

COMMUNITY

In Photos: Long Beach and Signal Hill neighbors party in the street for National Night Out



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A group of women dance to the song "Mambo No. 5" by Lou Bega during a National Night Out block party hosted by the Lakewood Village Neighborhood Association in Long Beach on Aug. 1, 2023.

Richard H. Grant & Samantha Diaz
 Photo Editor & Managing Editor

Over 70 neighborhoods across Long Beach partied from evening till dusk, with neighbors becoming friends over free food, games, giveaways and dances in the street.

Residents hosted block parties for the 40th annual National Night Out, where communities are encouraged to leave the house, enter the neighborhood and make connections. Councilmembers, mayors, police officers and congress members stopped by various communities to meet residents and answer questions.

The *Signal Tribune* stopped by a handful of these group gatherings from Alamitos Beach to the northside and witnessed intergenerational bonds, cultural festivities and a good night out with neighbors.

see NATIONAL NIGHT OUT page 4

In Photos highlights the best events in Long Beach and Signal Hill through the lens of our photo editor Richard H. Grant



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Parents watch as their children play in a bounce house during the National Night Out event at Signal Hill Park on Aug. 1, 2023.

COMMUNITY



Image Courtesy of Kathryn Smith

Police suspect that Long Beach resident Ruthey Smith is a victim of human trafficking. She has been missing for over a year.

Mother of suspected human trafficking victim fights to find her

Kristen Farrah Naem
 Staff Writer

Ruthey Smith's 2-year-old daughter seems to understand, in her child-like way, what it means when she sees her mother's face on missing persons' posters. "She just asks why everybody else has a mommy and she doesn't. She's just confused. She's hurting," said Kathryn Smith, Ruthey's mother, of her granddaughter.

Kathryn has been raising her granddaughter since the suspected abduction of her daughter, Ruthey Smith, over a year ago.

see RUTHEY SMITH page 7

BUDGET

Five takeaways from Long Beach's fiscal year 2024 budget presentation

Samantha Diaz
 Managing Editor

Long Beach officials presented the proposed fiscal year budget for 2024 on Tuesday, Aug. 1 and broke down how the City is planning to spend the \$16 million general fund.

The City has a \$3.2 billion budget overall, and most of this has been allocated across the 24 various departments such as police, fire and health. The remaining funds are

see 2024 BUDGET page 7



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A cardboard lectern is erected in front of Long Beach City Hall before the People's Budget Long Beach rally starts on Aug. 2, 2022.



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EYE ON CRIME

CRIMES REPORTED BY THE SIGNAL HILL POLICE

Wednesday, July 26

1:15 a.m., Fire, 2600 block Cherry Ave.
9:01 a.m., Burglary, 2100 block Ohio Ave.
10:01 a.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 1500 block E. Spring St.
10:44 a.m., Identity theft, 700 block E. Spring St.
1:34 p.m., Injury traffic collision, Orange Ave./E. Willow St.
10:52 p.m., Elder abuse, 2000 block Stanley Pl.

Thursday, July 27

3:13 a.m., Assault with a deadly weapon, 2200 block Legion Dr.
9:07 a.m., Injury traffic collision, Cherry Ave./E. 19th St.
1:41 p.m., Criminal threats, 2700 block Junipero Ave.
2:07 p.m., Stolen vehicle – recovered, 700 block E. 29th St.
8:30 p.m., Grand theft, 900 block E. 33rd St.

Friday, July 28

7:55 a.m., Elder abuse, 2600 block Dawson Ave.
8:33 a.m., Person with a knife, Redondo Ave./E. PCH
12:53 p.m., Burglary, 2800 block Gardena Ave.
3:23 p.m., Fire, California Ave./E. 29th St.
4:06 p.m., Grand theft, 700 block E. Willow St.
4:12 p.m., Injury traffic collision, E. PCH/Coronado Ave.
11:05 p.m., Appropriate lost property, 2800 block Walnut Ave. (suspect arrested)

Saturday, July 29

1:50 p.m., Fire, California Ave./E. 32nd St.
2:06 p.m., Fire, E. Spring St./405 Fwy
8:15 p.m., DUI; hit & run with property damage, Walnut Ave./E. 28th St. (suspect arrested)
8:35 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, Lewis Ave./Nevada St.

Sunday, July 30

8:37 a.m., Grand theft, 1600 block E. Willow St.
8:43 a.m., Fire, 3000 block Walnut Ave.
9:17 p.m., Annoying/threatening phone calls, 2400 block California Ave.

Monday, July 31

2:29 a.m., Stolen vehicle – recovered, E. 19th St./Cherry Ave.
12:46 p.m., Person with a knife, 700 block E. Spring St.
2:47 p.m., Inflict corporate injury on spouse/cohabitant, 2200 block Stanley Ave. (suspect arrested)
8:01 p.m., Fire, 1900 block Creston Ave. (suspect arrested)

Tuesday, August 1

8:31 a.m., Elder abuse, 2000 block Stanley Pl.
10:25 a.m., Grand theft, 2500 block Orange Ave.
10:33 a.m., Identity theft, 2200 block Jeans Ct.
8:49 p.m., Injury traffic collision, Walnut Ave./E. Spring St.

LBPD reporting area is too extensive to report here, but you can go to their website: longbeach.gov/police. Once there, click on Crime Info, then Crime Incident Mapping Application. Click on Launch Crime Incident Mapping Application & type in an address.

