



**Date:** August 15, 2006  
**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Councilmember Val Lerch, Chair, Public Safety Committee  
**Subject:** **RECOMMENDATIONS TO COMBAT METHAMPHETAMINE USE IN LONG BEACH AND RELATED CRIMES**

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The Public Safety Committee, at its meeting held May 30, 2006, considered communications relative to the above subject.

It is the recommendation of the Public Safety Committee to the City Council to direct the City Manager to provide the feasibility of adopting the recommendations of the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) and the recommendations from "A Call to Action; A Community Forum on Methamphetamine" by St. Mary's Medical Center, Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Behavioral Research and Services at California State University Long Beach, Tarzana Treatment Centers and the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Greater Long Beach.

The Committee also requests that the City Manager offer a timeline as to when the following recommendations can be implemented.

The recommendations from PSAC are as follows:

- 1) Explore the feasibility of restricting over the counter sales of drugs containing ephedrine and pseudoephedrine;
- 2) Continue to assess the effectiveness of programs in Long Beach and other communities across the nation to combat Methamphetamine use;
- 3) Monitor how the increase in Methamphetamine use is being addressed by our criminal justice system with in the context of proposition 36; and
- 4) Explore and encourage innovative measures that the police department can implement to address Methamphetamine use and relating crimes.

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The recommendations from the Community Forum are as follows:

- 1) **Social Marketing:** Initiate a community-wide social marketing campaign that would address the social and health issues associated with Methamphetamine.
- 2) **Collaboration:** Improve interagency collaboration between the many public, civic and private agencies involved in prevention, care, research and treatment of Methamphetamine.
- 3) **Funding and Advocacy:** Increase current funds available to address the problems associated with Methamphetamine; this should also include extensive state and federal advocacy.
- 4) **Social Support:** Improve the community social support structures available for parents, students, Methamphetamine users and gay community.
- 5) **Methamphetamine Taskforce:** Develop and foster a multidisciplinary coalition of prevention and treatment providers to facilitate an ongoing dialogue about identifying solutions that protect the public's health and quality of life from the Methamphetamine epidemic.

It is the recommendation of the Public Safety Committee to the City Council that the communications be received and forwarded to the City Manager for review and implementation.

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

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Councilmember Val Lerch, Chair

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