



OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY  
Long Beach, California

**NB-23**

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September 8, 2020

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Long Beach Supporting the Universal Basic Income Initiative as Well as Federal and State Efforts to Support Residents Disadvantaged by the COVID-19 Pandemic. (Citywide.)

DISCUSSION

Pursuant to your request of September 1, 2020, this office has prepared and submits the above-described resolution for your consideration.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES PARKIN, City Attorney

By: AMY R. WEBBER  
Deputy City Attorney

ARW:bg A20-04682  
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RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF LONG BEACH SUPPORTING THE UNIVERSAL  
BASIC INCOME INITIATIVE AS WELL AS FEDERAL AND  
STATE EFFORTS TO SUPPORT RESIDENTS  
DISADVANTAGED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) first appeared in December  
2019 and has spread throughout the world, and on March 11, 2020, the World Health  
Organization declared the outbreak a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, Long Beach City Manager Thomas B.  
Modica declared a state of emergency in the City of Long Beach to prepare for and respond  
to local cases of coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach and the State of California are  
responding in strong and definitive ways to slow the spread of Covid-19 and save lives,  
ordering residents to shelter-in-place and cease non-essential activities; and

WHEREAS, in order to comply with shelter-in-place orders for public health,  
many businesses have shut their doors, temporarily or permanently, and laid off or  
terminated thousands of employees; and

WHEREAS, it has been reported that due to the coronavirus, record levels of  
Americans are experiencing unemployment, affecting their ability to pay housing costs; and

WHEREAS, the US Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and  
Economic Security (CARES) Act at the end of March, which includes a package of relief  
and stimulus programs including \$500 billion for large corporations and one-time \$1,200  
checks to individuals; and

WHEREAS, those workers who are eligible for unemployment insurance are  
still getting only a fraction of what they would otherwise earn, and the additional Pandemic

1 Unemployment Compensation provided through the CARES Act is a short-term  
2 augmentation that has ended; and

3 WHEREAS, some self-employed workers and independent contractors are  
4 now eligible for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance provided through the CARES Act,  
5 but those payments are capped at \$167 per week; and

6 WHEREAS, neither of the unemployment benefit programs established  
7 through CARES are adequate to cover the extent and likely duration of loss of income; and

8 WHEREAS, even prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, a significant portion of  
9 the population of the United States were living in poverty and did not have the resources  
10 to cover even the most basic necessities-food, housing, education and childcare; and

11 WHEREAS, without providing the entire country with immediate financial  
12 assistance, there will be a risk of worsening the health and economic crisis related to  
13 COVID-19 and, the sooner that assistance is provided to all people, the quicker they will  
14 return to work and get the economy and communities thriving again; and

15 WHEREAS, unlike a payroll tax cut, which would do little to benefit our most  
16 vulnerable workers, ongoing, direct cash payments would put “real money” in the pockets  
17 of people across the country, including those living in the City of Long Beach; and

18 WHEREAS, according to polling released by Data for Progress and the  
19 Justice Collaborative Institute, there is strong bipartisan support among people in the  
20 country for payments on a recurring basis, with 66% of the public preferring recurring  
21 payments of \$2,000 until a year after the President declares an end to the Covid-19 related  
22 federal state of emergency; and

23 WHEREAS, the organization Mayors for Guaranteed Income has established  
24 a universal basic income initiative in support of this concept;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach hereby  
26 resolves as follows:

27 Section 1. The City Council of the City of Long Beach the supports  
28 ongoing, direct cash payments throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and until our economy

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1 recovers, and calls on Speaker Pelosi and Leader McConnell to ensure such payments  
2 are included in the next stimulus package.

3 Section 2. The City Council of the City of Long Beach supports the  
4 concept of the "Universal Basic Income" as expressed by Mayors for Guaranteed  
5 Income, and supports the concept of a pilot program using available grant funds.

6 Section 3. The City Council of the City of Long Beach urges formal local  
7 advocacy efforts through the City Lobbyist to ensure such payments are included in any  
8 State or Federal final stimulus package.

9 Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption  
10 by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

11 I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council  
12 of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020  
13 by the following vote:

14  
15 Ayes: Councilmembers: \_\_\_\_\_

16 \_\_\_\_\_

17 \_\_\_\_\_

18 \_\_\_\_\_

19 Noes: Councilmembers: \_\_\_\_\_

20 \_\_\_\_\_

21 Absent: Councilmembers: \_\_\_\_\_

22 \_\_\_\_\_

23 Recusal(s): Councilmembers: \_\_\_\_\_

24 \_\_\_\_\_

25  
26  
27 \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

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