You can use filters to select dates and types of crime.



**562-494-1014 lbplayhouse.org
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HOMELESSNESS

Residents who are currently or previously have experienced homelessness can apply to Long Beach's Lived Experience Advisory Board

Samantha Diaz

Managing Editor

The 11-person board will receive monthly stipends and provide insight on Long Beach's homeless services.

Long Beach is looking for residents who have or are currently experiencing homelessness to help inform the city on its services and programs.

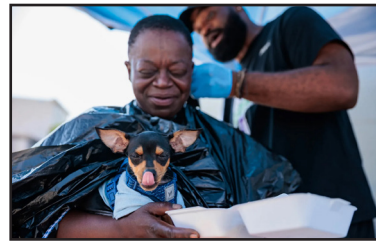
The Lived Experience Advisory Board is accepting applications from people who have first-hand experiences with homelessness in Long Beach. Applications will remain open until the 11 spots are filled.

Long Beach has established homelessness committees in the past, but never an official board, Chelsey Magallon, media relations for the Joint Information Center told the *Signal Tribune*.

Committee members will receive a monthly salary stipend, a transportation stipend as well as a childcare stipend if necessary.

The salary stipend will be \$125 per month, the transportation stipend is set at \$10 per in-person meeting and the childcare stipend will be \$15 for every hour needed, Homeless Services Administrative Coordinator Alexa Dixon-Griggs told the *Signal Tribune*.

In an email to the *Signal Tribune*, Magallon said the City is budgeting \$413,000 for the Lived Experiences Advisory Board for the next three years. That funding



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
Mel looks down towards her 5-month-old puppy Cakes as she takes a lick of Mel's ice cream while getting a haircut at a Beauty 2 the Streetz event on June 11, 2022.

will provide the stipends for the 11 board members as well as a Participant Coordinator position.

Dixon-Griggs said members will be asked to meet up for two hours a month, though there will be additional work away from the board. She said the City is hoping to hire a board that's diverse in race, age, veteran status, sexual orientation and different experiences of homelessness.

"In order to ensure we're meeting the multi-faceted needs of people experiencing homelessness here in Long Beach, we must center first-hand experiences and perspectives," said Director of Health and Human Services Kelly Colopy in a statement from the City.

Committee members will provide insight into the development and proposal of policies for the Long Beach Homeless Services Bureau and the Long Beach Continuum of Care (CoC). They will also provide

feedback on reports requested by the City and review proposed policies and procedures before they are sent to the CoC board.

The Lived Experiences Advisory Board will report to the CoC board, where a liaison from Long Beach's Homeless Services Advisory Committee will receive the information.

The application process will include interviews conducted by City staff, with the spirit of trust embodied throughout the process, Dixon-Griggs said.

"I don't want them to have to prove any homeless experience, it's going to be a 'trust your neighbor' [process]," Dixon-Griggs said, adding that the City wants to board to have a "low-barrier" entry.

Residents can apply through an online form on the Volunteer, Donate and Get Involved tab on longbeach.gov/homelessness. Residents can complete an interest form at the Multi-Service Center (1301 W. 12th St.), at the Mobile Access Center or through a city-contracted service provider.

The Lived Experience Advisory Board was approved by the CoC Board on July 11 and is funded through California's Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention program. The City is receiving over \$13 million from state funding as part of a five-year grant program.

Questions about the Lived Experience Advisory Board may be directed to the City's Homeless Services Bureau staff at HomelessServicesAdmin@longbeach.gov.

LIBRARY

Mark Twain Library reopens for full service after three-week closure

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

The Mark Twain Neighborhood Library, located at 1401 E. Anaheim St., will reopen for full service on Aug. 1 after operating on a "To-Go" model for the majority of July.

The library cited staffing shortages and issues with residents both inside and outside the facility as the reason for the closure, according to a July 7 press release.

During the roughly three-week closure, library staff worked to on-

board additional staff and increase security presence at the Mark Twain branch during business hours.

With the return to full service, patrons can enjoy book browsing and check out, public computers and printing, restroom use and meeting room rentals. Mark Twain Neighborhood Library hours are:

- Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon to 7 p.m.
- Wednesdays, noon to 6 p.m.
- Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Image Courtesy of the City of Long Beach
An exterior photo of the Mark Twain Neighborhood Library, located at 1401 E. Anaheim St., in the Cambodia Town neighborhood of Long Beach.

FUNDRAISER

United Cambodian Community of Long Beach raising funds for local business after vandalism

Kristen Farrah Naeem

Staff Writer

The United Cambodian Community (UCC) of Long Beach is trying to raise funds for a local business that had its windows shattered two weeks ago.

Sophie Meas, owner of Sophie's Beauty Salon in Cambodia Town, arrived at her business on the morning of July 20 to find multiple windows were shattered.

Police were dispatched at approximately 9:11 a.m. on July 20 to the business and took a report. The Long Beach Police Department

said no information about the suspect or motive was available, and that the vandalism was still being investigated.

A GoFundMe campaign was created by UCC the day after the vandalism occurred, but has not raised any money yet.

"As a tight-knit community, we can make a difference," reads the online page for the GoFundMe campaign. "Sophie's salon has been a haven for all, reflecting her warm spirit and dedication. Now, let's rally together and show her our unwavering support."



SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA TO VISIT GOFUNDME FUNDRAISER PAGE

AROUND TOWN

A WEEKLY LIST OF THINGS TO DO IN LONG BEACH AND SIGNAL HILL



Jorge Villa | Signal Tribune

A bubble shooter attached to the back of a motorcycle in support of LGBTQ+ rights near Bixby Park on July 8, 2022.

The weekend starts with multiple ways to celebrate Pride, including a free march and mural unveiling for those who can't afford tickets to the festival downtown. Plus, the first Friday of the month means the return of Bixby Knolls First Fridays, where residents can support local businesses along Atlantic Avenue and enjoy free activities, discounted items and a plethora of food options.

Movies and concerts will continue to be held in the evenings at public parks across the city, encouraging residents to spend the cooler hours of the day outdoors.

Those looking to lend a helping hand can help clean a sacred site on Saturday or donate life-saving blood on Thursday.

Parents can bring their kids to enjoy a puppet show on Saturday, or introduce them to a new musical instrument at Billie Jean King Main Library on Wednesday.

04 FRIDAY

LONG BEACH PRIDE

4 p.m. to 9 p.m. The three day 40th annual Pride Festival features live music, vendors, dancing, drag shows, games, a parade and more at the Shoreline Marina (450 E Shoreline Dr.). General admission tickets cost \$40 and can be purchased on Eventbrite.

LONG BEACH MUNICIPAL BAND

6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. The Long Beach Municipal Band will be playing at El Dorado Park West (2800 Studebaker Rd.), featuring songs by Glen Miller, The Beach Boys, Stan Kenton, Chicago and more. Residents are invited to bring chairs, blankets and picnic food. Free.

BIXBY KNOLLS FIRST FRIDAYS

6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The Bixby Knolls Business Improvement Association is hosting its monthly community gathering, activating local businesses and offering free activities for residents along the Atlantic corridor. Free.

DYKE MARCH

7 p.m. Dykes of Long Beach will be organizing this march in honor of Lesbian Pride, starting at Bixby Park (at the intersection of Broadway and Cherry Ave.). Attendees are encouraged to bring signs. Free.

05 SATURDAY

NATURE HIKE

8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Residents can tour Los Cerritos Wetlands and learn about restoration efforts while spotting creatures along the trail. Attendees are encouraged to bring binoculars and wear closed-toe shoes. This hike is appropriate for children 7 years and older. To RSVP contact elizabeth@lewlandtrust.org. Free.

SUMMER OF SOLIDARITY MURAL UNVEILING

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The public is invited to the unveiling of a mural honoring the LGBTQ+ community at Bixby Park (130 Cherry Ave.). Free.

PUPPET SHOW

2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Young children are invited to watch puppeteer Richard Woloski perform an interactive puppet show at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library (5870 Atlantic Ave.). Free.

06 SUNDAY

HIGH PERFORMANCE SWAP MEET

6 a.m. to 1 p.m. A wide variety of antique, classic and high-performance cars and parts will be available for purchase at Veterans Memorial Stadium (5000 E Lew Davis St.). Free to enter.

BUSINESS ANNIVERSARY

Noon to 5 p.m. Folklore Salon + Barber (226 Atlantic Ave.) is celebrating the anniversary of its first year in business. The celebration will include vendors selling art, crafts, jewelry, clothes, tattoos and more. Free to attend.

OPEN STUDIO

6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The public is invited to visit the Icehouse Arts Complex (625 W Anaheim St.) to view the work of resident artists. Free.

07 MONDAY

INTRODUCTION TO REFERENCE SOLUTIONS

11 a.m. to noon. Entrepreneurs and business owners are invited to learn how to use Reference Solutions, a free program available at the library, to help them start, manage and grow a business. Registration is required for this event. To register, visit <https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/6932781878054041870>. Free.

MOVIES IN THE PARK

8 p.m. to 10 p.m. The public is invited to an outdoor screening of the movie "Beauty and the Beast" at Atlantic Plaza Park (1000 Via Wanda). Attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair, blanket and

picnic food. The movie will begin at dusk. Free.

08 TUESDAY

BABY TIME

11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Parents and caregivers are invited to bring babies between the ages of 6 to 18 months to enjoy fingerplays, books and interactive songs at the Billie Jean King Main Library (200 W. Broadway). Free.

MOONLIGHT MOVIES ON THE BEACH

8 p.m. Watch a screening of "Harry Potter & the Sorcerer's Stone" at Granada Beach (5000 E. Ocean Blvd). The event will feature pre-show entertainment from local bands. This screening is part of the summer-long Moonlight Movies at the Beach series. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and chairs to sit on. Food trucks will be present. The movie screenings are family-friendly and pet-friendly. Free.

09 WEDNESDAY

LAXPD HIRING EVENT

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This hiring event is for those looking for lateral positions or entry-level positions with the LAX police force. The hiring event will take place at the Long Beach Airport (4811 Airport Plaza Dr.) To learn more, call 562. 570. 3783 or email peters.phou@pacific-gateway.org. Free to attend.

LB SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PETTING ZOO

1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Local kids are invited to touch, interact with and

try different musical instruments at the Billie Jean King Main Library (200 W. Broadway). The event is meant to foster an interest in playing music. Free.

TASTE OF DOWNTOWN

5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. This two-day culinary series will highlight local eateries and drinkeries at the Downtown Waterfront. Residents can sample food and drinks while listening to live music and watching (or creating) live art. Entry is free, but food tickets must be purchased online or at the event.

