

**From:** RobbinKay [mailto:ccwrobbin@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 9:57 PM  
**To:** CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** Your Help Is Needed!

**-EXTERNAL-**

- Dear City Manager, Office of Equity, and District Council Member,
- “Your help is needed! The city’s proposed recovery plan attempts to provide equality; however, equity is necessary in order to continue prioritizing the Black residents of Long Beach who have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. I urge you to continue supporting the Black Health Equity Fund in the recovery plan to promote equity and sustainability of the efforts to reduce health disparities for Black residents of Long Beach.”

*~Blessings*

*Robbin Beohourou M.S., LMFT*

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**From:** Yeshika Leyva [mailto:cruzfrida@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 1:13 PM

**To:** CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>

**Subject:** public comment to address in council meeting today a 3 pm

**-EXTERNAL-**

**My name is Yeshika Cruz, and I am with Immigration Coalition Rights of Long Beach, and I am here to support:**

- 1.- Create an immigrant assistance fund.**
- 2.- Creation of housing rental division**
- 3.- Fund for legal advice program**

**The immigrant assistance fund is important to me because it affects me in my quality of life due to the lack of income from this pandemic, which has left us economically affected and that creates serious emotional problems for us and having an economic support would alleviate those concerns a little and help us to be able to do less of the accumulation of income that we have at the moment and would already be less worrying and have problems with the property owners a legal counseling program would make us feel more reliable. I appreciate your attention and hope you will thing a little of our immigrant community when you decide how you will distribute the state money received as relief to this pandemic.**

March 15, 2021

Mayor Robert Garcia and Long Beach City Council  
411 W. Ocean Blvd., 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Recommendations for City of Long Beach Economic Recovery Plan

Dear Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers:

On behalf of the Cambodia Town Thrives collaborative, I am writing you this letter to share our thoughts and recommendations for the City of Long Beach Economic Relief Recovery Plan. Our collaborative of Long Beach community organizations, community leaders, and academic institutions include United Cambodian Community, Long Beach Forward, Walk Long Beach, and City Fabric. Our partners include:

- AOC7 Neighborhood Association
- Friends of MacArthur Park
- Long Beach Residents Impowered
- Khmer Girls in Action
- Best Start Long Beach
- Long Beach Immigrant Rights Coalition
- Educated Men with Meaningful Messages
- Midtown Business Improvement District

Long Beach's history is full of racist and discriminatory land use practices, in which certain populations and neighborhoods prospered at the expense of others. Racial covenants, single-family zoning, redlining, and urban renewal are just a few examples of both explicit and masked efforts to protect white homeowners from others. In fact, the community we serve were originally created to specifically segregate low-income immigrants and houseless residents from the rest of the City. In turn, many of the community organizations that work in these communities were established specifically to mitigate the harms caused by these place-based policies. In more recent years, much has been made of the 'revitalization' or 'resurgence' of Long Beach. But in too many instances, the policies and practices driving this 'resurgence' have caused more harm than benefit to low-income residents, including increased criminalization of unhoused residents and gentrification-fueled displacement and destabilization of low-income and immigrant communities – disproportionately harming communities of color.”

The COVID-19 pandemic has only exacerbated these inequities in our nation's health, justice, and political systems. The City of Long Beach's public commitment to racial equity and reconciliation (Racial Equity and Reconciliation, 2020) shows an active effort to create a positive future for Black, Indigenous, and POC communities. We recognize this to be a long-overdue process that should have occurred well before countless unjust deaths within the Black and Brown community this year. This list includes people such as George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Rayshard Brooks, and many, many more. It is essential for the City to

recognize the harm that Black, Indigenous, and POC have gone through, and to move forward with social justice and anti-racist policies at the forefront of the agenda.

**Our collaborative is currently developing a community-driven, long-range visioning and planning effort for the Cambodia Town neighborhood, and would like to share our recent findings related to desirable built environment projects and policies, and how we suggest they might inform the Economic Relief Recovery Plan in how to best achieve racial equity and reparations for Black, Indigenous, and POC communities.**

## **Context**

Since 2019, our collaborative formed in response to the redevelopment of several blocks along East Anaheim Street and have since led a grassroots effort to create a community plan that proactively envisions the future of the Cambodia Town community. The original initiative that brought us together was the potential closure of vibrant and much beloved Cambodian local businesses to be replaced by poorly designed drive-through fast food restaurants.

Through the pandemic, we have conducted robust community outreach in the form of community forums, focus groups, interviews, surveys, business canvassing, walk audits, social media campaigns, and civic education/capacity building efforts. In total, we have engaged over 500 community members through three rounds of public outreach, virtually and in-person, in Khmer, Spanish, Vietnamese and English. We have also conducted comprehensive data analysis to better understand the opportunities and challenges of the neighborhood through a socioeconomic, housing, public health, open space, transportation, safety, and equity lens. Through this engagement and research process, we have identified 15 priority projects and several policies that we intend on advocating for in the near future, especially since the City of Long Beach Development Services Department will begin their Anaheim Corridor Zoning Improvement Plan (ACZIP) this year.

