gas stations.
- Commissioners took part in the Long Beach Senior Center's annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration.
- Commissioners supported the Volunteer Recognition Banquet held at the Long Beach Senior Center.
- Commissioner Davenport secured funds through Partners of Parks to purchase binding equipment for the Senior Resource Directory.

- Annie Spade, Senior Staff Consultant from Verizon, spoke to the Commission regarding the SuperPages survey, which is conducted annually to capture opinions of the public. Ms. Spade also informed the Commission that magnifiers for seniors are available through Verizon.
- Commissioner Davenport distributed pamphlets, flyers, and information concerning community relations issues related to seniors.

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

As a part of their responsibilities, Commissioners are involved in the community in a variety of ways. The following is a partial list of committees, agencies, and organizations that Commissioners are appointed to, serve on, or participate in:

- Agencies and Programs on Aging
- Al Malaikah Masonic Shrine of Los Angeles
- Alzheimer s Association of Orange County
- American Association of Retired Persons
- American Red Cross of Greater Long Beach
- Apartment Association California Southern Cities
- Assemblymember Jenny Oropeza s Senior Advisory Committee
- Coordinators of Activities and Programming for Seniors (CAPS)
- Cal West Tariff Bureau
- California Congress of Seniors
- California Senior Legislative Council
- County Health Advisory Board
- Department of Health and Human Services, Senior Strategic Planning Task Force
- Department of Health and Human Services, Strategic Plan on Family Violence
- Disabled Resource Center Board
- El Dorado Senior Center Advisory Board
- El Dorado Nature Center
- Episcopal Dioceses of Los Angeles, Commission on Affirmative Aging
- Executive Committee of the Area Agency on Aging, Advisory Commission of Los Angeles County
- Filipino Association of Long Beach
- Gray Panthers



- Interfaith Organizing Committee
- Las Hermanas
- Latin American Heritage Association
- Leadership Long Beach
- Long Beach Camp Fire Boys and Girls
- Long Beach Chamber of Commerce
- Long Beach City College, Health Advisory Committee
- Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine, Employee Recognition Committee
- Long Beach Legal Aid Council
- Long Beach Police Department Chaplin
- Long Beach Police Department, Community Relations
- Long Beach Police Department, Senior Advisory Committee to the Chief of Police
- Long Beach Memorial Medical Center
- Long Beach Redevelopment, Central Project Area Advisory Committee
- Long Beach Senior Center Advisory Council
- Long Beach Senior Center Latino Club
- Long Beach Senior Services, Fund Raising Committee
- Long Beach Police Department, Westside Leadership Forum
- Los Angeles Caregivers Resource Center
- Los Angeles County Area Agency on Aging Senior Strategic Plan
- Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
- Meals On Wheels
- North Long Beach Neighborhood Association Executive Committee
- North Long Beach Redevelopment Project Area Committee
- PEO
- Philippine Association of Long Beach

- Rancho Los Alamitos
- RSVP Executive Board
- Senior Advisory Council, 54<sup>th</sup> Assembly District (Lowenthal)
- Senior University, CSULB
- Social Services for West Long Beach
- St. Lucy's Friendship Club
- St. Mary's Medical Center
- St. Mary's Foundation 21 Society
- St. Mary's Institutional Review Board
- St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church Vestry
- Department of Health and Human Services, Senior Strategic Planning Task Force
- Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS)
- Volunteers of America
- West Long Beach Association
- Wrigley Community Organization

**LONG BEACH SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**ATTENDANCE RECORD**  
**2003**

MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
PATRICIA BERGENDAHL	X	X	X	X	E	E	E	E	E	X	X	X
NAOMI BROWN	U	R	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ROSE CABANBAN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
BETTY DAVENPORT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
FLORENCE DODGE	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X
TEODORO FELIX	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
HAROLD GOETZ	X	X	X	E	E	X	X	E	E	X	X	X
RABBI SIDNEY GUTHMAN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	U	X
NANCY HIGGINSON	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X
CANDIDO MANAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	X	X	X
TERESA MUNOZ	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	E	X
DEBRA TEOFILO	X	X	X	X	E	E	X	E	X	X	X	X
BERNICE VAN STEENBERGEN	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	R	R
LU WALL	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X
ROBERT WENKE	E	E	X	E	X	E	X	E	X	E	X	X
DOUGLAS WESTFALL	X	X	R	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BERRY YOLKEN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	X	U	X

X = PRESENT  
E = EXCUSED ABSENCE  
U = ABSENT UNEXCUSED  
R = RESIGNED  
A = APPOINTED TO COMMISSION  
T = END OF TERM  
- = NOT IN OFFICE

**CITY PERSONNEL ASSISTING**  
**SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**NUMBER OF MEETINGS HELD:**            11 regular monthly meetings  
   12 Executive Board (agenda) meetings

**CITY PERSONEL ASSISTING THE COMMISSION:**

Bert A. Srack, Acting Manager of Community Recreation Services  
Belem Solis, Superintendent of Senior Services and Special Programs  
Shelley Hellen, Community Services Supervisor  
Del Ransom, Secretary

**FUNDS EXPENDED IN SUPPORT OF THE COMMISSION:**

**Personal Services**

Agenda Meetings:

Superintendent  
Secretary

Regular Meetings:

Acting Department Manager  
Superintendent  
Supervisor  
Secretary

Meeting preparation and follow-up:

Superintendent  
Secretary

**TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES                         \$ 5,620**

**Non-Personal Services**

Postage

Office Supplies

Miscellaneous Supplies

**TOTAL NON-PERSONAL SERVICES                         \$ 1,000**

**TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED                                 \$ 6,620**