10 THURSDAY

BLOOD DRIVE

Volunteers are needed to donate their blood at 2475 Cherry Ave. This blood drive is organized by Mother's Market and realtor Angelo Dickens II. Volunteers will be entered into a raffle to win \$20 gift cards. Free.

MOVIE IN THE PARK

8 p.m. to 10 p.m. The public is invited to an outdoor screening of the movie "Shazam! Fury of the Gods" at Martin Luther King Jr. Park (1950 Lemon Ave.) Attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair, blanket and picnic food. The movie will begin at dusk. Free.

IS THAT IT?

NOPE!

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.SIGNALTRIBUNE.COM FOR MORE EVENTS.

Signal Tribune

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The *Signal Tribune* welcomes letters to the editor, which should be signed, dated and include a phone number to verify authenticity. Letters are due by noon on the Wednesday before desired publication date. The *Signal Tribune* reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, language and space requirements. Letters must be 500 words or fewer. The *Signal Tribune* will publish no more than one "pro" letter and one "con" letter on a particular topic in a single issue. The *Signal Tribune* does not print letters that refer substantially to articles in other publications and might not print those that have recently been printed in other publications or otherwise presented in a public forum. Letters to the editor and commentaries are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the *Signal Tribune* or its staff. Although the editorial staff will attempt to verify and/or correct information when possible, letters to the editor and commentaries are opinions, and readers should not assume that they are statements of fact. Letter-writers will be identified by their professional titles or affiliations when, and only when, the editorial staff deems it relevant and/or to provide context to the letter. We do not run letters to the editor submitted by individuals who have declared their candidacies for public office in upcoming races. This policy was put in place because, to be fair, if we publish one, we would have to publish all letters submitted by all candidates. The volume would no doubt eliminate space for letters submitted by other readers. Instead, we agree to interview candidates and print stories about political races in an objective manner and offer very reasonable advertising rates for those candidates who wish to purchase ads. **The *Signal Tribune* is published each Friday. Yearly subscriptions are available for \$100.**

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NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
continued from page 1



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A young child struggles to place a puck back into the holder for the Connect-Four style game at the National Night Out block party on Hill Street in Long Beach on Aug. 1, 2023.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Long Beach Mayor Rex Richardson has a quick bite of a hotdog and plans his next stop while attending a National Night Out block party hosted by the Lakewood Village Neighborhood Association in Long Beach on Aug. 1, 2023. Neighborhood associations throughout Long Beach planned over 70 block parties for this year's National Night Out.



Samantha Diaz | Signal Tribune

An elderly woman takes the first swing at one of two piñatas at a North Long Beach National Night Out block party on August 1, 2023.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Chase Pham looks at the instructions for making a microscope provided by the Signal Hill Home Depot location during the National Night Out event at Signal Hill Park on Aug. 1, 2023.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Chase Pham tests out his newly made microscope provided by the Signal Hill Home Depot location to look at the camera lens during the National Night Out event at Signal Hill Park on Aug. 1, 2023.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A young child plays a ring toss game during a National Night Out block party on Hill Street in Long Beach on Aug. 1, 2023.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Parents watch as their children play in a bounce house during the National Night Out event at Signal Hill Park on Aug. 1, 2023.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A 1974 Dodge Coronet Police patrol car glows in the light of the sunset on Aug. 1, 2023.

SCHOOL SAFETY

LBUSD to install electronic door locks at school sites; project will cost \$40 million

Briana Mendez-Padilla
Education Reporter

Following the success of a two-year pilot program, Long Beach Unified schools will receive electronic door locks over the next few years to improve the safety of students and teachers.

The electronic door locks pilot project was launched in June 2021 at four schools—Bixby Elementary School, Jefferson Middle School, John Muir and Jackie Robinson K-8 Academies.

The school sites were selected based on the status of campus renovations; some sites where construction was already underway and others where Measure E—a \$1.5 billion bond measure the district passed back in 2016—work had recently been completed.

LBUSD Public Information Office Assistant Director Evelyn Somoza told the Signal Tribune that the \$1.5 million pilot program was funded by the district's Measure K bond. Measure K is a \$1.2 billion bond measure passed by voters in 2008.

The goal of the project was to determine if installing electronic door locks is feasible district-wide and assess if it helps improve the safety and emergency responses of schools.

Based on the feedback, the district plans to expand and implement the enhanced door locks at other school sites and district facilities. Executive Director of Facilities Development and Planning David Miranda said the project would take about four and a half years, tackling 18 to 20 sites per year.

Somoza told the *Signal Tribune* that the district-wide in-

The project is expected to take roughly four and a half years

stallation is anticipated to cost \$40 million, and will be funded through Measure Q—a \$1.7 billion bond measure approved in 2022.

According to data from the Washington Post, there have been 386 school shootings since 1999, 27 of which happened this year. Between 1970 and 2022, there have been 226 school shootings in California, as per the California School Board Association.

Pilot project results

The pilot project—which would grant the ability to lock down a campus with a few clicks of a button—was introduced to increase campus safety.

The digital door locks were installed for classroom doors only, but as the district moves to install them district-wide, the facilities team will return to the pilot sites to enhance the remaining office and hallway doors.

According to survey feedback, teachers expressed concern about whose credentials would have access to their classroom. Emergency Preparedness Program Manager Cameron Smith said when implementing the program at the first school, the safety office was assigning door access to teachers for their respective classroom only.

