



COUNCILWOMAN
JEANNINE PEARCE

R-18

Date: March 17, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilwoman Jeannine Pearce, District 2 JP
Councilmember Rex Richardson, District 9 RR

Subject: Equity Toolkit Presentation

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file a presentation from the Office of Equity on the Equity Toolkit with an overview of case studies and examples on how to apply.

DISCUSSION

Long Beach has taken the bold and inclusive leadership step to participate with the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) and begin the Office of Equity. Staff across the city have been active members participating in training with GARE. This program provides a multi-layered approach for maximum impact by supporting jurisdictions that are at the forefront of work to achieve equity.

Supporting and providing best practices, tools, and resources helps build and sustain current efforts on the national movement for equity, while also developing a "pathway for the entry" into equity work for new jurisdictions across the country. Using the training and resources from jurisdictions at the forefront will create pathways for the increased engagement of more jurisdictions. This will continue to help support build local and regional collaborations that are broadly inclusive and focused on achieving equity. To eliminate inequities in our communities, developing a "collective impact" approach firmly grounded in inclusion and equity is necessary. Government can play a key role in collaborations for achieving equity, centering community, and leveraging institutional partnerships.

After years of being an active partner with GARE, the Office of Equity released the Equity Tool Kit in 2019. This tool kit includes an overview of what equity means and provides specific strategies we can apply to our work to make positive changes through our policies, programs, and services. Each tool contains questions to answer when applying an equity lens to our work,



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along with case studies that show what the City is doing to make Long Beach a healthy, safe, and thriving community for all.

FISCAL IMPACT

This recommendation requests a presentation from the Office of Equity on the Equity Toolkit. The requested action is anticipated to require a minimal level of staff hours beyond the budgeted scope of duties and is expected to have a minimal impact on existing City Council priorities.