## **Top Guiding Principles**

Our first round of public outreach identified what guiding principles the community believes should guide the future development of Cambodia Town. In order of priority, below are the top Guiding Principles as well as supporting data to justify their need:

- **Affordable Housing**
  - Cambodia Town Renter Population - 82%
    - 63% of these renters are rent-burdened, spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs)
  - Influx of Non-BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color) Homeowners - 30% in 2010 vs. 45% in 2018
    - Unequal access to property ownership for BIPOC populations

- **Education and Learning**
  - Graduation Rates for BIPOC - 89% (2018) vs. 82% (2010)
    - Increase in educational attainment is a direct result of the community's progress and investment in youth development
- **Economics and Business**
  - Median Area Income - Cambodia Town: \$38,000 vs. LA County: \$64,000
  - Unemployment Rate - Cambodia Town: 14% vs. LA County: 9% vs. Long Beach: 10%
  - Cambodia Town small businesses added \$366,000 to Long Beach's annual fiscal report in 2016
- **Livable and Healthy Community**
  - Particulate Matter 2.5 - Highest 95th-100th percentile
  - Adult Obesity Rate - Cambodia Town: 45% vs. LA County: 21%
  - No Health Insurance - Cambodia Town: 14.4% vs. National Average: 8.5%
- **Culture and Art**
  - Cambodia Town Racial & Ethnic Demographics - Hispanic/Latinx: 60% & Asian and Pacific Islanders: 21% & Black/African American: 12% & White: 7%
    - 70% of those who identify as Asian are Cambodians
- **Safety and Security**
  - Long Beach Police Department Stops - Latinx: 35% & Black: 36%
    - Increased police stops leads to increased risk of being a victim of police brutality
    - In 2015, 11 out of the 15 killings were men of color
  - East Anaheim Street lacks safe crossings, pedestrian lights, and appropriate sidewalk widths

## **Top 15 Community Projects**

Our second round of public outreach identified what built environment projects the City of Long Beach and community should invest in for the future of Cambodia Town. Below are the top 15 community-identified projects, in no particular order:

### **Low-Cost Priority Projects**

- **Health Walking + Jogging Loops**
  - Create a walking/jogging loop using sidewalks to be physically active with exercise signage and wayfinding, allowing for health fitness events
- **Street Trees + Vertical Gardens**
  - Plant more multicultural and shade providing trees in the neighborhood to create opportunities for gardening up on walls or other vertical elements
- **Renaming Buildings, Streets, Parks, Alleys, and Districts**

- Rename buildings, streets, parks, alleys, and districts to significant people in the community
- **Sidewalk Farming Gardens**
  - Create space using the sidewalk parkways for community to farm and for small businesses and organizations to grow their own crops
- **Mural Mile + Sidewalk Art**
  - Create murals and other art pieces along the sidewalk throughout Cambodia Town that reflects the culture and history of the community and host mural tours

#### Medium-Cost Priority Projects

- **Civic Commons**
  - Combine MacArthur Park and Mark Twain Library campuses to create a unified core for cultural programming and services for the unhoused population
- **Green Alley Network**
  - Transform the alleys in Cambodia Town to be cleaner, safer, and provide environmental benefits, starting with the alleys on the 1600 to 1700 Block
- **Youth Educational Center + Cafe**
  - Create an educational center for youth with free internet, tutoring, recording studio, and classes that focuses on job training, technology, art, and civic engagement
- **Day/Night Market + Art Walk**
  - Create a space, open day and night, for community to interact through food and art, promoting Cambodia Town's diverse cuisines, fresh produces, and local artists
- **Anaheim Street Protected Bike Lanes & Safe Crossings**
  - Create protected bike lanes and safe pedestrian crossings along Anaheim that are fully separated from cars

#### High-Cost Priority Projects

- **Community Land Trust**
  - Establish a "community land trust" to address high rent costs and to gain community ownership of the land for housing, business, parks, etc.
- **Food Hub/Prep Kitchen**
  - Create a food supply center that offers healthy and quality food packages to those in need and local markets while also providing a space for communal commercial kitchen
- **Outdoor Multicultural Center**
  - Create an outdoor museum connecting and uplifting all cultures and the history of Cambodia Town
- **MacArthur Park Vision Plan**

- Improve MacArthur Park in Cambodia Town to include a walking path, exercise equipment, improved community center, healing fountain, safety improvements, and cultural programs
- **Affordable Housing Developments with Community Services**
  - Create housing that is affordable for current Cambodia Town residents (including unhoused populations) including services and amenities that support the surrounding neighborhood

## **Top Community Policies**

Our third round of public outreach also identified what public policies and programs the City of Long Beach should pursue for the future of Cambodia Town. Below are the top directions for community-identified policies and programs:

- **Affordable Housing**
  - Tenant Protections
  - Affordable Housing Development
  - Community Ownership
- **Education/Learning**
  - Fund after-school programs
  - Financial education/literacy
  - Language exchange
  - Culturally relevant early childhood education
  - Mental health, community gardens, walking groups
  - Learning through practice
- **Economics/Business**
  - Local Small Business Support
  - Workforce Development
- **Livable/Healthy Community**
  - Financial and social support services for community organizations and community-serving businesses to build up assets of community health, wellness, and trauma relief.
  - Rezone incompatible land uses
- **Culture/Art**
  - Make Cambodia Town an official culturally designated/protected neighborhood in Long Beach
  - Support community efforts to grow existing and develop new cultural programs, events, signage, festivals, and art to uplift the distinct characteristics of Cambodia Town
  - Enable community ownership of creative space
- **Safety/Security**
  - Undo current governmental surveillance in Cambodia Town by decreasing policing and police violence and creating a community-led accountability safety model.

