Adoption of the Economic Recovery Act

The Long Beach City Council voted to adopt the Long Beach Recovery Act on Tuesday, March 16th. The plan earmarked $234 million which will include additional funding provided by the American Rescue Act. In terms of Economic Recovery, the plan has carved out $51 million which includes:

- $2 million for a Micro and Public Transit Pilot Program to support economic recovery.
- $2 million for Direct Income Pilot Programs to help our community meet basic needs and increase the potential for economic stability and advancement.
- An additional $1.25 million for Economic Empowerment Zones.
- An additional $1 million for Childcare and Early Childhood Education.

In keeping with the City’s Equity lens, the plan emphasizes assistance to high-risk populations and the hardest-hit business sectors and workers.

For more information, please click HERE.

What is an Economic Empowerment Zone?

Economic Empowerment Zones (EEZs) are a City-led effort to grow good jobs, businesses, quality housing, and amenities to help foster equitable growth. EEZs will be created to address economic, social, and health disparities across the city by creating programs in North, Central, and West Long Beach.

On June 11, 2019, the City Council requested the City Manager to work with the Department of Economic Development to evaluate the feasibility of establishing a special Economic Empowerment Zone (EEZ) program in the targeted areas around Long Beach.

The program offers potential administrative incentives to encourage increased economic activity and benefits in these areas including, but not limited to, the following:

- Permit, tax, business license, utility, planning and land use incentives for new businesses and basic neighborhood-serving amenities such as financial institutions, grocery stores, and medical facilities,
- Additional bidding preferences on public procurement opportunities for business located in EEZs,
- Deployment of local workforce development, training, and higher education centers,
- Additional support for burgeoning business corridors, including a culturally sensitive small business navigator, and corridor infrastructure enhancements,
- Reevaluate and enhance CDBG corridor enhancement programs,
- Access to free or low-cost housing of HUD Certified Counseling Centers that provide advice on buying a home, renting, defaults, foreclosures, and credit issues.

For more information, please contact Sergio Ramirez, Deputy Director, Economic Development Department, at sergio.ramirez@longbeach.gov.
Industry Links

High-tech Amazon Fresh grocery store opening Thursday in East Long Beach

Turnbridge Equities and Waterford Property Company Acquire City Place Long Beach in Southern California

Gyms let guests back indoors after months of closures

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