Long Beach Receives $4.5M to Reduces Exposure to Hazardous Lead Paint to Low-Income Housing

Senators Dianne Feinstein and Alex Padilla (both D-Calif.) announced that the City of Long Beach will receive over $4.5 million in federal funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help reduce exposure to lead paint in low-income housing.

Lead is a highly toxic metal that may cause a range of health problems, especially in young children. Although the federal government banned lead-based paint in 1978, it remains an environmental hazard and health threat in households across California and the country.

“Congratulations to the City of Long Beach upon receiving nearly $4 million from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to keep families and children safe from exposure to lead based paint,” said Rep. Alan Lowenthal (CA-47). “Many of the older homes and buildings in our community unfortunately used lead paint long before it was federally banned in 1978 and have since lacked the resources and safety protections to properly remove it. Thank you to HUD for providing this funding through the Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction and Healthy Homes programs, and to the community partners across the state and in Long Beach working to keep children and families healthy. Congratulations again to the City and thank you for prioritizing the health and well-being of our children.”

“We are grateful to receive this significant grant from the federal government to help our city with the important work of lead abatement and hazard reduction,” said Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia. “We are also thankful to have champions in the U.S. Senate in Senators Padilla and Feinstein. Their work advocating for our community will help us protect our most vulnerable populations from this dangerous hazard.”

HUD will award the City of Long Beach $3,991,791 in Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction grant program funding and $587,433 in Healthy Homes Supplemental funding. The city will address lead hazards in 220 housing units providing safer homes for low and very low-income families with children. The city will also perform healthy homes assessments in 220 units, and work with the California Healthy Housing Coalition, the California Asthma Financing Group, and the Regional Asthma Management and Prevention Group.

More information on the City of Long Beach’s lead reduction program is available here.
Long Beach Airport to Receive $6M from Infrastructure Bill

Provided through the Department of Transportation, Long Beach Airport will receive a little over $6 million from the infrastructure bill that President Joe Biden signed into effect last month. The funding is for the improvement of the infrastructures of 167 airports across California, including runway renovations and upgraded terminal facilities.

In effect, the projects are expected to create better paying jobs and assist the tourism industry, which is recovering from massive financial loss as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, LGB has had a 69% increase in total passenger traffic, according to its most recent activity report. And in October alone, LGB experienced a 280% increase in total passenger traffic.

“We are thrilled to receive this funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to modernize our aging facilities and make the travel experience at Long Beach Airport even more convenient, safe and sustainable,” Long Beach Airport Director Cynthia Guidry said. “Airports play a vital economic role in our communities and this is an investment in our future.”

The funding is anticipated to assist with the Phase II Terminal Area Improvement Program, which will include a consolidated baggage claim area and a new ground transportation center.

The full article from the Long Beach Post can be found here.

Industry Links

U.S. Rep. Alan Lowenthal of Long Beach announces his retirement
Fitch Affirms Long Beach, CA’s IDR at ‘AA’; Outlook Revised to Stable
How do City Hall decisions affect you?

For more information, please contact Mary Frances Torres, SR/WA, Acting Real Estate Development Bureau Manager, Economic Development Department, at mary.torres@longbeach.gov.

REMINDER: Due to the holidays, there will be no newsletter for the week of December 20-24, 2021.
Happy holidays from the Economic Development Department.