- Expand the City of Long Beach Community Ambassadors Program, an alternative/unarmed approach to enforcing public safety, especially for parks with high policing.
- Work with homeless service providers to train and match individuals experiencing homelessness with jobs or vocational training to maintain parks, sidewalks, streets.
- **Resilient/Thriving Community**
  - Develop opportunities for urban agriculture and community gardening within homes, schools, parks, and more to broaden access to local healthy foods.
  - Create a network of well-maintained public and private green infrastructure.
- **Transportation/Access**
  - Create safe routes to schools, parks, and other landmarks by improving the pedestrian environment along these routes
  - Design streets as "complete streets," making the street network better and safer for people walking, biking, driving, riding transit, and moving actively with assistive devices instead of for fast-moving vehicles.
  - Create places for people by safely sharing the roadway or by completely transforming it into public open space
- **Parks/Recreation**
  - Create a Master Plan for equitable/inclusive construction, design, and investment in parks and open space in Cambodia Town.
  - Jointly develop parks and affordable housing to both green the neighborhood and prevent displacement (check out the LA Regional Open Space and Affordable Housing Collaborative).
  - Increase the City's "Park Impact Fee" to charge developers higher fees to fund the City's park system.
- **Healing/Restorative Community**
  - Involve local youth in the creative planning for cultural preservation while also giving value, weight, and power to their perspectives.
  - Rename parks and streets to culturally significant figures the community value to develop community ownership
  - Create, promote, maintain, and improve access for religious, cultural, and ceremonial practices for the Tongva community.

### **Recommendations**

We commend the City of Long Beach to be proactive in producing the Economic Relief and Recovery Plan, which we hope will help to meet the needs of vulnerable residents and business owners who have been most affected economically by the recent COVID-19 pandemic and social uprisings. After reviewing the 2021 City of Long Beach Economic Relief Recovery Plan, the Cambodia Town Thrives collaborative would recommend the following changes related to housing, language access, and community safety.

Based upon review of the e Economic Relief and Recovery Plan, we recommend:

- Help protect our Asian American community who have been recently targeted by anti-Asian hate crimes and related violence by dedicating funding to:



- The study and tracking incidents of xenophobia and AAPI hate crimes
- Nonprofit organizations focused on trauma relief
- Volunteer and neighborhood groups helping to patrol Long Beach AAPI communities
- Direct funding to reinstitute the City of Long Beach Community Ambassador program, hiring people who are from and represent the diversity of our communities
- Increase funding to support people experiencing homelessness including the development of transitional housing, emergency shelters, and social services
- Eliminate funding dedicated to Visitor Attraction & Hospitality Sector Recovery and redirect to support local small businesses in our most vulnerable communities (Central, West, and North Long Beach)
- Regarding funding dedicated to Direct Grants to Fitness and Personal Services Sector Businesses, focus on supporting minority-owned personal services vs. funding for large corporations.

## **Final Remarks**

The multi-ethnic, multi-generational history of Cambodia Town highlights many complex nuances that should be considered when looking to plan and design the future with the community such as the conflicting values of various groups and stakeholders. The guiding principles, projects, and policies all fall under the broader category of ensuring the neighborhood is developed in a manner that ensures the local community benefits from future thrive. Through all this community groundwork, the Cambodia Town community envisions a future with an abundance of resources that allow folks to be proud of their home to the point of wanting to give back whatever they can. Although these priorities are broken down to specific needs, the biggest takeaway should be the simple idea of listening to the community and uplifting the community's voice. The poetic nature of survival has been undermined for generations, it is time to acknowledge past mistakes and shift the arc towards justice.

In Solidary,

Cambodia Town Thrives collaborative:  
 United Cambodian Community  
 City Fabrick  
 Long Beach Forward  
 Walk Long Beach

**From:** Victoria Davis [mailto:victoriaashanti@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 3:00 PM  
**To:** Victoria Davis <victoriaashanti@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 15

**-EXTERNAL-**

Good Afternoon,

On June 29th, Mayor Garcia publicly stated in a press conference, "**we have to be very deliberate in the way that we support Black members of our communities. The way we support communities and organizations on the ground.**" This was not reflected in the Physical and Mental Health Equity strategy. The City's proposed recovery plan attempts to provide equality; however, **equity** is necessary in order to continue prioritizing the Black residents of Long Beach who have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. I urge you to continue supporting the Black Health Equity Fund in the recovery plan to promote equity and sustainability of the efforts to reduce health disparities for Black residents in Long Beach.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Concerned community member  
Victoria A. Davis

**From:** Sandra Feliciano Hooks [mailto:sandra@Ontimemgmt.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 10, 2021 9:12 AM

**To:** Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; distrit9@longbeach.gov; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

**Cc:** Jay Mercier <mercierj@bellsouth.net>; Kevin Notrica <kevin.notrica@me.com>; tomhutchinson@live.com; Benjamin Rudolph <b.m.rudolph@gmail.com>

