



Date: February 22, 2019

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

From: Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services *KC*

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: Human Relations Commission Letter of Recommendation to Declare August 26, 2019 – August 26, 2020 the Long Beach Suffrage Centennial

The Human Relations Commission (HRC), the City Council's principal advisory commission for promoting peace, tolerance, acceptance, and mutual respect, submits the attached recommendation to the Mayor and City Council to Declare August 26, 2019 – August 26, 2020 the Long Beach Suffrage Centennial. The HRC also requests the City Council to commit funds by Council District and Citywide to support and promote the Centennial in Long Beach.

For more information regarding this HRC recommendation, please contact Teresa Gomez, Human Dignity Program Coordinator, at (562) 570-6730.

ATTACHMENT

CC: CHARLES PARKIN, CITY ATTORNEY
LAURA DOUD, CITY AUDITOR
TOM MODICA, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
KEVIN JACKSON, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
REBECCA GARNER, ADMINISTRATIVE DEPUTY TO THE CITY MANAGER
DEPARTMENT HEADS

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**

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February 19, 2019

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
City of Long Beach
333 W. Ocean Boulevard, 14th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: 2020 Centennial of the 19th Amendment

Honorable Mayor Garcia, Members of Long Beach City Council, and City Manager Pat West:

August 26, 2020 will be the Centennial of the 19th Amendment, establishing the vote for women. Across the country, in all 50 states, in hundreds of cities and women's organizations, celebration plans have begun. From statues of women in Central Park to a float in the Pasadena Rose Parade, ideas large and small are under way. Lesson plans, library exhibits, award ceremonies, public art, plays, films; there is no limit to what women are cooking up.

The City of Long Beach holds a special place in the buildup to women's suffrage; as reported in the Oakland Tribune, May 17, 1911:

The Tenth Annual Federation of Women's Clubs was held at the Long Beach Ebell Clubhouse. Three hundred delegates, representing 22,000 members, met to discuss the State Amendment granting women the vote. The Suffrage Resolution brought to the floor: "Be it resolved that the California Federation of Women's Clubs endorses the principle of equal suffrage." It was passed along with an appropriation of \$10,000 for the entertainment at the next biennial convention of the national federation.

On January 14, 2019, Long Beach women convened a working committee; **The Centennial Circle of Women**. On February 5, the Circle asked for the endorsement of the Human Relations Commission. In turn, the Commission's approval included this invitation to the City of Long Beach and the Nine Districts to sign on with the Long Beach Centennial Suffrage City-Wide Celebration.

Commencing publicly on August 26, 2019 and concluding on the 100th Anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, August 26, 2020, we are here to enlist your vote to spreading this City-wide and commit funding from your individual Council Districts as well as the City of Long Beach, in general.

Committees include; art, history, communications, education and events.

Plans: samples: Website, Concerts, Panels, Street Banners, Booklists, Library readings, Photo exhibits, Public art, Gallery shows, Women's awards, a Walking tour of Long Beach's suffrage sites, Women's film festival and Gala closing.

We invite you to adopt **The Long Beach Suffrage Centennial:**

MISSION – to educate, inspire and spotlight the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment City-wide.

VISION – Throughout the Suffrage Centennial Celebration, and long after, it is our vision that Long Beach residents will come to know their vote is precious. While researching, sharing, educating and having fun, women and girls, will discover how the vote was earned, sustained, withheld, eschewed, denied and practiced. Using the many assets and talents of Long Beach, the 19th Amendment enfranchising women, will be documented, honored and memorialized in our diverse and dynamic city. In addition, the LB Suffrage Centennial will be joining with 50 states, hundreds of cities, and the national party for the 100th Birthday of the 19th Amendment.

ACTIONS

Declare August 26, 2019 – August 26, 2020 as **The Long Beach Suffrage Centennial** and commit funds by Council District and Citywide.

Respectfully,

Amy Eriksen, Chair
Human Relations Commission