



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



R-31

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February 20, 2018

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file a report from the Commission on Youth and Children (Commission); request the City Attorney to draft a Resolution repealing Resolution No. C-28279 for the dissolution of the current Commission; and, request the City Attorney to draft a new Resolution creating a nine-member advisory Commission on Youth and Families. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

On October 21, 2003, the City Council adopted Resolution No. C-28279 establishing the 19-member Commission on Youth and Children (Commission) (Attachment A). The objectives and functions of the Commission are to advise the Mayor and City Council on issues relating to Long Beach youth, and promote coordination between the City of Long Beach (City), the Long Beach Unified School District (District), and other youth-serving agencies. The current Commission consists of members representing each City Council District with diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise, as required by Resolution No. C-28279.

In recent years, the Commission has experienced various challenges. Some of these challenges include the inability to regularly convene a quorum to conduct the business of the Commission and determining the purpose and role of the Commission. Some of the Commissioners have expressed concern that the 19-member body is too large to consistently and effectively convene a quorum. Some of the Commissioners have also expressed confusion with the Commission's purpose and are interested in being more involved with current City initiatives related to youth and families.

At its March 7, 2017 meeting, the City Council requested that City staff work with the Commission to conduct a review of the Commission and report back. In response, the Commission created an *ad hoc* Committee (Committee) comprised of six Commissioners to review current Commission practices and provide recommendations for improvements.

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The Committee worked with City staff to develop various recommendations for improvement. However, due to the inability to convene a quorum in recent months, the Commission was unable to formally approve the Committee's recommendations to the City Council.

In an effort to proceed with improvements to the effectiveness of the Commission, the Committee is recommending the following changes:

- The body of the Commission should be comprised of nine Commissioners, instead of a maximum of 19. The proposed composition would include seven adult members and two youth members under the age of 19 at the time of appointment. The Commissioners should possess experience working with or serving youth and/or families; however, not necessarily be required to represent different subject areas as outlined in the existing Resolution C-28279. In addition, the Commission should continue to require one sitting District Board Member since coordination between the City and the District will remain one of its primary functions.
- The Commission should continue to promote coordination among youth and family serving agencies with a strong focus between the City and the District.
- The Commission should serve as an advisory body to the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department on matters pertaining to youth and family programs. The Commission may also provide policy recommendations as requested by the City Council.
- The youth members of the Commission, with mentorship from the adult Commissioners, should lead an annual youth forum that would allow them to engage youth throughout the community in a conversation about the issues and concerns facing the youth today, as well as their suggested solutions. The outcome would be reported to the entire Commission and the City Council.
- The Commission should support efforts to promote current City initiatives that benefit youth and families, such as: My Brother's Keeper, Building Healthy Communities and All Children Thrive. The Commission would receive and file reports from committees working with these initiatives, as well as review new initiatives focused on children and families.
- Since the ongoing work and efforts of the Commission impact families as a whole, the Committee recommends that the Commission also incorporate families into its scope and change its name to the Commission on Youth and Families.

To carry out these recommendations, the current Commission on Youth and Children would need to be dissolved and a new City Council Resolution reflecting the proposed changes would need to be adopted. Existing Commissioners in good standing would be appointed to the new Commission on Youth and Families.

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This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Linda T. Vu and by Budget Management Officer Rhutu Amin Gharib on February 1, 2018.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on February 20, 2018, to expedite changes to the composition of the Commission on Youth and Children.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal or local job impact associated with this recommendation.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



MARIE KNIGHT
DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

MK:SS:GK:jw/vhd

Attachment

APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY ATTORNEY

1 RESOLUTION NO. C-28279

2
3 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
4 CITY OF LONG BEACH CREATING AN ADVISORY
5 COMMISSION ON YOUTH AND CHILDREN
6

7 WHEREAS, the Economic Development and Finance Committee of the City
8 Council, at its meeting on October 14, 2003, recommended to the City Council that an
9 advisory Commission on Youth and Children be created; and

10 WHEREAS, the City Council concurs in this recommendation;

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

13 Section 1. Creation. There is hereby created an advisory commission to be
14 known as the Commission on Youth and Children. This Commission shall be subject to
15 the provisions of Chapter 2.18 of the Long Beach Municipal Code and to the Ralph M.
16 Brown Act (California Government Code Section 54950 et seq.). If there is any
17 inconsistency between Chapter 2.18 and the Ralph M. Brown Act, then the Ralph M.
18 Brown Act shall govern.

19 Sec. 2. Purpose. The purpose of this Commission shall be to advise the
20 Mayor and City Council of the needs, concerns, and problems of children and youth, to
21 make policy recommendations regarding the City's efforts to serve children and youth, to
22 promote coordination between the City of Long Beach, the Long Beach Unified School
23 District, other county, state and national organizations, and community agencies, to review
24 annually the City's legislative agenda with regard to youth and children issues, to review
25 annually the City's Community Plan for Shaping the Early Care and Education System, or
26 its replacement plan, to review annually the City's Strategic Plan 2010 Education and
27 Youth Component, or its replacement plan, and to recognize outstanding contributions or
28 accomplishments on behalf of Long Beach children and youth.