**Subject:** LB Economic Recovery Act

**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear Mayor Garcia and City Council members,

As a Property Manager and Real Estate Broker who has managed 1000's of units in this wonderful City of Long Beach since 1992, our clients and I would like to voice our support of the LB Economic Recovery Act. However, there are two items of concern. We want the \$29M for tenants clarified, so that landlords can apply direct for those funds to help offset our economic losses due to deferred rent by our tenants. It should not require a tenant to fill out an application when the tenant is NOT motivated to do so. Second, news outlets have reported that 15 non-profits led by Legal Aid have submitted a request to the Mayor to have the City allocate \$750K to form a Rental Housing Division in Development Services. There is no nexus for this in the LB Economic Recovery Act; it is purely a wish list that will create more government and ultimately, we will have to pay for any services rendered by this new Division, since Development Services is a self-funded department through fees, etc. We have individually already lost tens of thousands of dollars that have caused us great harm, creating a new division will further exacerbate that. There has been no proven reason for forming this division.

Thank you for your consideration, and we appreciate all you do for our City.

Sandra 



ON TIME MANAGEMENT  
A REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Sandra Feliciano | BROKER

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Building Relationships, One Property at a Time™

-----Original Message-----

From: elizabeth gonzalez [mailto:mamichulaliz@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 6:59 PM

To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Comentario Publico.

-EXTERNAL-

Comentario Publico.

Mi nombre es Elizabeth González y soy de la coalición de los derechos de los inmigrantes.

Quiero hacer dos comentarios, para que den más a ayuda al Fondo de Justicia y para la creación de un fondo de asistencia para inmigrante Tener representación legal gratuita para personas que están con casos de deportación ayudaría a que los inmigrantes puedan tener pronta resolución y volver a reunirse con sus familias, ya que estas deportaciones no tan solo afectan al deportado, sino a toda la familia tanto emocionalmente como económicamente.

Y les pido a todos los representantes de los distritos como al Mayor Roberto Garcia que cuando ustedes estaban en sus postulas acudieron a nosotros por apoyo para estar donde están ahora, ahora la comunidad inmigrante está siendo fuertemente afectada por esta pandemia, han perdido sus trabajos han perdido familias y están al borde de ser desalojados por no pagar sus rentas, muchos están infectados en hospitales, nosotros no tenemos ayudas federales, y con este fondo de asistencia nos ayudarían a pagar la renta y a sí salir adelante de esto que nos ha tocado vivir.

Gracias por su atención y pido disculpas si me excedí, ojalá consideren mis comentarios.

Enviado desde mi iPad

Public Comment.

My name is Elizabeth Gonzalez and I'm from the immigrant rights coalition. I would like to make two comments. For them to give more help to the Justice Fund and for the creation of an immigrant assistance fund to have free legal representation for people who are in deportation cases would help immigrants to have prompt resolution and rejoin their families, because deportations not only affect the deportees, but also the whole family both emotionally and economically.

And I ask all the representatives of the districts like Mayor Roberto Garcia that when you were in your posts they came to us for support to be where you are now, now the immigrant community is being heavily affected by this

pandemic, they have lost their jobs have lost families and are on the verge of being evicted because they do not pay their rents, many are infected in hospitals, we do not have federal aid, and with this assistance fund they would help us to pay the rent and to get ahead of this that has touched us to live.

Thank you for your attention and I apologize if I overdid it, I hope you will consider my feedback.

**From:** ayanna holmes [mailto:kamilahholmes@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 15, 2021 2:35 PM  
**To:** CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** Agenda item 15, March 16 City Council Meeting

**-EXTERNAL-**

“The city’s proposed recovery plan attempts to provide equality; however, equity is necessary in order to continue prioritizing the Black residents of Long Beach who have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. I urge you to continue supporting the Black Health Equity Fund in the recovery plan to promote equity and sustainability of the efforts to reduce health disparities for Black residents of Long Beach.”

--

Kamilah Holmes

**From:** Genise Homan [mailto:genise3@verizon.net]

**Sent:** Thursday, March 11, 2021 8:40 AM

**To:** Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

**Subject:** Long Beach Recovery Act...requested changes, Agenda Item 15

**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear Mayor Garcia and City Council members,

My husband and I are small housing providers and have been hit hard by the pandemic with little or no relief set aside for landlords. We support in general the LB Economic Recovery Act, however, there are two items which are of great concern. We request that the \$29M for tenants be clarified, so that landlords can apply direct for those funds to help offset our economic losses due to deferred rent by our tenants. It should not require a tenant to fill out an application, when the tenant is NOT motivated to do so. Second, news outlets have reported that 15 non-profits led by Legal Aid have submitted a request to the Mayor to have the City allocate \$750K to form a Rental Housing Division in Development Services. There is no nexus for this in the LB Economic Recovery Act; it is purely a wish list that will create more government and ultimately we, the property owners, will, more than likely, have to pay for any services rendered by this new Division, since Development Services is a self-funded department through fees, etc. We have individually already lost tens of thousands of dollars that have caused us great harm. Creating a new division will further exacerbate that. There has been no proven reason for forming this division.

I realize us housing providers sound like broken records but we really feel we have no support in the City, and we are always considered last and least. We have been and continue to be financially impacted with little or no avenues for correction.

Respectfully,  
Genise and Howard Homan



**From:** Whit Latimer <[WhitLatimer@banicap.biz](mailto:WhitLatimer@banicap.biz)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 9:45 AM  
**Subject:** MicroTransit Pilot Program

**-EXTERNAL-**

Honorable Council Members,

As a business owner and manager of several real estate projects on the eastside of town I am in full support of a MicroTransit Pilot Program for E Shuttle Service to link businesses and customer travel throughout the City of Long Beach.

Thanks,

Whit

**R Whitney Latimer  
President-Banicap  
Alamitos Bay Landing  
Alamitos Bay Marina Center  
The Crab Pot Restaurant  
Alamitos Bay Sunday Farmers Market**

**192 Marina Drive  
Long Beach, Ca 90803  
(562) 598-3351 x303**

**From:** David McGill [mailto:dmcgill@tnpsocal.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 12:06 PM  
**To:** CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 15 - Mar 16, 2021

**-EXTERNAL-**

Hello,

Public Comment:

Whenever a City grows the childcare industry must grow with it. Whenever a City is sustainable the childcare industry must be sustainable right along side with it. And, whenever a City wants to recover and bolster the economy, the childcare industry must recover right along side with it. A recovery plan will not work if the backbone of our economy, our childcare providers, are not part of a substantial recovery process. \$2.1 Million for our childcare providers will fall short of our City's goal of recovery. All of our childcare providers are hurting, with many of them having their provider size cut in half to meet COVID protocols. Many of our childcare providers are our Black and Brown families whose sole income is their childcare business. If you were to go out on the field and see these childcare providers and the day to day struggle of increased expenses while decreased revenue you would know that the current plan is just not enough. Please consider the backbone of our economy and look at the current plan from an equitable standpoint. Think of our childcare providers and their families and increase a plan for supporting our early childhood education and support.

In regards to Agenda Item 15 on behalf of Best Start Region 4 and early childhood advocates.

In solidarity,

**David McGill**  
Program Coordinator

### The Nonprofit Partnership

🏠 | 4900 E. Conant Street, Long Beach, CA 90808

☎️ | 562.253.2088 (cell)

✉️ | [dmcgill@tnpsocal.org](mailto:dmcgill@tnpsocal.org)



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[@thenonprofitpartnership](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

**From:** Noemi Mendez [mailto:noemi.men15@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 4:02 PM  
**To:** CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** For Agenda Item 15

**-EXTERNAL-**

Good afternoon,

The city's proposed recovery plan attempts to provide equality; however, equity is necessary in order to continue prioritizing the Black residents of Long Beach who have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

I respectfully urge you to continue supporting the Black health equity fund in the recovery plan to promote equity and sustainability of the efforts to reduce health disparities for Black residents of Long Beach.

Thank you,

Noemi Mendez  
Community member

**From:** Jay Mercier [mailto:mercierj@bellsouth.net]

**Sent:** Monday, March 15, 2021 9:21 AM

**To:** Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>

**Cc:** CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Sandra Feliciano <sandra@ontimemgmt.com>

**Subject:** Long Beach Economic Recovery Act Support and Concerns.

**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear Mayor Garcia and City Council members,

As life long property owners in Long Beach, we would like to voice our support for the LB Economic Recovery Act. However, as landlords, there are two items of great concern. Our tenants are neither inclined nor motivated to fill out an application for rental relief. Therefore, we would like the \$29M for tenants clarified so that landlords can apply directly for those funds to help offset the economic losses we have suffered due to "deferred" rent by our tenants. Secondly, we understand that 15 non-profits led by Legal Aid have submitted a request to allocate \$750K to form the "Rental Housing Division" in Development Services. This would create more unnecessary government and there is no proven reason for forming this division. We have already lost tens of thousands of dollars that have caused us great financial harm, and creating a new division will only further exacerbate our dire situation.

Thank you for your favorable consideration to our expressed concerns.

Sincerely from Long Beach Property Owners and Landlords,

Jay Mercier and Rodney Kruit

**From:** Luzmaria Lucy Ortiz-Ortega [<mailto:ortizortega1126@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 1:55 PM

**To:** Mayor <[Mayor@longbeach.gov](mailto:Mayor@longbeach.gov)>; CityClerk <[CityClerk@longbeach.gov](mailto:CityClerk@longbeach.gov)>; Council District 9 <[District9@longbeach.gov](mailto:District9@longbeach.gov)>

**Subject:** Solicitando.

**-EXTERNAL-**

Apreciados: Monique de la Garza, Mayor Robert García, Rex Richardson.

Hola: mi nombre es. Luz María Ortiz.

Estoy en la Coalición de los derechos de los Inmigrantes de Long Beach.

Esta carta es en Apoyo en la Petición. En donde la Ciudad puede Brindar Apoyos a la Comunidad en dar fondos a los programas, en la asistencia para inmigrantes, Fondos para la Justicia de Long Beach, Fondos para los accesos de todos los Idiomas.

Fondos para la creación de una división de Alquiler de la vivienda, Fondos para un programa de asesoramiento Legal.

Fondos para fideicomisos Comunitarios de tierras.

Estos fondos son muy importantes porque benefician a la comunidad y sobre todo porque yo no soy dueña de casa.

Pido esos fondos para cuando pase uno por situaciones como estás y que pueden desalojarnos .

