



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

## BEGINNER'S GUIDE FOR PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES

PRIMARY NOMINATING ELECTION | TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2026

MAYOR, CITY ATTORNEY, CITY AUDITOR, CITY PROSECUTOR,  
COUNCIL DISTRICTS 1, 3, 5, 7 & 9



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER TO CANDIDATES .....	1
OFFICES TO BE FILLED AND GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS .....	2
GETTING STARTED.....	3
NOMINATION PERIOD.....	4
AFTER THE NOMINATION PERIOD CLOSSES .....	4
IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER .....	5

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**CITY OF LONG BEACH  
PRIMARY NOMINATING ELECTION  
JUNE 2, 2026**

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The City of Long Beach conducts elections every two years to elect members of the City Council. Long Beach City Charter [Section 1901](#) designates that the Primary and General (run-off) municipal elections for elective officers of the City. The next Primary Nominating Election will be held on [June 2, 2026](#).

The following information is intended to assist residents who are considering running for the office of City Council Districts 1, 3, 5, 7 & 9, Mayor, City Attorney, City Auditor and City Prosecutor, in the City of Long Beach's Primary Nominating Election scheduled to be held on Tuesday, [June 2, 2026](#).

This information is intended to provide general guidance only. While the information contained herein is substantially correct, it is not intended to provide legal or factual advice. Candidates and others using this information must bear full responsibility to make their own determinations as to all legal standards and duties and as to all factual matter contained herein. On February 9, 2026, candidates will be invited to attend the Office of the City Clerk Candidate Information Workshop, at which time a Candidate Handbook and nomination packets will be issued to potential candidates for City elective offices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. De La Garza', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Monique De La Garza, CMC  
City Clerk



# OFFICES TO BE FILLED AND GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

## MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE LONG BEACH CITY COUNCIL

<b><u>Office</u></b> Mayor	<b><u>Incumbent</u></b> Rex Richardson
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<b><u>District</u></b> District 1	<b><u>Incumbent</u></b> Mary Zendejas
District 3	Kristina Duggan
District 5	Megan Kerr
District 7	Roberto Uranga*
District 9	Dr. Joni Ricks-Oddie

## ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS

<b><u>Office</u></b> City Auditor	<b><u>Incumbent</u></b> Laura Doud
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<b><u>Office</u></b> City Attorney	<b><u>Incumbent</u></b> Dawn McIntosh
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<b><u>Office</u></b> City Prosecutor	<b><u>Incumbent</u></b> Doug Haubert
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*\*Not eligible to run for an additional term due to term limits*

## QUALIFICATIONS:

### A candidate for the office of City Council and Mayor **must be:**

- U.S. citizen
- 18 years old on or before election day.
- Registered voter living in the jurisdiction at least 30 days prior to the end of the nomination period (Charter Section [201](#) and [502](#)).
- A candidate is ineligible if they are currently serving a prison sentence or on parole as a result of a felony conviction.

### A candidate for the Office City Attorney **must also be:**

- Be Licensed by the California State Bar for 5 years immediately preceding the date of nomination (Charter Section [601](#)).

### A candidate for the Office City Auditor **must also be:**

- Be Licensed to practice in the State of California as a Certified Public Accountant for 5 years immediately preceding the date of nomination ([Charter Section 801](#)).

### A candidate for the Office City Prosecutor **must also be:**

- Be Licensed by the California State Bar for 5 years immediately preceding the date of nomination ([Charter Section 701](#)).

## TERM OF OFFICE:

4 years, commencing Tuesday, December 15, 2026 ([Charter Section 1901](#)).

## GETTING STARTED

The first official step in running for office is to complete a Declaration of Intention (501). For more detailed information, please refer to the Long Beach Municipal Codes section of the [Campaign Reform Act](#). Additional guidance regarding campaign finance, can be found in the [Fair Political Practices Commission's Campaign Disclosure Manual 2 for Local Candidates](#).

1. Election cycle commences January 1, 2025 and ends December 31, 2026. At the opening of the election cycle, you may file a [Form 501 Candidate Intention Statement](#) with the Office of the City Clerk. Make sure you do this before receiving contributions or spending any funds.
2. Follow the City of Long Beach [local contribution limits \(LBMC 2.01.310\)](#).
3. Open a bank account if you plan to receive contributions from others or you plan to expend personal funds totaling \$2,000 or more. All money used for campaign purposes, including the candidate's personal funds, must be deposited in the campaign bank account prior to the expenditure.
4. File [Form 410 Statement of Organization](#) within 10 days of receiving \$2,000 in contributions. Include bank account information on [Form 410](#).
5. Keep records of all expenditures and contributions. It's advisable to appoint a Treasurer for your campaign. Every Recipient Committee must have a Treasurer. The candidate may act as his/her own committee treasurer ([LBMC 2.01.380\(C\)](#)).
6. Never accept or spend \$100 or more in cash ([Government Section 84300](#)).
7. File appropriate campaign disclosure forms. The most common forms to be filed are:
  - [Form 460 – Recipient Committee Campaign Statement](#) is filed by candidates or officeholders who have a controlled committee, or who raise or spend \$2,000 or more during a calendar year in connection with election to office or holding office.
  - [Form 470 – Recipient Committee Campaign Statement](#) is for those who raise under \$2,000.
  - Pursuant to [LBMC 1.15.610](#), City of Long Beach candidates and committees are required to file campaign disclosure statements electronically (contact Office of the City Clerk at [CampaignDocs@longbeach.gov](mailto:CampaignDocs@longbeach.gov) to obtain a userid & password for electronic filing) and submit hardcopy originals to the Office of the City Clerk. Statements filed after a deadline are subject to a \$10 per day late fine for both hard copy and/or electronic late filings.

## NOMINATION PERIOD

The nomination period begins February 9, 2026 and ends on March 6, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. (E.C. [10220](#), [10510](#), [13307](#)). If an incumbent does not file, the filing period for non-incumbents will be extended to 5:00 p.m. March 11, 2026. There is a filing fee of \$299 to run for any elective office of the City ([LBMC 1.15.510](#)).

**\*\*\*FILING FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE\*\*\***

Prospective candidates will:

- Receive a nomination paper and candidate packet from the Office of the City Clerk during the nomination period. The candidate packet will include the following materials:
  - Candidate Contact Form
  - Candidate Statement Information Sheet
  - Declaration of Candidacy & Eligibility
  - Nomination Paper
  - Ballot Designation Worksheet
  - Candidate Statement Form
  - Form 700 – Statement of Economic Interests ([Government Section 87201](#))
  - Code of Fair Campaign Practices
  - Affidavit of Nominee and Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance
- Obtain the signatures of at least 20 but not more than 30 voters, registered to vote in the City of Long Beach in the jurisdiction you are running in on the nomination paper.
- File the completed nomination packet by **MARCH 6, 2026 at 5:00 P.M.**

Optional items to be filed (if these items are filed, they must be filed at the same time as the nomination packet):

- Code of Fair Campaign Practices.
- Candidate Statement Form of 200 words or less. The Candidate Statement will be printed in the Sample Ballot Voter Information Pamphlet to be mailed to all registered voters. The candidate must pay to have the candidate statement printed.

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## AFTER THE NOMINATION PERIOD CLOSES

Candidates that raise or spend over \$2,000 during the course of the election will be required to file periodic campaign disclosure statements and other semi-annual reports ([LBMC 1.15.610](#)).

The Office of the City Clerk will provide candidates and committees with a list of due dates (Filing Schedule). All campaigns required to file in Long Beach must file their campaign disclosure statements electronically. Contact the Office of the City Clerk at [CampaignDocs@longbeach.gov](mailto:CampaignDocs@longbeach.gov) assistance logging in and filing.

## **IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER**

- 1. DECLARE YOUR INTENTION TO RUN**
  - File your required [Form 501](#) (Candidate Intention Statement) with the Office of the City Clerk.
  
- 2. RAISING OR SPENDING ANY MONEY?**
  - Record all contributions and expenditures made.
  - Within 10 days of raising or spending \$2,000 you must file a [Form 410](#) with the [SOS](#) and City Clerk.
  
- 3. FILING SCHEDULES, CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES**
  - Know the due dates for campaign statements and file on time.
  - Maintain details on contributions and expenditures (First, Last Name, Employer, Etc.).
  - Do not co-mingle personal funds and campaign funds.
  
- 4. \$100 OR MORE IN CASH?**
  - Never accept or spend \$100 or more in cash.
  
- 5. USING PERSONAL FUNDS FOR CAMPAIGN EXPENSES**
  - All personal funds of the candidate must first be deposited in the campaign bank account, except for campaign statement fee.
  
- 6. CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$25 OR MORE**
  - For contributions of \$25 or more, including loans and in-kind contributions, you must disclose the contributor's name, street address, occupation and employer.
  
- 7. IDENTIFY CANDIDATE/COMMITTEE ON MAILINGS**
  - Include your committee name and address in at least 6-point type on the outside of all mass mailings (more than 200 pieces). ([LBMC 1.15.530](#))
  
- 8. NO PERSONAL USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS**
  - Use campaign funds only for political, legislative, or governmental purposes.
  
- 9. LOANS**
  - You may loan money to your own campaign, but you must complete a loan note to your campaign from yourself and file it with the City Clerk. ([LBMC 2.01.340](#))
  
- 10. BE INFORMED**
  - Contact your [City Clerk](#) or the [Fair Political Practices Commission](#) if you have any questions. Subscribe to LinkLB at <http://www.longbeach.gov/linklb/> to receive electronic notifications with updated election information.

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