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1 Sec. 3. Members. The Commission shall be comprised of up to nineteen
2 (19) members, appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council as follows:

3 (a) Ten (10) adult members and a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of
4 nine (9) members under the age of nineteen (19) years at the time of appointment to the
5 Commission.

6 (b) The Mayor shall select eight (8) adult members from applicants who
7 possess a high level of experience and expertise in one or more of the following areas
8 related to youth and children's services: social services, health services, job training,
9 education, early childhood development, juvenile justice or safety, and services related to
10 youth and children's "out of school" activities.

11 (c) The Mayor shall select one (1) adult who is the parent of a child under
12 the age of twenty-one (21) years, and shall select one (1) adult who serves on the Long
13 Beach Unified School District Board of Education.

14 (d) Upon the recommendation of the respective City Council Members, the
15 Mayor shall appoint one youth member from each City Council District who shall reside in
16 that City Council District and who is a member of the district level youth advisory council,
17 if one exists, in that City Council District.

18 (e) When a youth member of the Commission reaches the age of 21, then
19 the appointment of that youth member shall automatically end and another youth member
20 who meets the criteria described above shall be appointed to fill the remainder of that term.

21 (f) No member of the Commission may be a current employee of the City.

22 Sec. 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately on its adoption by the

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1 City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting on October 21, 2003,
2 by the following vote:

3 Ayes: Councilmembers: Lowenthal, Colonna, Carroll,
4 Kell, Richardson, Reyes Uranga,
5 Webb, Lerch.
6 _____

7 Noes: Councilmembers: None.
8 _____

9 Absent: Councilmembers: Baker.
10 _____

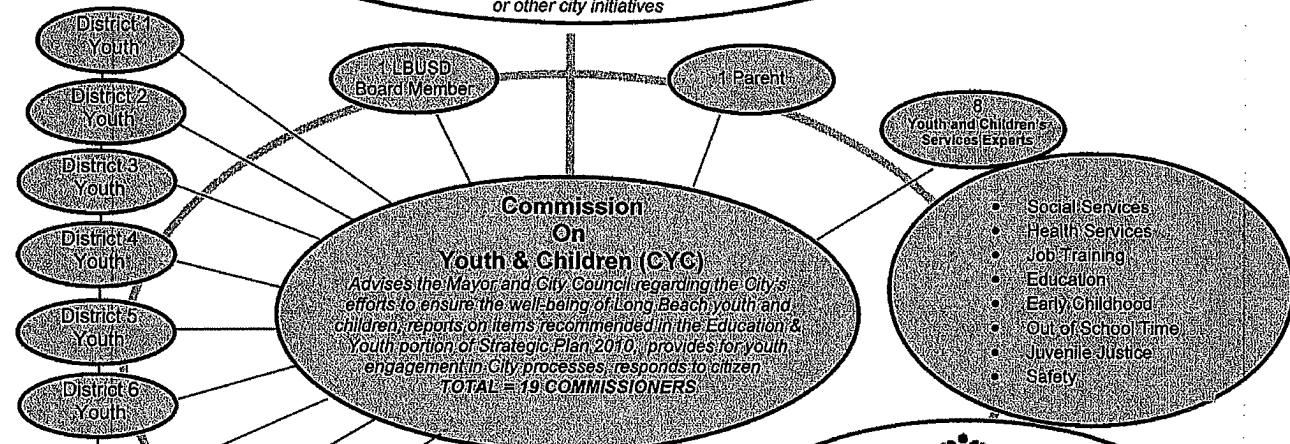
11 _____
12 *[Signature]*
13 City Clerk

City of Long Beach
City Administration
333 West Ocean Blvd.
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YOUTH CHILDREN SERVICES FRAMEWORK



Mayor and City Council Members
 Receives policy recommendations from, and refers issues to the Commission on Youth & Children regarding the City's efforts to ensure the well-being of Long Beach youth and children. Each member of the City Council appoints one youth member to the Commission. Mayor appoints adults from sectors of youth/children services. Receives reports on items recommended in the Education and Youth portion of Strategic Plan 2010 or other city initiatives



District-level Youth Advisory Councils
 1 per district
 Composed of youth (Optional)

Executive Planning Committee

"WORKING TOGETHER TO SERVE LONG BEACH YOUTH & CHILDREN"

Long Beach Youth Services NETWORK
 - An Inclusive Organization -
 Brings together the public and private sectors to form a stronger local infrastructure for school age youth and children. Shares information, resources and training, and fosters partnerships.

Subcommittee: Mentor Connection

Subcommittee: After School Advocacy Partnership