Que mi comunidad Encuentre Apoyo en la creación de estos Fondos.

Espero tomen en cuenta estas cartas.

Gracias por escuchar estas palabras para Apoyar a nuestra comunidad en lo que estamos solicitando.

Atentamente.

Luz María Ortiz.

SPANISH TRANSLATION:

Dear Monique de la Garza, Mayor Robert Garcia, Rex Richardson.

Hi, my name is Luz María Ortiz.

I am with the Long Beach Immigrant Rights Coalition.

This letter is in support of the petition. Where the City can provide community support in providing funding to programs, in immigrant assistance, Long Beach justice funds, and all language access funds.

Funds for the creation of a housing rental division, funds for a legal counseling program. Funds for community land trusts.

These funds are very important because they benefit the community and especially because I am not a homeowner.

I ask for those funds when one goes through situations like this where they could evict us.

May my community find support in the creation of these funds.

I hope to take these letters into account.

Thank you for listening to these words to support our community in what we are asking for.

Kind regards.

Luz Maria Ortiz.

**From:** Kristie Pabst [mailto:kristiepabst@pabstkinney.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 15, 2021 12:56 PM  
**To:** Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; district9@longbeach.gove; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** Long Beach Economic Recovery Act - Tenant Assistance

**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear Mayor Garcia and City Council Members,

Pabst, Kinney & Associates has been in the property management business for 40 years in the Long Beach community and currently manage around 2,800 units in Long Beach. We have provided housing to many families and individuals over these 40 years. As the owner of Pabst, Kinney & Associates and on behalf of all the owners we provide management for, we are in support of the Long Beach Economic Recovery Act. But, the \$29,000,000.00 allocated for tenant assistance needs to be further clarified. The landlords need to be able to apply for these funds on behalf of the tenants that have deferred rent on their tenant ledgers due to COVID-19 financial hardship. Many of the tenants have no idea HOW or WHO to contact in order to help them with getting this rental assistance.

It has also been reported that several non-profits led by Legal Aid are pushing for allocation of Recovery Funds to create a Rental Housing Division within the City of Long Beach. We do not need another government division creating more bureaucracy within our City. Everyone; landlords, tenants, business owners are all reeling from the financial devastation of COVID-19. Creating another bureaucracy would be fiscally irresponsible. Let us move on too much more productive measures to help our City comeback from this citywide economic devastation.

Respectfully submitted,

**Kristie Pabst**  
*President*  
*Broker*  
BRE # 00804122

**Pabst, Kinney & Associates, Inc.**  
248 Redondo Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90803

**Bus: (562) 987-3244**

**Fax: (562) 439-8339**

**From:** Audrena Redmond [mailto:audredmond@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 4:23 PM  
**To:** CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>  
**Cc:** City Manager <CityManager@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Katie Balderas <Katie.Balderas@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; Teresa Chandler <Teresa.Chandler@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** Committing to Black Health Equity

**-EXTERNAL-**

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People of Good Intention,

A number of us worked this summer on solidifying language and intent for the Racial Equity and Reconciliation Initiative.

I write today to urge that the language regarding Black Health Equity be honored. The Initial Report (p. 6) states, **“the direction from City Council was to center opportunities for reconciliation by uplifting the voices and experiences of the Black community”**. The Long Beach Recovery Plan includes a \$5.3 million funding allocation for Physical and Mental Health Equity ([click here to read](#)) that is supported by the Racial Equity and Reconciliation Initiative. The proposed recovery plan does not reflect the direction from City Council in the City of Long Beach’s effort for racial reconciliation as it relates to Black Health Equity. All of the funds for the Black Health Equity Fund will expire on **May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021** regardless of whether they have been fully expended. The proposed recovery plan does not explicitly state that the Black Health Equity Fund will be supported after this date. The plan needs to uplift the voices and experiences of the Black community in Long Beach.

1. On June 29<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Garcia publicly stated in a press conference, **“we have to be very deliberate in the way that we support Black members of our communities. The way we support communities and organizations on the ground.”** This is was not reflected in the Physical and Mental Health Equity strategy.
2. \$1 million was allocated for the Black Health Equity Fund but there was no mention of this fund or no explicit funding support for the ongoing efforts of the Black Health Equity team to provide culturally tailored evidence-based health promotion to the Black members of the Long Beach Community. There is no guarantee that the City will continue to support Black serving organizations that provide culturally tailored health education and outreach to Black residents in Long Beach.



3. The Long Beach Recovery Plan states (p. 11), “**Investments would focus on proportionality of population in Long Beach as well as COVID-19 impacts in each community**”. Black residents account for approximately 12% of the Long Beach population. This strategy would ensure that the Black community received one of the smallest allocations of funding for health equity. The reduced investment in the Black community is one reason why Black residents have the largest health disparities and lowest average life expectancy of all race/ethnicities in Long Beach. This does not reflect the Mayor’s commitment to Black communities and negates the purpose of establishing a Black Health Equity Fund. The proposed strategy is **EQUALITY not EQUITY**.
  
