



Date: February 7, 2017

To: Patrick H. West, City Manager *T.M.*

From: *AJB* Amy J. Bodek, Director of Development Services

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **2017 Application Window for Mills Act Property Tax Abatement Program**

The 2017 application window for the Mills Act Property Tax Abatement Program will run from February 9, 2017 to March 17, 2017.

On January 6, 2015, the City Council adopted revisions to the Mills Act Property Tax Abatement Program (Mills Act) and directed staff to implement the revised program. The purpose of the Mills Act Program is to provide property tax relief to owners of historic properties in exchange for rehabilitation and restoration of those properties. Staff has prepared the necessary forms and procedures to implement this program. An invitation to participate in the program is being mailed to all owners of historic landmark properties within the City (attached).

Development Services will be hosting a public workshop for all potential applicants to the program at 10:30 a.m. on February 25, 2017, at the Jenny Oropeza Community Center. Additionally, staff will provide a second meeting at 10:30 a.m. on March 17, 2017, at the Dana Neighborhood Library. Applications for the program are due on March 17, 2017.

Staff anticipates that potential awardees under the program will be reviewed by the Cultural Heritage Commission on May 8, 2017, and heard by City Council during the month of June. Final property tax contracts are due to the County Recorder by December 28, 2017.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call Advance Planning Officer, Christopher Koontz at (562) 570-6288.

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ATTACHMENT

CC: CHARLES PARKIN, CITY ATTORNEY
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AMY J. BODEK, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Mills Act Program Workshop

The City of Long Beach is now accepting applications for the Mills Act Property Tax Abatement Program (Mills Act). As a property owner of a designated historic landmark or home located within a historic district, we would like to invite you to attend two important events to learn about how you may qualify and apply to receive economic incentives for the restoration and preservation of your property:

- 1. Pre-Application Workshop: Saturday, February 25, 2017, at 10:30 am at the Jenny Oropesa Community Center located at Cesar E. Chavez Park, 401 Golden Ave.**
- 2. Application Workshop: Saturday, March 4, 2017, at 10:30 am at the Dana Neighborhood Library Meeting Room, 3680 Atlantic Ave.**

The Pre-Application Workshop will feature an overview of the Mills Act and discuss eligibility requirements. The event will also review the process for preparing an application and calculating individual property tax savings. The Application Workshop will provide more specific information geared toward those interested in proceeding with the application process.

All potential applicants or their representative must attend the Pre-Application Workshop. Mills Act applications are processed once per year, during the application period. The deadline to submit an application is Friday, March 17, 2017. Every tax situation is different, but the Mills Act is commonly of great value to those who recently purchased a historic property or those who have a high tax burden due to a recent transfer or reassessment. There are currently 58 properties with Mills Act contracts in Long Beach.

For questions regarding the Mills Act, please call (562) 570-6437 or e-mail alejandro.plascencia@longbeach.gov. For additional information, visit www.lbds.info/millsact/.

This information is available in alternative format by request at 562.567.3807.
For an electronic version of this information, visit our website at www.lbds.info.