Extension of Parklets for the City of Long Beach

In City Council on Tuesday, September 14, Public Works proposed to extend the Open Streets program until June of 2022, allowing sidewalk parklets that opened up during the coronavirus pandemic to remain in place. With this extension come a new process to allow local residents the ability to report to the city if a restaurant or business may be violating city policies. Also, there will be a new inspection process to ensure that business owners are complying with local laws and following code regulations for these parklets. The motion was unanimously carried.

While all parklets have been extended to next year, the program in Belmont Shore will have another meeting prior to December 31, 2021 to address resident concerns, which include increased noise and severely limited parking in some areas.

Please visit the City’s website for more information about the Open Streets Program.
City Enhanced Density Bonus (EDB)

The Development Services Department has proposed offering developers more incentives to build moderate-, low-, and very-low-income housing. In exchange, developers may be eligible to receive bonuses depending on the location of the units, how many affordable units are included in the project, and how low the rents will be for each unit.

The rewards include more density per lot than is currently allowed, reduced parking mandates, taller buildings and fewer requirements for open space, according to a city staff report. According to this report, developers can earn bonuses in three areas: high-quality transit corridors, major transit stops and base area.

1. High-quality transit corridors: these are areas within a half-mile of a high-quality transit corridor with a fixed route bus line with 15-minute peak service intervals.
2. Major transit stops: these are areas within a half-mile away or a rail station or the intersection of two bus routes with a peak service interval of 15 minutes or less.
3. Base area: an area outside of a half-mile of a transit corridor or major transit stop.

Similar to the state law, the city ordinance would eliminate parking requirements altogether for 100% affordable projects regardless of location. For more information, please reach out to the City of Long Beach Development Services Department at (562) 570-5237 or send an email to: lbds@longbeach.gov.
California Launches Dedicated Small Business Portal

California’s Office of the Small Business Advocate (CalOSBA), part of the Governor’s Office of Business Economic Development (GO-Biz), announced the launch of calosba.ca.gov - a website that connects California’s small business community with critical resources available through state-funded small business technical assistance program and other state resources.

Small business owners, entrepreneurs, and startups can access the following information:
- Small business technical assistance centers that offer specialized support for no-cost or at a low-cost
- Financing information including state and federal capital programs and tax/credit incentive programs
- Business Learning Center that helps business owners navigate the varying stages of the business development process
- Permits, licenses, and regulations
- Access to new markets, including e-commerce, international trade, and procurement and supply chain programs

For more information, visit calosba.ca.gov.
Business License Tax and Fee Grant

Do you own a restaurant in the City of Long Beach?

- **NO**
- **YES**

Did you have business fees in 2020?

- **YES**
- **NO**

You may be eligible for the Business License Tax and Fee Grant!

The deadline to apply for the Business License Tax and Fee Grant is **September 30, 2021**. This grant provides financial relief to full-service independently owned restaurants by paying the following business license taxes and fees charged by the City between the period of January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020:

1. Business License Taxes
2. Parking and Business Improvement Area Assessments
3. Health Permit Fees
4. Fire Permit Fees
5. Penalty or late payment fees incurred in the eligible period for the above taxes or fees

Approximately $1.3 million is available for the new program. The maximum grant available per eligible business will depend on the total taxes and fees each business was charged between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020.

Information about additional business assistance and resources is available on the City’s Business Support [webpage](#) or by contacting the City’s Business Hotline at 562.570.4BIZ(4249).
Round 9 of the California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Now Open

Round 9 of the California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant is now open through Thursday, September 30, 2021. Eligible applicants are current waitlisted applicants from certain previous rounds and new applicants that meet eligibility criteria, eligibility criteria can be found at CAReliefGrant.com. Businesses may be eligible for a grant award between $5,000 – $25,000.

Need further assistance applying? Contact the COVID-19 Relief Fund Call Center at (888) 612-4370, Monday through Friday 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM PST.

RE·OPEN Long Beach
Storefront Reopening and Board-Up Removal Program (SRBR)

The Storefront Reopening and Board-Up Removal Program has been extended until October 31, 2021. The SRBR program will assist applicants on a first-come-first-served basis for the removal of plywood boards only. Any applicants that may require additional storefront repairs in addition to plywood removal may require additional review and experience longer application processing times.

The City of Long Beach (City), through its contract with “on-call” property management consultants, will conduct work related to the removal, haul away, and disposal of window/storefront coverings (plywood). Work will be paid for by the City and contracted directly with the property management consultants. The estimated value of each grant is estimated between $100 and $600 (maximum) per location, subject to the size of the storefront. Maximum pieces of plywood to be removed, 30 pieces.

For more information, please visit the program’s website.
Industry Links

The City of Long Beach’s Health and Human Service Department State Regarding Upcoming Los Angeles County Health Order Requiring Proof of Vaccination for Entry to Bars, Breweries, and Wineries

Inside Long Beach State: For the community good

City of Long Beach: City Of Long Beach Recognized For Excellence And Outstanding Achievements In Planning

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