

06-0486

COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK FOR COMBATING METH USE

- Prevention / Education**
- Enforcement**
- Intervention**
- Treatment**
- Rehabilitation**

The PSAC stresses to the City Council the urgency for additional law enforcement officers and treatment counselors to address the growing problem of methamphetamine use in Long Beach.

1. Explore the feasibility of restricting over the counter sales of drugs containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine.

- **S. 103 provisions were folded into the Patriot Act and passed the Congress in the Spring of 2006.**
- **Law to become effective in the Fall of 2006 (6 mos. After enactment).**

2. Continue to assess the effectiveness of programs in Long Beach and other communities across the nation to combat meth use.

- PSAC was unable to determine the effectiveness of any of the programs in the community, due to their limited history, incomplete records and the lack of established performance measurements.

✓ PSAC recommends that the City explore using the following resources:

- ✓ Federal funding and/or grants from the following for education & prevention programs:
 - Consumer Healthcare Products Assn. CHPA
 - Partnership for a Drug Free America
 - American Academy of Pediatrics
 - U.S. Dept of Health & Human Services

- **EXAMPLE – the CHPA’s MethWatch –**
 - A multi-faceted program with the mission of enabling local and state governments to develop public-private partnerships between law enforcement, state officials and the retail community, preventing the sale and use of methamphetamine.
 - Mock meth labs for presentation, public education uses
 - Educational materials distributed at schools
 - Facts about meth shown at movie theaters
 - MethWatch signs posted at city limits, or throughout the city
 - Including education about meth in Neighborhood Watch meetings
 - Public service announcements
 - Display boards for community events

3. Monitor how the increase in meth use is being addressed by our criminal justice system within the context of Proposition 36.

4. Explore and encourage innovative measures that the police department can implement to address meth use and related crimes.

- **City funding needs to be obtained and allocated to increase the number of law enforcement officers, as well as intervention, treatment, and rehabilitation personnel.**
- **Support City Council in obtaining alternative resources to assist Long Beach in the design & implementation of a citywide program for the education and prevention of meth use.**