



Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

September 28, 2021

To: MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT, PERSONNEL AND ELECTIONS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATION:

To receive Charter Commission appointments and reappointments pursuant to Section 509 of the City Charter and Section 2.03.065 of the Long Beach Municipal Code.

REVISED DISCUSSION:

Appointments

Citizen Police Complaint Commission Charter

- *Michael Soto* – First term through June 2023

Michael Soto is a Council District 3 resident and has called Long Beach home for over 11 years. He is a Police Special Investigator with the Los Angeles Office of the Inspector General, which provides oversight to the Los Angeles Police Department on behalf of the Los Angeles Police Commission. Michael is also a licensed attorney in California and has practiced law in the area of Criminal Defense for over 10 years, primarily as a Deputy Public Defender in both Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Michael is a graduate of University of California, Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco.

- *Dr. Merry Taheri* – First term through June 2023

Dr. Merry Taheri is a resident of Council District 4 and is currently working as a Clinical Director/Nurse Practitioner for the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Dr. Taheri has also served as a sexual assault forensic nurse completing exams and collecting forensic evidence from both victims and suspects in collaboration with the LA County Sheriff's Department. Dr. Taheri holds a Doctorate in Nurse Practice from the University of California San Francisco.

- *Michael Bates* – Serving partial term through June 2022

Michael Bates is a Council District 6 resident. He currently works as a Design and Environmental Consulting Engineer at M.B. Technical Services. Mr. Bates previously served on the City's Board of Examiners, Appeals, and Condemnation as a member and later as Chair. Michael holds a Bachelor's of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Purdue University in Indiana.

- *Michele Anderson* – First term through June 2023

Michele Anderson is a Council District 8 resident. She is a prosecutor with the City of Los Angeles working as a Deputy City Attorney in the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office. Michele is a member of the Sierra Club, Black Women Lawyers, NAACO Long Beach Chapter and is active in many other organizations. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from UC Irvine and a Juris Doctorate Degree from Southwestern University School of Law in Los Angeles.

Planning Commission

- *Alvaro Castillo* – First term through June 2025

Alvaro Castillo is a 5th Council District resident. He previously served on the Airport Advisory Commission. Mr. Castillo is a small business owner and parent to two Long Beach Unified School District students. He is currently employed by Extended Stay America as the Divisional Director for Human Resources in the Western United States. Alvaro holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Business Administration from California State University, Long Beach where he continues to be involved in alumni activities.

Water Commission

- Courtni Pugh – Serving partial term through June 2025

A 2nd District resident, Courtni has lived in Long Beach for over 10 years. She is a partner at a nationwide Public Affairs firm and leads their California operation. Prior to that, Courtni spent over a decade working for organized labor and was the first woman and Asian American to serve many roles, such as Executive Director of SEIU CA and Political Director for the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor. She graduated with a B.A. from Ball State University in Muncie, IN.

Reappointments

Harbor Commission

- Bobby Olvera, Jr. – Reappointment to First term through June 2027
- Frank Colonna – Reappointment to First term through June 2027

Citizen Police Complaint Commission

- Veronica Garcia – Reappointment to Second term through August 2025
- Dana Buchannan – Reappointment to Second term through August 2025

Ethics Commission Charter

- Margo Morales – Reappointment to Second term through June 2025
- James P. Shotwell – Reappointment to Second term through June 2025
- Susan Wise – Reappointment to Second term through June 2025

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Garcia", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Mayor Robert Garcia

City of Long Beach

Dated: September 23, 2021