

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH ADOPTING A COMMUNICATIONS POLICY FOR COMMISSIONERS ON ETHICS ISSUES

WHEREAS, the Ethics Commission was established to provide advice and policy recommendations on ethics issues in Long Beach; and

WHEREAS, in order to set a tone of transparency and fairness in Ethics Commission matters, the Ethics Commission now desires to adopt a policy establishing procedures for effective and transparent communications with the Commission;

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

Section 1. The Ethics Commission of the City of Long Beach hereby adopts the Communications Policy, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. Ethics Commission staff shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the City Clerk and to each member of the Ethics Commission.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Ethics Commission, and shall certify to the vote adopting this resolution.

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OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CHARLES PARKIN, City Attorney
411 West Ocean Boulevard, 9th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802-4664

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I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Ethics
Commission of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of _____, 2021, by the
following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners:

Noes: Commissioners:

Absent: Commissioners:

Recusal(s): Commissioners:

Commission Staff

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EXHIBIT "A"
(CLEAN VERSION)
CITY OF LONG BEACH ETHICS COMMISSION
COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

The people of Long Beach depend on a city government that operates equitably, ethically, and transparently, and that works to promote public trust and confidence. The Ethics Commission strives to advance public trust and confidence in the City's government through education and the development of policies and processes that promote each of the City's values of Accountability, Fairness, Impartiality, Diversity, Transparency, and Integrity.

In 2018, the voters approved, Measure CCC, establishing procedures for an Ethics Commission independent of the City Council. To promote these values and mission, the Ethics Commission adopts the Communications Policy below:

"To ensure transparency in communications relating to ethics issues, thereby improving public confidence in the process, Ethics Commission members and staff should use their best efforts to not communicate with or receive communications regarding ethics matters pending or reasonably expected to come before the Ethics Commission from anyone except at a public meeting or through the process established for accepting written public comment. This does not prohibit:

- communication among Ethics Commission members, staff, legal counsel, and consultants retained by the Commission that are otherwise permitted by State and City open meeting requirements; or
- commissioners, staff, legal counsel, or consultants from engaging in public education and outreach, including explaining how the Ethics Commission functions and encouraging public participation.

Elected officials and their staff are not considered part of the Ethics Commission for purposes of this policy. Communications from or to elected officials and their staff should be in writing addressed to the Commission or should occur at a public Commission meeting."

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EXHIBIT "A"
(REDLINE VERSION)
CITY OF LONG BEACH ETHICS COMMISSION
COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

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- commissioners, staff, legal counsel, or consultants from engaging in public education and outreach, including explaining how the Ethics Commission functions and encouraging public participation.

~~Communications between commissioners, commission staff, and consultants do not extend to all elected officials and their staff. Elected officials and their staff and their staff are not considered part of the Ethics Commission for purposes of this policy.~~ Communications from or to elected officials and their staff should be in writing addressed to the Commission or should occur at a public Commission meeting."