



# R-15 REVISED

## Mayor Robert Garcia City of Long Beach

October 12, 2021

To: Members of the City Council

From: Mayor Robert Garcia

### RECOMMENDATION:

To receive and approve Commission appointments and reappointments to Non-Charter Commissions.

### REVISED DISCUSSION:

### APPOINTMENTS

#### **New Appointments**

#### **Airport Commission**

*Dede Rossi* – Partial term through June 2022

Deirdre “Dede” Rossi is 3<sup>rd</sup> Council District resident and previously served as the Executive Director of the Belmont Shore Business Association for 10-years before retiring just last year. Prior to her leadership at the Belmont Shore Business Association, she was deeply involved in our community through her work as Assistant Athletic Director at Cal State Long Beach (CSULB) for 21-years.

*Mireya LaFarga* – Partial term through June 2022

Mireya LaFarga is a 9<sup>th</sup> Council District resident and currently works as a Bilingual School Psychologist for the Los Angeles Unified School District. Mireya also has previous experience as a Supervising Behavioral Therapist for California United Service Providers and for the Center for Autism and Related Disorders. Mireya holds a Master’s Degree in Counseling with an emphasis in School Psychology from Cal State Los Angeles and a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology with a minor in Applied Developmental Psychology from UCLA.

#### **Board of Examiners Appeals and Condemnation**

*Henry “Mike” Tovar* – Partial term through June 2022

Henry “Mike” Tovar is a 7<sup>th</sup> Council District resident and is currently retired from the engineering and construction field. Over the course of his 41-year career, Mike focused primarily on public infrastructure and related support services. He served as an engineer and a construction/program

manager at job sites where a major responsibility was to monitor and track contractor adherence to local and state regulations, codes, ordinances and permits.

### **Citizen's Advisory Commission on Disabilities**

*Dr. Nicholas Matthews* – Partial term through June 2022

Dr. Matthews is a 3<sup>rd</sup> Council District resident. He is currently a tenured professor at Cerritos College where he serves as a distance education coordinator for accessibility support. Nicholas has served on the Diversity and Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Committee (DEI) for three years, where he helped with DEI planning and policy processes and added a disability perspective to DEI conversations. Dr. Nicholas holds a master's degree in Communication Studies and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from CSULB.

### **Economic Development Commission**

*Griselda Suarez* – Partial term through June 2022

Griselda is a writer, artist, cook and teacher. In 2016, she became the Executive Director of the Arts Council for Long Beach. She is a lecturer in the Chicano and Latino Studies Department of CSULB. Griselda is also a Board of Directors Advisor for the Downtown Long Beach Alliance and an Executive Committee Member At Large on the United States Urban Arts Federation – Americans for the Arts.

### **Human Relations Commission**

*Robbie Butler* – Partial term through June 2022

Robbie Butler is a 7<sup>th</sup> Council District resident and current substitute teacher for the Long Beach Unified School District. Robbie has a long history of volunteering in various charitable and civic organizations. Robbie also serves as President of Speak Up Empowerment Foundation, Inc., a local non-profit organization whose focus is to aid in the success of single mothers by ensuring they have access to resources, helpful information, and educational opportunities.

*Maricela de Rivera* – Partial term through June 2022

Maricela is a 9<sup>th</sup> Council District resident who previously served 8-years on the Long Beach Transit Board of Directors. She has also served as an appointee on Metro's Public Safety Advisory Committee and Long Beach Unified School District's Equity Leadership Team. Maricela currently works at the Heart of Ida non-profit which serves the senior community. She holds a bachelor's degree from Mount Saint Mary's University and is a Leadership Long Beach graduate.

### **Long Beach Transit Board of Directors**

*Jennifer Kumiyama* – Directorship 1 – First term through 12/31/2025

Jennifer is a 1<sup>st</sup> Council District resident who has served on the Citizens Advisory Commission on Disabilities. She is a regular user of Long Beach Transit and other forms of public transit. Jennifer is a board member of the Disabled Resources Center and of Asian and Pacific Islanders with Disabilities in California. She also serves as Secretary of the Long Beach Democratic Women's

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Study Club and Vice President of the Willmore City Heritage Association. Jennifer currently works as a Client Services Manager for Progressive Solutions Consulting.

### **Senior Advisory Commission**

*Allan Goldstein* – Partial through June 2022

Allan is a 3<sup>rd</sup> Council District resident who has recently retired as a high school department Chair of Special Education for the Los Angeles Unified School District. Allan worked for almost 15-years with young adults and people with special physical, mental and psychological needs, and their families. His experience with adults in foster care, homeless and probation situations give him important insight into the some of the issues that come before this commission.

*Daniel Reich* – Partial through June 2022

Daniel Reich is a 1<sup>st</sup> Council District resident who is currently living in a senior community along with 230 other senior citizens. Daniel holds a Liberal Arts degree from Long Beach City College and a Bachelor's of Science with a Concentration in Mental Health from California State University Dominguez Hills. Daniel is currently in graduate school for social work at CSUDH.

### **The Long Beach Community Investment Company**

*Elwood "Woody" Sides* – Partial through June 2022

Woody is a Council District 3 resident and a 30-year Long Beach resident. He has been deeply involved in various non-profits and educational efforts here, including at CSULB and through Leadership Long Beach. Woody is newly retired and is looking forward to dedicating his time to reducing blight, creating economic opportunities, providing affordable housing and revitalizing neighborhoods.

*Eva Melgarejo* – Partial through June 2022

Eva is a Council District 8 resident and currently a Loan Officer and Multicultural Public Relations Manager with New American Funding. She is a former Senior Manager of Events and Community Relations for EC Hispanic Media, and Associate Vice President of Events at The Museum of Latin American Art. Eva is a Leadership Long Beach and CSULB alumnus.

### **Transactions and Use Tax Citizens Advisory Commission**

*Dr. Miles Nevin* – Partial through June 2022

Dr. Nevin is a Council District 3 resident, with a doctorate in educational leadership from CSULB where he currently works as the Associated Students Inc. Executive Director. Miles is also an Adjunct Instructor at both National American University and Kansas State University.

**Veterans Affairs Commission**

*Lance Osorio Santiago – Partial through June 2022*

Lance is a 6<sup>th</sup> Council District resident and a U.S. Marine Corps veteran. Lance graduated from Cal State University, Long Beach where he served as President of the Veterans Network and was elected to chair for the Student Center for Professional Development, Executive Mentoring Program. Lance involved in many community volunteer projects and is currently employed by Northrop Grumman as a Supply Chain Planning Specialist.

**Reappointments**

**Cultural Heritage Commission**

Kathleen Irvine – Third term through June 2023

**Pacific Gateway Workforce Development Board**

- Larry Rice – Third term through June 2023
- Peter Santillan – Third term through June 2023
- Melissa Infusino – Third term through June 2023
- Ken Gomez – First term through June 2023 year
- Kim Armstrong – Third term through June 2023
- Graham Scott – Second term through June 2023
- Simon Kim – Second term through June 2023
- Weston LaBar – Third term through June 2023
- Xochitl Cobarruvias – Third term through June 2023
- Janet Kornblatt – Second term through June 2023
- Tommy Faavae – Sixth term through June 2023
- Frederick Johring – Third term through June 2023
- Bradford Barto – Third term through June 2023
- Regina Cash – Third term through June 2023

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact

**SUGGESTED ACTION:**

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor Robert Garcia

October 8, 2021