However, after some evaluation,

Smith realized that the proposed strategy would not work from an emergency safety planning aspect.

Smith mentioned that in the event of a lockdown, teachers would need to be able to lead students to whatever classroom is nearest and most convenient instead of risking endangering them if their classroom is farther down the hall.

To address the teachers' concern, however, Smith said each door contains a log with the information on what badge was last used to unlock it.

"It allows us the opportunity to see, 'Hey, Did something go missing overnight? We have an intrusion alarm at this time, was there badge access at that time?' Not saying that that individual is responsible, but now we can identify if the access card wasn't reported missing," Smith said. "It gives us a little bit more knowledge into who's on our campuses at what time."

The 14-question survey was sent out to all staff who work at the pilot school sites. Smith said the survey had a 25-30% response rate from each school and that there was an improved perception of safety.

"Staff felt safer having the locks there, knowing that they were locked or had the ability to be locked down with just a click of a button. They [also] liked the idea of having fewer keys," Smith said.

However, the new door locks meant that classroom doors would always be locked unless a teacher opened them, which could be disruptive when students had to leave and re-enter the room to go to the bathroom.

To address this, Smith said the best solution would be to create hall pass badges specifically as-



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

The sign front of the main entrance of Cabrillo High School on Nov. 2, 2021.

signed to each classroom that students can take.

According to the survey feedback, some staff identified wanting more training on how to use the badges. Smith said that while training was offered to all sites, some did not accept it and that some of the questions brought up by staff would have been addressed in the training.

"The little nuances of the system can all be fixed through that train-

ing opportunity and the use of videos as a way to educate that staff," Smith said, adding that the school safety team is working on creating short videos on how the badges work as well as plans to make short trainings mandatory for any school that incorporates the new door locks.

Similar to the pilot program, the district-wide installation schedule would work hand-in-hand with the district's modernization timeline.

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**TST6998
NOTICE OF \$10,000 REWARD OFFERED
BY THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles has established a \$10,000 reward offered in exchange for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the murder of 12 year-old Eric Gregory Brown III, who was fatally shot while walking on the sidewalk with friends near the 2200 block of Lewis Avenue in Long Beach on May 9, 2023, at approximately 11:32 p.m. Si no entiende esta noticia o necesita mas informacion, favor de llamar al (213) 974-1579. Any person having any information related to this crime is requested to call Detectives Michael Hubbard or Jesus Espinoza at (562) 570- 7244 at the Long Beach Police Department or Crime Stoppers at (800) 222-8477 and refer to Report No. 230022639. The terms of the reward provide that: The information given that leads to the determination of the identity, the apprehension and conviction of any person or persons must be given no later than September 3, 2023. All reward claims must be in writing and shall be received no later than November 2, 2023. The total County payment of any and all rewards shall in no event exceed \$10,000 and no claim shall be paid prior to conviction unless the Board of Supervisors makes a finding of impossibility of conviction due to the death or incapacity of the person or persons responsible for the crime or crimes. The County reward may be apportioned between various persons and/or paid for the conviction of various persons as the circumstances fairly dictate. Any claims for the reward funds should be filed no later than November 2, 2023, with the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors, 500 West Temple Street, Room 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California 90012. Attention: Eric Gregory Brown III Reward Fund. For further information, please call (213) 974-1579. CELIA ZAVALA EXECUTIVE OFFICER BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CN997788 04066 Jun 30, Jul 7,14,21,28, Aug 4,11,18,25, Sep 1, 2023

**TST7014 / 2023 147161
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STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: 1. CARE2TEACH EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES, 2. CARE2TEACH, 2108 N ST STE N, SACRAMENTO, CA 95816. County: SACRAMENTO. Registrant: CARE2TEACH EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES LLC, 1780 PARK AVE APT G, LONG BEACH, CA 90815. State of Incorporation/Organization: CA. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: SHANNON MARTIN, CEO. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in June, 2023. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on July 6, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: July 14, 21, 28 & August 4, 2023

**TST7040 / 2023 149919
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: WELCOME HOME THERAPY, 3050 E 5TH ST APT. 7, LONG BEACH, CA. 90814. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: WELCOME HOME THERAPY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL CLINICAL COUNSELOR CORP, 3050 E 5TH ST APT. 7, LONG BEACH, CA 90814. State of Incorporation/Organization: CA. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: AMANDA RIZO, PRESIDENT. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in July, 2023. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on July 11, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: August 4, 11, 18, 25, 2023

**TST7021 Case No. 23NWCP00285
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR
CHANGE OF NAME**

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 12720 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650 PETITION OF: Preston Scott Jeffrey Frost for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED

PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: Preston Scott Jeffrey Frost, by and through Valerie A. Frost, mother, has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing his name as follows: Present Name: Preston Scott Jeffrey Frost Proposed Name: Presscott Jeffrey Frost 2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: Date: September 25, 2023; Time: 9:30a.m., Dept. C, Room 312. The address of the court is the same as above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county, THE SIGNAL TRIBUNE, 1860 Obispo Ave., Ste. F, Signal Hill, CA 90755, July 28 & August 4, 11, 18, 2023 ___/ss/___ Olma Rosales, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: July 25, 2023

**TST7022 / 2023 152733
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: CUTTING EDGE OUTDOOR LIVING, 1868 PACIFIC AVE, LONG BEACH, CA 90806. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: BUILDER BOY INC., 1868 PACIFIC AVE, LONG BEACH, CA 90806. State of Incorporation/Organization: CA. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: JEROME JAMES, PRESIDENT. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in July, 2023. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on July 14, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: July 28, & August 4, 11, 18, 2023

