

Long Beach Youth Climate Corps Program

City Council Presentation Tuesday, May 3, 2022



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LONG BEACH YOUTH CLIMATE CORPS PROGRAM OVERVIEW



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BACKGROUND

The State of California's Governor's Office recently allocated \$150 million to fund youth workforce programs through its CaliforniansForAll Youth Workforce Development program

- Long Beach will receive \$6.3 million in cost-reimbursement funds
- Funds should support activities that increase youth employment, develop youth interest in and experience toward careers in public service, and strengthen capacity to address areas of education, climate change, and food insecurity.



STATE GRANT REQUIREMENTS

Participants (16-30):

- Are low-income, unemployed and/or out-of-school
- Are justice-involved, in/transitioning from foster care
- Are engaged with the mental health or substance abuse system

75% of selected participants must meet two of the above criteria

Outcomes:

- Paid youth job placements in public agencies or nonprofits
- After-program placement in permanent jobs or continuing education



PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

- Reviewed existing data and models:
 - Federal, State, and Regional youth development and workforce development efforts/reports
 - Existing City plans, including:



 Consulted with City Departments and community stakeholders on design program/placement opportunities



To ensure grant-required outcomes, the City has identified key strategies for paid climate-related placements:

- Placements in existing City/nonprofit climaterelated programs that meet all grant requirements, timing, and outcomes
- Real-world experiences
- Provide skill development and training for future long-term job placement
- Foster experiential stewardship by providing resources and diverse learning opportunities



PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION: YOUTH PLACEMENTS

Approximately 380 Youth Paid Placements

- Placement positions will range from entry-level to more technical/advanced, earning between \$16.00-\$27.00 an hour
- Most placements will encompass approximately 450-500 hours
- Placement determinations to be made by Pacific Gateway during the intake process



POSSIBLE JOB PLACEMENTS

Long Beach Office of Sustainability, Conservation Corps of Long Beach, and other CBOs:

- Urban Greening and Natural Systems Services
 - Tree planting and urban forest management
 - Rain gardens and rainwater rescue
 - Native ecosystem restoration
- Urban Agriculture
 - Establishing and supporting urban farms
 - Operating public orchards and fruit tree programs
- Waste Reduction and Energy
 - Rooftop solar outreach and installation
 - Establishing and/or supporting recycling programs



Development Services

 Participants can work on city policies and program recommendations, track metrics and collect data, conduct community outreach, and create inclusive community engagement activities, and prepare public materials and presentations that educate and communicate impacts of climate change.

Economic Development

 Participants can work on city policies and program recommendations, track metrics and collect data, conduct community outreach, and create inclusive community engagement activities, and prepare public materials and presentations that educate and communicate the impacts of climate change.



Heath & Human Services

• Participants can support the implementation of community-supported agriculture projects that can provide food to vulnerable residents of Long Beach, increase knowledge and self-efficacy to promote food growing and consumption of healthy foods through educational and skill-building opportunities, and the establishment of healthy markets and crop swap pop ups. Activities can also include outreach and promotion of food-related resource programs, and health equity -related programs such as government benefit programs to mitigate the economic impacts of COVID-19. This work can be led in collaboration with the department's Office of Youth Development.



POSSIBLE JOB PLACEMENTS

Legislative Department

• Liaison with community stakeholders on climate action initiatives.

Library Services

• Help design inclusive physical safe spaces and virtual settings to encourage positive social engagement, and skill development, and improve access to critical services such as credit recovery and high school completion programs and English Language Learner resources that support program participants.



Parks, Recreation, & Marine

 Support robust urban agriculture program in parks to address food insecurity, assist with park forestry and waterwise native landscape stewardship projects, and develop health programs connecting medical providers to parks, and serve as park ambassadors to support healthy and clean parks to encourage park usage.

Public Works

• Support urban greening and watershed management activities related to trees, landscape, and water capture/cleaning in the public right-of-way and help implement energy and water efficiency projects in city facilities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



NEXT STEPS

- Accept grant funding (May 2022)
- Partner convening (May 2022)
- Program Kickoff with first youth job placements in (Anticipated Summer 2022)
- Program will be activities tracked and reported by Pacific Gateway throughout implementation



Thank you

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