

RESOLUTION NO. RES-22-0199

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LONG BEACH ACKNOWLEDGING FENTANYL
AND OPIOID OVERDOSES AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

WHEREAS, since 1999, the United States has experienced an opioid overdose epidemic; and

WHEREAS, per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), opioid overdose deaths quadrupled between 1999 and 2019; and

WHEREAS, opioid overdose deaths were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, as the 12-month period ending in May 2020 saw the highest number of overdose deaths ever recorded in a year by the CDC, who suggest the pandemic accelerated overdose rates beyond expectation; and

WHEREAS, this is particularly concerning when considering the impact it has had on younger, more vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, in Los Angeles County, the crude rate of opioid-related death among people aged 15-19 increased by 248.8% from the 2nd quarter of 2019 to the 2nd quarter of 2020; and

WHEREAS, a major driver increasing overdose deaths has been the surge in the amount of fentanyl being consumed; and

WHEREAS, fentanyl is a synthetic drug similar to morphine that is 50 to 100 times more potent; and

WHEREAS, although fentanyl can be prescribed, it is also made and used illegally; fentanyl is often combined with other drugs and pressed into pills that resemble prescription opioids, contributing to its reputation as a "street drug" and increasing risk for consumers; and

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, synthetic opioids contributed to over 82%

of all opioid-related deaths in 2020. Fentanyl was also responsible for the seven overdoses and one death among Los Angeles Unified School District students in September of 2022;

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

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Long Beach hereby acknowledges that fentanyl and opioid overdoses are a Public Health Crisis.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.


I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of November 15, 2022, by the following vote:

Ayes:	Councilmembers:	<u>Zendejas, Allen, Price, Supernaw, Mungo,</u>
		<u>Saro, Austin, Richardson.</u>

Noes:	Councilmembers:	<u>None.</u>
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Absent:	Councilmembers:	<u>Uranga.</u>
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Recusal(s):	Councilmembers:	<u>None.</u>
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City Clerk