**TST7036 / 2023 163414
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: ARGE GRILL, 14807 S GIBSON AVE, COMPTON, CA. 90221. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: ARGENIS REYES ARMENTA, 14807 S GIBSON AVE, COMPTON, CA. 90221. State of Incorporation/Organization: N/A. This business is conducted by: an Individual. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: ARGENIS REYES ARMENTA, OWNER. The registrant has not begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in N/A. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on July 27, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: August 4, 11, 18, 25, 2023

**TST7037 / 2023 163410
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: PUPUSAS LAS HERMANAS, 6485 ATLANTIC AVE APT 26, LONG BEACH, CA 90805. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: DOMINGA DEL BARAHONA COELLO, 6485 ATLANTIC AVE APT 26, LONG BEACH, CA 90805. State of Incorporation/Organization: N/A. This business is conducted by: an Individual. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: DOMINGA DEL BARAHONA COELLO, OWNER. The registrant has not begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in N/A. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on July 27, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: August 4, 11, 18, 25, 2023

**TST7038 / 2023 163412
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: GALLARDO'S BARBER BEAUTY SALON, 415 E COMPTON BLVD, COMPTON, CA 90221. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: CYNTHIA C GALLARDO, 12426 WILLOWBROOK AVE, COMPTON, CA. 90222. State of Incorporation/Organization: N/A. This business is conducted by: an Individual. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: CYNTHIA C GALLARDO, OWNER. The registrant has not begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in N/A. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on July 27, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: August 4, 11, 18, 25, 2023

**TST7039 Case No. 23NWCP00281
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR
CHANGE OF NAME**

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, Norwalk Courthouse, 12720 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650 PETITION OF: Placido Valentino Cano for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: Placido Valentino Cano has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing his name as follows: Present Name: Placido Valentino Cano Proposed Name: Valentino Cano Onac 2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: Date: September 25, 2023; Time: 9:30a.m., Dept. C, Room: 312. The address of the court is the same as above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county, THE SIGNAL TRIBUNE, 1860 Obispo Ave., Ste. F, Signal Hill, CA 90755, August 4, 11, 18, 25, 2023 ___/ss/___ Olivia Rosales, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: July 24, 2023

**TST7041 / 2023 166499
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: EXODUS DRIVING SERVICES, 5139 LIVE OAK ST APT 1, CUDAHY, CA. 90201. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: OSCAR FERNANDO CANEDO ROMERO, 5139 LIVE OAK ST APT 1, CUDAHY, CA. 90201. State of Incorporation/Organization: N/A. This business is conducted by: an Individual. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: OSCAR FERNANDO CANEDO ROMERO, OWNER. The registrant has not begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in N/A. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on August 1, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: August 4, 11, 18, 25, 2023

**TST7042 / 2023 166497
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: 1. MR MARVEL WINDOW CLEANING, 2. YOUR BACKYARD PROJECTS, 4051 SAN CARLOS ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90650. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: JONATHAN MARAVILLAS, 4051 SAN CARLOS ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90663. State of Incorporation/Organization: N/A. This business is conducted by: an Individual. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: JONATHAN MARAVILLAS, OWNER. The registrant has not begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in N/A. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on August 1, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fic-

titious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: August 4, 11, 18, 25, 2023

**TST7043 / 2023 168446
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: KILLER MODELS BY PAUL, 3731 W. WARNER AVE, SANTA ANA, CA. 92704. Mailing Address: 2240 STANLEY AVE., #3, SIGNAL HILL, CA 90755 County: ORANGE. Registrant: PAUL THOMAS KILLINS, 2240 STANLEY AVE., SIGNAL, CA 90755. State of Incorporation/Organization: N/A. This business is conducted by: an Individual. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: PAUL THOMAS KILLINS, OWNER. The registrant has not begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in N/A. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on August 3, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement ex-

pires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: August 4, 11, 18, 25, 2023

TST7030/Order No: 14620
Auto Lien Sale

On 08/17/2023 at 414 MARKTON ST LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2018 LAND
VIN: SALGS2SV4JA387119
STATE: LA LIC: at 10 AM

TST7032/Order No: 14703
Auto Lien Sale

On 08/17/2023 at 3229 E IMPERIAL HWY INGLEWOOD, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2019 DODGE
VIN: 2C3CDXGJ6KH603126
STATE: TX LIC: at 8AM

CITY OF SIGNAL HILL

**TST7027
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
AND CEQA CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, the Planning Commission of the City of Signal Hill will conduct a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following:

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 00-05

A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AN AMENDMENT TO CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 00-05 WHICH ALLOWS FOR THE OPERATION OF A SELF-STORAGE FACILITY BY AMENDING EXISTING CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL AND ADDING NEW CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2901 EAST PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY WITHIN AREA 2 OF SP-10, PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY SPECIFIC PLAN

Agent: Chris Mata
Property Owners: Signal Hill Self Storage LP
Recommendation: Staff is recommending approval, subject to conditions.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are hereby invited to participate in this public hearing to present written information, express their opinions, or otherwise present evidence on the above matter.

YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE and provide comments during the Public Hearing in one of the following ways:

To view or listen to the meeting live at 7:00 p.m.:

- In-person: Council Chambers of City Hall, 2175 Cherry Avenue, Signal Hill, California;
- Call (408) 638-0968 (audio only) on the date and time of the meeting and enter the meeting ID **860-0994-8336**, press # when prompted to provide participant ID, and enter passcode **636831**. If you would like to make a public comment, please notify the meeting host by pressing *9 on the telephone keypad;
- Visit <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86009948336> on your desktop computer or laptop and enter passcode **636831**; or
- Download the app from the app store if you are using a smart phone and enter meeting ID **860-0994-8336** and passcode **636831** when prompted.
- You may submit comments prior to the meeting date by email to cluis@cityofsignalhill.org, or by mail to the attention of Carlos Luis, 2175 Cherry Avenue, Signal Hill, CA 90755. If received prior to the publication of the agenda on or before August 10, 2023 at 5:00 p.m., City staff will incorporate the comments into the staff report. Written comments received by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 will be provided electronically to the Planning Commission and attached to the meeting minutes. Written comments will not be read into the record;
- The City is not responsible for meeting disruptions or technical difficulties; however, if you are disconnected, please repeat the steps above.

You are encouraged to provide written comments in advance of the publication of the agenda as well as participating during the meeting, to ensure that the Planning Commission has ample time to consider your comments and that the applicant has the opportunity to respond to comments prior to finalizing the plans for City Council review. When the City Council public hearing is scheduled, you will receive another notice.

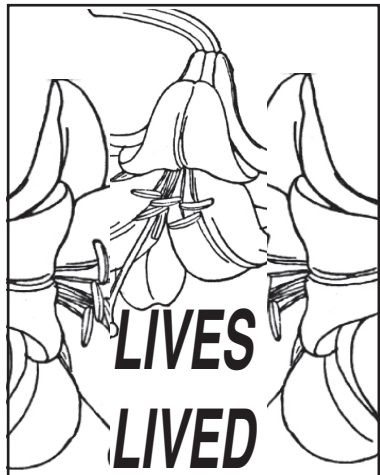
THIS PROJECT IS CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15303 Class 1 as an Existing Facility (Class 1 Exemption), consistent with the provisions of CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301 and 15300.2. The proposed project consists of the continuation of a storage facility business in an existing commercial building and does not involve expansion of the existing building or require offsite utility improvements. The subject site is located in an urbanized area where all necessary public services and facilities are available, and the surrounding area is not environmentally sensitive.

IF YOU WISH TO LEGALLY challenge any action taken by the City on the above matter, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City prior to or at the public hearing.

THE FILE and associated documents for the proposed project may be reviewed publicly on the City's website at www.cityofsignalhill.org. If you have difficulty in accessing the documents, please contact Carlos Luis, Planning Manager, at (562) 989-7360 or via email at cluis@cityofsignalhill.org.

_____/ss/_____
Daritza Gonzalez
City Clerk

Published in the Signal Tribune newspaper: August 4, 2023
Posted in accordance with SHMC Section 1.08.010 on or before: August 4, 2023
Mailed to affected property owners and residents within a 300' radius on or before: August 4, 2023



- Melvin Johnson 67
- Kenneth Fratto 80
- Virgelio Buensuceso 91
- George Chelak 87
- Daryll Chenoweth
- Everette Harbin 82
- Marjorie Haddox 73
- Edward Erickson 71
- Jay Hagey 87
- Patricia Knoph 92
- Delan Konin 79
- Lois Mixer 99

The families were assisted by McKenzie Mortuary. For more details on service dates and times, contact (562) 961-9301



Pet of the week: Ranger

You probably know lots of people who are extremely smart and motivated by food, but will they sit, lie down, and shake on command? Maybe, but they won't look as impressive as Ranger does! Ranger is his own dog—he's independent and isn't a cuddle bunny, but once he knows you, he'll watch you intently and wait for direction. He's everyone's image of a loyal, job-oriented dog. Ranger, sadly, needs out right away—by Aug. 11, or he may not make it out of the shelter in the best way. He's only 2 years old and deserves a life. You can speed the process to adopt or foster Ranger and any of our other pets by emailing PetAdopt@longbeach.gov or petfoster@longbeach.gov. You can also call (562) 570-4925. Even better, stop by during our walk-in hours every Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Our shelter is located at 7700 E. Spring St. Ask for ID#A695739 to meet Ranger. We're at capacity, everyone needs homes, and Ranger needs to get out in the best way possible!

RUTHEY SMITH
continued from page 1

Long Beach police have said they believe she is a victim of human trafficking, and that detectives are actively investigating the case.

Kathryn said 19-year-old Ruthey began doing sex work to provide greater income for her infant daughter near the end of 2021. Ruthey was last seen in early March 2022 on Figueroa Street in Los Angeles, an area infamous for prostitution and sex trafficking.

Lois Lee, a well known anti-sex trafficking advocate who has been aiding victims in LA County and beyond since the 70s, told the Signal Tribune in a 2022 interview that sex workers who offer their services on the streets are particularly vulnerable to abductions by traffickers.

Ruthey Smith is described as a Black woman with brown hair and brown eyes, 5 feet 4 inches tall and weighing around 125 pounds. She has a pierced nose and belly button, the names "Ezra" and "Lamarion" tattooed near one of her ears and

Black residents make up around 12.1% of Long Beach's population, but represented 59% of human trafficking victims recovered by LBPd from January 2017 to June 2022

ered by LBPd from January 2017 to June 2022, according to data from a public records request by the Signal Tribune.