4. The Proposed Long Beach Recovery Plan states (p. 11) “**Funding would also support two community health workers at the Health Department, Khmer and Spanish speakers, to coordinate efforts for this program and connect with communities to strengthen health equity efforts.**” There is no mention of culturally tailored strategies for Black community members as indicated by Mayor Garcia when again he stated “*we have to be very deliberate in the way that we support Black members of our communities. The way we support communities and organizations on the ground.*”

Audrena Redmond

she/her(s)/sistah

I live, learn, and work on Tongva Land

Producer/Co-Host

Beautiful Struggle

Let's Talk About It and Be About It! - Beautiful Struggle,

Tuesdays @7pm KPFK 90.7FM Los Angeles

**From:** stevew@cbcblair.com [mailto:stevew@cbcblair.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, March 11, 2021 4:51 PM

**To:** Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; distrit9@longbeach.gov; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; 'Cc: Jay Mercier' <mercierj@bellsouth.net>; 'Kevin Notrica' <kevin.notrica@me.com>; tomhutchinson@live.com; 'Benjamin Rudolph' <b.m.rudolph@gmail.com>

**Subject:** RE: LB Economic Recovery Act

**-EXTERNAL-**

As a Real Estate Broker who has been an active Real Estate Broker in this wonderful City of Long Beach since the early 70's, our clients and I would like to voice our support of the LB Economic Recovery Act. However, there are two items of concern. We want the \$29M for tenants clarified, so that landlords can apply direct for those funds to help offset our economic losses due to deferred rent by our tenants. It should not require a tenant to fill out an application when the tenant is NOT motivated to do so. Second, news outlets have reported that 15 non-profits led by Legal Aid have submitted a request to the Mayor to have the City allocate \$750K to form a Rental Housing Division in Development Services. There is no nexus for this in the LB Economic Recovery Act; it is purely a wish list that will create more government and ultimately, we will have to pay for any services rendered by this new Division, since Development Services is a self-funded department through fees, etc. We have individually already lost tens of thousands of dollars that have caused us great harm, creating a new division will further exacerbate that. There has been no proven reason for forming this division.

Currently, the city has multiple other challenges that need focus and attention. Adding another layer of bureaucracy will not solve the affordable housing problem we face in Long Beach. It will probably have just the opposite effect. This type of costly bureaucracy, if added to the city, will negatively impact rental housing in Long Beach.

**Please oppose adding what is now known as a “Rental Housing Division”.**

**From:** Barbara Sullivan [mailto:bsullivan@sullivaninternational.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 11:42 AM  
**To:** CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** Recovery Plan

**-EXTERNAL-**

4. In The Proposed Long Beach Recovery Plan s There is no mention of culturally tailored strategies for Black community members as indicated by Mayor Garcia when again he stated “*we have to be very deliberate in the way that we support Black members of our communities. The way we support communities and organizations on the ground.*”

--

Barbara Sullivan

**From:** Jon Swire [mailto:jon@jonswire.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 10, 2021 9:56 AM  
**To:** Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; distrit9@longbeach.gov; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** LB Economic Recovery Act

**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear Mayor Garcia and City Council members,

We support in general the LB Economic Recovery Act, however, there are two items of concern. We want the \$29M for tenants clarified, so that landlords can apply direct for those funds to help offset our economic losses due to deferred rent by our tenants. It should not require a tenant to fill out an application, when the tenant is NOT motivated to do so. Second, news outlets have reported that 15 non-profits led by Legal Aid have submitted a request to the Mayor to have the City allocate \$750K to form a Rental Housing Division in Development Services. There is no nexus for this in the LB Economic Recovery Act; it is purely a wish list that will create more government and ultimately we will have to pay for any services rendered by this new Division, since Development Services is a self-funded department through fees, etc. We have individually already lost tens of thousands of dollars that have caused us great harm, creating a new division will further exacerbate that. There has been no proven reason for forming this division.

### **THE AGENCY**

Redefining real estate

JON SWIRE  
Real Estate Advisor/Author/Speaker

[TheAgencyRE.com](http://TheAgencyRE.com)  
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[www.TheresNoFreeLunchInRealEstate.com](http://www.TheresNoFreeLunchInRealEstate.com)  
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Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce

*The Long Beach Business Organization Since 1891. Celebrating 130 Years as the Catalyst for business growth; a Convener of leaders and influencers; and a Champion for a stronger community.*

March 15, 2021

Mayor Dr. Robert Garcia  
Members of City Council  
City of Long Beach  
411 W. Ocean Blvd.  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**Subject: Agenda Item 15: Federal Funds Expenditure Plan and Economic Recovery Strategy**

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council:

On December 8, 2020, we sent a letter recommending specific actions to assist small businesses financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the City's successful start to the vaccine dissemination, small businesses are still reeling from the economic fallout of COVID-19. They need the financial bridge that grants, tax breaks, and fee waivers can offer so that they can stay afloat until our economy recovers. The City's vaccination program continues to provide success in curtailing the number of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths across our City. For this reason, we believe it is time to focus on economic recovery for our hardest-hit industries. We ask that you consider providing the Long Beach Area Chamber with the capital to help small businesses adapt to the new business climate and resume operations.

As of mid-March 2020, our business community has dutifully adapted to local and state mandates for operations. Industries have made massive investments to protect the health and safety of employees, patrons, and customers. As our smallest businesses struggle, larger employers look at other states to grow and expand their workforce. We need immediate action to encourage them to stay. The City of Long Beach and California's economic recovery depends on businesses' success to support our economy, workers, and community.

