



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

333 West Ocean Blvd., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Long Beach, CA 90802 (562) 570-5237

January 20, 2015

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

## RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution supporting President Obama's "My Brother's Keeper" Community Challenge; and receive and file a status report on efforts with the City of Long Beach in support of this initiative. (Citywide)

## DISCUSSION

On October 14, 2014, City Council requested the City Manager provide a report within 90 days on President Obama's "My Brother's Keeper" (MBK) Community Challenge. City Council also requested methods on how the City of Long Beach can support the initiative to improve life outcomes and overcome barriers to success for young men of color in Long Beach. The City Council motion requested information on six components related to MBK.

The MBK Federal Taskforce report details recommendations for improving outcomes for boys and young men of color, with specific focus on youth jobs and internships, violence prevention, and community-oriented policing. It is recommended that local jurisdictions work with employers, mayors and others to expand summer jobs and internships, and enhance the quality of existing programs. The local effort should focus on investing in infrastructure, advanced manufacturing, and job training. Also, it should further the work of violence prevention by integrating the public health approach and enhance collaboration between federal leaders, state leaders, mayors, and others to implement and scale up successful violence and gang prevention initiatives currently underway. Lastly, the local police department, along with the community, should continue to promote community-oriented policing strategies and efforts to build trust between communities and law enforcement.

There are several City programs that support MBK which are captured in the Safe Long Beach Violence Prevention Plan (Safe Long Beach). Safe Long Beach is the City's comprehensive effort designed to address all forms of violence, including child abuse, domestic violence, hate crimes, bullying, gang violence, and violent crime. Safe Long Beach Workgroups consisting of government agencies, the school district, local colleges, hospitals, and community- and faith-based organizations have been established to implement Safe Long Beach. In addition, the City of Long Beach was recently named a US Department of Justice National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention, and staff is working on developing a youth violence prevention component to the plan. Under Safe Long Beach, the Long Beach Gang Reduction, Intervention & Prevention (LBGRIP) program

engages at-risk youth through services such as mentoring, employment programs, and wraparound services. In addition, Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Network has initiated internships and summer job programs that seek to employ youth, which include young men of color.

Community-based and faith-based organizations in Long Beach operate sixty-one (61) programs and services for boys and young men of color, ranging from mentorship, educational enrichment, physical and mental health, and employment opportunities. These organizations will work in coordination with the City's MBK Community Challenge through participation in the Safe Long Beach Workgroups and LBGRIP Advisory Meetings.

Staff will continue to collaborate with the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) on efforts such as the Long Beach College Promise, Safe Long Beach, and the Male Academy. The Long Beach College Promise is an alliance between the City of Long Beach, LBUSD, Long Beach Community College (LBCC), and California State University, Long Beach (CSULB). The Long Beach College Promise provides college preparation, a free semester of tuition at LBCC, guaranteed admission to CSULB for students meeting entrance requirements, and other supportive services between matriculation and graduation day.

The LBUSD Male Academy is a program that provides mentorship, academic support and leadership development for young men of color attending high school. The mission of the Male Academy is to improve the graduation rate of underrepresented male students, and to encourage lifelong learning by preparing them for college and career options. LBUSD will continue to collaborate on the above stated efforts through participation in the Safe Long Beach Workgroups.

In order to codify the City's efforts, it is requested that the City Council adopt a Resolution supporting these efforts and others as part of the MBK initiative. In addition, the MBK Community Challenge calls upon city leaders to convene a Local Action Summit within 45 days of accepting the challenge. This Summit would include key public and private sector stakeholders to assess needs, determine priorities and develop objectives. Assuming the City Council wishes to proceed, staff anticipates the Summit would be held by mid March 2015. The City would then conduct a policy review, form recommendations for action, and publicly launch an action plan for accomplishing the agreed-upon goals and objectives.

This matter was reviewed by Assistant City Attorney Michael J. Mais and by Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on December 31, 2014.

#### TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

On October 14, 2014, City Council requested a report on MBK within 90 days. City Council action is requested on January 20, 2015 to respond to this request.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City has already committed to funding some of the existing initiatives which support MBK, including programming through GRIP grants and the Safe Long Beach program. However, any new initiatives that are proposed as part of this process would require the identification of additional funding and additional appropriations before they are initiated.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



AMY J. BODEK, AICP  
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

AJB:AR:TC

P:\Safe Long Beach\My Brother's Keeper\City Council\My Brother's Keeper Community Challenge Update v.10.doc

Attachment: City Council Resolution

APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST  
CITY MANAGER

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RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF LONG BEACH SUPPORTING PRESIDENT  
OBAMA'S "MY BROTHER'S KEEPER" COMMUNITY  
CHALLENGE

WHEREAS, in September 2014, President Obama issued a challenge to cities, towns, counties and tribes across the country to become "My Brother's Keeper Communities;" and

WHEREAS, the My Brother's Keeper Community Challenge encourages communities to implement a coherent cradle-to-college-and-career strategy for improving the life outcomes of all young people to ensure that they can reach their full potential, regardless of who they are, where they come from, or the circumstances into which they are born; and

WHEREAS, President Obama launched the My Brother's Keeper initiative to address persistent opportunity gaps faced by boys and young men of color and to ensure that all young people can reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, through this initiative, the Obama Administration is joining with cities and towns, businesses, and foundations who are taking important steps to connect young people to mentoring, support networks, and the skills they need to find a good job or go to college and work their way into the middle class or beyond; and

WHEREAS, My Brother's Keeper initiative is designed to ensure that all youth, including boys and young men of color, have opportunities to improve their life outcomes and overcome barriers to success. The initiative aims to bring together government, law enforcement, business, non-profit, philanthropic, faith, and community leaders around shared goals for young people in this country; and

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WHEREAS, My Brother's Keeper is focused on the following milestones:

- Getting a Healthy Start and Entering School Ready to Learn – All children should have a healthy start and enter school ready – cognitively, physically, socially and emotionally.
- Reading at Grade Level by Third Grade – All children should be reading at grade level by age 8 – the age at which reading to learn becomes essential.
- Graduating from High School Ready for College and Career – Every American child should have the option to attend postsecondary education and receive the education and training needed for quality jobs of today and tomorrow.
- Successfully Entering the Workforce – Anyone who wants a job should be able to get a job that allows them to support themselves and their families.
- Keeping Kids on Track and Giving Them Second Chances – All children should be safe from violent crime; and individuals who are confined should receive the education, training and treatment they need for a second chance.

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

Section 1. That the City of Long Beach supports My Brother's Keeper; a challenge to encourage communities to implement a coherent cradle-to-college-and-career strategy for improving the life outcomes of all young people to ensure that they can reach their full potential, regardless of who they are, where they come from, or the circumstances into which they are born.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

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OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY  
CHARLES PARKIN, City Attorney  
333 West Ocean Boulevard, 11th Floor  
Long Beach, CA 90802-4664

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I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council  
of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015, by the following  
vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk