

Date: March 2, 2023

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager



From: Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services



For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Office of Youth Development - Measure US Funds FY23**

In November 2020, the residents of Long Beach passed Measure US. These funds support public health, climate change efforts, and youth development in the City of Long Beach (City) and, through the Youth Fund (longbeach.gov/youthfund), distributed \$325,000 dollars to 70 organizations to support youth empowerment and leadership health and wellness, and culturally affirming programs. In addition, Measure US funds supported staffing related to child and youth services, climate change, and older adults. The Office of Youth Development (OYD) is now launching its second disbursement of Measure US-Youth Funds via community grant opportunities through the *Youth 100 Fund* and the *Youth Power Participatory Budget* grants. Grants awarded will focus on serving youth, ages 8 - 24, residing in communities most impacted by crime, COVID-19, poverty, and chronic health conditions. The combined total amount of current direct community investment grants will be \$400,000 issued via a third-party vendor, The Nonprofit Partnership. An additional community grant opportunity utilizing Measure US Funds is in development and will be available for release in the next few months to distribute \$200,000.

The *Youth 100 Fund* will provide mini-grant opportunities to formal and informal groups for neighborhood youth engagement efforts. Youth Advisory Council members will review proposals for funding in alignment with the Youth and Emerging Adults Strategic Plan (YASP) goals. These mini-grants will range between \$500 - \$2,000 based on the scope of the proposal. Examples of informal groups include student, parent, and neighborhood groups without non-profit status and formal groups are defined as entities with non-profit status or fiscal agents. Only one grant per organization will be awarded to maximize opportunities for various groups to receive funding.

The *Youth Power Participatory Budget* grants are for non-profit organizations undertaking work aligned with the goals of the YASP. Individual grants of between \$10,000 - \$75,000 will be awarded through a Youth Participatory Budget process. Participatory Budgeting (PB) allows community members to decide how to spend a part of a public budget. Through a youth-focused PB process, we intend to engage youth to expand civic engagement, develop new community leaders, build community, and allow youth and emerging adults to have a greater role in the grant making process.

The *Youth Power PB Long Beach* process will consist of an idea collection phase (March 2023), project development phase (March - April 2023), and a project presentations and voting phase (May 2023). During the idea collection phase, nonprofit organizations will be able to submit project ideas that advance the goals of the YASP. In the next phase of project development,

teams will be created to discuss and further develop project proposals that will be prioritized by need, impact, and feasibility. During the project presentations and voting phase of the Youth Power PB process, all youth in Long Beach ages 13 - 26 will have the opportunity to vote in person and online to determine project funding. All projects are intended to support youth programming during the Summer of 2023.

The *Youth Power PB Long Beach* Steering Committee is comprised of youth from the Office of Youth Development's Youth Advisory Council and the Invest in Youth Coalition and will advise on all stages of the youth PB process including planning and outreach. A *Youth Power PB Long Beach* Rulebook has been developed to further describe the phases of the process and provide guidance to organizations for the 2023 process. This rule book will be available upon the launch of the PB process.

The *Youth Power PB Long Beach* will launch on March 2, , 2023 with the Idea Collection Phase. The *Youth100 Fund* mini-grants will launch on March 6, 2023. Multiple steps are being taken to ensure community members and organizations are aware of the opportunities to participate such as focused outreach to those who applied for funding last year, posting on various social media outlets, and flyers to the community. The Nonprofit Partnership and the Invest in Youth Coalition will lead the marketing efforts with the support of the OYD. More information for both opportunities will become available on the launch dates on The Nonprofit Partnership's website at <http://www.tnpsocal.org>.

The OYD looks forward to continue implementation of the YSP and ensure the safety and health of Long Beach Youth. For additional information, please contact Kelly Colopy at Kelly.Colopy@longbeach.gov or Sherlyn Beatty at Sherlyn.Beatty@longbeach.gov.

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