We appreciate the early actions Council has taken to provide short-term financial relief, but this is only a start. The pandemic has exposed the financial fragility of operating a small business. The severe restrictions of the current orders place our smallest businesses in the weakest position. Since March 2020, the business community has adapted to every health order and procured items to slow the spread of COVID-19. They do so despite decreased earnings and limited staff. When these industries cannot operate at their full capacity, our workforce and economy are incredibly vulnerable. Small businesses and organizations are vital for the jobs they create for our residents, the sales tax they generate, and the services that they provide to our community.

The Chamber respectfully requests a grant of \$500,000 under the "Economic Recovery – Direct Business Support" category of the Long Beach Recovery Plan to continue at our highest level of service to support our business community and the local economy. The Chamber is well-positioned to assist local businesses and has done so for 130 years. Our organization has helped our businesses through our economy's most uncertain times and will continue to do so. We are aware of the business community's changing needs and are committed to growing and adapting to meet these most pressing needs.

The Chamber's work has not slowed with the pandemic's onset, and our services were expanded to nonmembers and to those who were seeking assistance and information going back to the very earliest of days of health orders. And like many, our revenues have significantly decreased. Financial support from the City of Long Beach will allow us to provide further access to support services and subsidize our smallest members. Unfortunately, the most impacted businesses may not have the capital to pay the associated membership fees during this costly and uncertain time.

Specifically, we feel we can be of value in the following areas to both members and nonmembers of our organization:

- **Citywide Small Business Navigator Grants**
  - o The Chamber can offer consultation, advising, and assistance regarding resources to help their business recover from the impacts of COVID-19.
  - o The Chamber already offers targeted business assistance specifically for small businesses.
  - o Through our many partners, the Chamber can offer mentoring services to new businesses and entrepreneurs in the City.
  - o The Chamber can help businesses easily navigate and comply with California's complex world of employment law via our member partners who specialize in this area at low to no cost.
- **Bridging the Digital Divide for Small Businesses**
  - o The Chamber can provide strategies for businesses to utilize digital tools to optimize their operations.
  - o Through our partners, the Chamber can assist businesses in capitalizing on available technology to strengthen small businesses' capabilities and competitiveness.
  - o The Chamber can increase efforts to improve digital literacy by providing educational resources for businesses.
  - o The Chamber can assist the City and other citywide partners with effectively partnering with technology companies to bridge the digital divide for our smallest and severally impacted businesses.
- **Workforce Development and Employer Connectivity**
  - o The Chamber can act as a partner and further support efforts the ongoing efforts at Pacific Gateway Workforce Innovation Network by connecting job seekers with businesses looking to hire and provide internships, specifically for our local youth.
- **Buy-Local Initiatives**
  - o The Chamber can work with a current list of local businesses to launch a "Buy Local" campaign with the potential for discounts and user-approved services. This could include the various bidding and contracting opportunities for area businesses and our city/enterprise partners.

I know the City is dedicated to creating job opportunities and supporting a thriving economy post-COVID. As you work to address the record number of jobless individuals, you must protect the small businesses that have employed our residents and supported our community. As the City of Long Beach receives praise for its vaccine rollout, we must now focus on helping our economy. Please consider how the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce can play a role in these efforts.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Harris  
President/CEO  
Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce

CC:  
Tom Modica, City Manager  
John Keisler, Director of Economic and Property Development  
Monique De La Garza, City Clerk

**From:** robert.thomas@cityrentalsonline.com [mailto:robert.thomas@cityrentalsonline.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 10, 2021 9:42 AM

**To:** Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; district5@cityrentalsonline.com; longbeach.gov@cityrentalsonline.com; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; distrit9@longbeach.gov; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

**Subject:** landlord rental assistance

**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear Mayor Garcia and City Council members,

We support in general the LB Economic Recovery Act, however, there are two items of concern. We want the \$29M for tenants clarified, so that landlords can apply direct for those funds to help offset our economic losses due to deferred rent by our tenants. It should not require a tenant to fill out an application, when the tenant is NOT motivated to do so. Second, news outlets have reported that 15 non-profits led by Legal Aid have submitted a request to the Mayor to have the City allocate \$750K to form a Rental Housing Division in Development Services. There is no nexus for this in the LB Economic Recovery Act; it is purely a wish list that will create more government and ultimately we will have to pay for any services rendered by this new Division, since Development Services is a self-funded department through fees, etc. We have individually already lost tens of thousands of dollars that have caused us great harm, creating a new division will further exacerbate that. There has been no proven reason for forming this division.

Warm regards  
Robert Thomas

**From:** Mark Wood [mailto:mark.wood@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, March 11, 2021 3:29 PM

**To:** Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; distrit9@longbeach.gov; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>

**Subject:** LB Economic Recovery Act

**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear Mayor Garcia and City Council members,

We support in general the LB Economic Recovery Act, however, there are two items of concern. We want the \$29M for tenants clarified, so that landlords can apply directly for those funds to help offset our economic losses due to deferred rent by our tenants. It should not require a tenant to fill out an application, when the tenant is NOT motivated to do so.

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We have individually already lost tens of thousands of dollars that have caused us great harm, creating a new division will further exacerbate that. There has been no proven reason for forming this division.

Kind regards,

Long Beach Citizen Mark