Her mother described Ruthey as being a shy, timid girl who fell in with a bad crowd, and was lured by the amount of money she could make through sex work.

the name "Ocean" tattooed on her chest along with a wave.

Ruthey was 19 years old when she went missing, and would now be 20 years old. Ruthey may also go by the aliases Grayson or Winter, according to the California Department of Justice.

Black women and girls are trafficked at a higher rate across the nation than other races, including in Long Beach. Black residents make up around 12.1% of Long Beach's population, but represented 59% of human trafficking victims recov-



READ THE FULL STORY ONLINE

2024 BUDGET
continued from page 1

slated for the City's main priorities, which include staffing, economic development, environmental efforts, housing and homelessness needs, youth development and more.

Residents still have time to advocate for how they want City funds to be spent through four in-person and two virtual meetings.

In-person meetings will be from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the following dates and locations:

- Wednesday, Aug. 9 at Recreation Park Community Center (4900 E. 7th St.)
- Monday, Aug. 14 at Cabrillo High School, Small Gymnasium (2198 Monitor Ave.)
- Thursday, Aug. 17 at Mark Twain Library Community Room (1401 E. Anaheim St.)
- Monday, Aug. 21 at Jordan High School, Community Room #2101 (6500 Atlantic Ave.)

Virtual meetings will be held on Aug. 24 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Residents must complete the online registration in order to receive the Zoom link. Interpretation services are available in Spanish, Khmer and Tagalog by calling (562) 570-6465 at least 72 hours ahead of meetings.

Housing and homelessness
Mayor Rex Richardson's first move after beginning his term in January was declaring a local state of emergency due to the rapidly rising number of people experiencing homelessness in Long Beach.

Since then, the City Council has voted to extend the state of emergency bi-weekly and has approved a slew of measures, programs and housing developments. The 2024 proposed budget will continue this trajectory, with \$60 million going toward interim housing and \$12 million going toward services and programs.

Richardson said the funding is meant to help the City "prepare for a gradual transition out of the local state of emergency."

Funding towards housing and homelessness include:

- \$550,000 in one-time funds for site costs and upkeep of the recently acquired year-round homeless shelter on 702 W. Anaheim St.
- \$1 million for the Tenant's Right to Counsel program which provides free legal representation for low-income residents.
- \$300,000 to clean up homeless encampments
- \$750,000 for a new Resident

Protection Fund

•\$200,000 for an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) pilot program that will offer pre-fabricated ADUs to homeowners willing to rent to people with housing vouchers.

•\$150,000 for a van for shuttle services for the Homeless Services Bureau.

•\$60,000 for operating costs of a shower/restroom trailer for people experiencing homelessness for a portion of the year.

Public Safety

Long Beach plans to invest in more services for the police and fire departments, as well as ambulances and areas in the city prone to speeding.

The City is also renewing the \$1 million Justice Fund that residents advocated for last year, which provides legal representation to immigrants in order to protect themselves from deportation.

•\$1.3 million for a Safety Response Unit to study trends in crime

•\$300,000 for Vision Zero speeding reduction pilot program

•\$164,973 in Measure A funds to hire a jail clinician

•\$500,000 for a Fire Department staffing reserve fund

•\$900,000 in Measure A funds for Fire Engine 17

•\$244,179 in Measure A funds to hire two additional police dispatchers

•\$500,000 to reenvision the Community Police Academy and new Public Safety Youth Leadership Academy.

•\$400,000 to add security cameras to "high priority parks"

The proposed Long Beach 2024 budget continues to address city's homelessness state of emergency

Environmental efforts & transitioning away from oil

Long Beach has a goal to reach zero-net carbon dioxide emissions by 2045, as laid out in its Climate Action Plan. The City has also touted its Grow Long Beach initiative, which is meant to find funding sources that will help the city move away from its reliance on oil.

The City Council has considered cannabis revenue as a feasi-

ble funding replacement since the sector contributed more to Long Beach's economy than oil in 2022, but more on that later.

Long Beach's environmental plans include:

- \$250,000 toward the Grow Long Beach initiative
- \$100,000 for a transition to renewable energy for all City accounts
- \$7.5 million in tree planting and maintenance, stormwater capture and watershed improvements
- \$17 million in park and open space improvements.

Economic Development

In order to increase tourism and revenue, Long Beach is planning to pour hundreds of thousands of dollars into the Downtown area as well as invest in local businesses.

The city is also preparing to host events during the 2028 Olympics, furthering the City Council's desire to beautify neighborhoods and business corridors.

•\$1.98 million to decrease taxes for cannabis businesses by 1-3%, depending on the business' employment practices and community benefits.

•\$200,000 for a downtown advertising district

•\$300,000 for revenue generation and a consultant to study the city's revenues

•\$500,000 for the Visit Long Beach campaign

•\$125,000 for parades such as the Martin Luther King Jr. parade, Veterans Day parade, Daisy Lane parade and more.

•\$265,227 for community program specialist for the Cannabis Equity program

Staffing

City Manager Tom Modica said the largest challenge Long Beach faces "from an organizational perspective is recruitment and retention." The city employee vacancy rate is at 22%, and the City plans to spend millions on recruitment and retention incentives.

Areas of focus for staffing include police, firefighters, ambulance workers and library workers.

•\$1 million for a police recruitment program that covers childcare and housing expenses during the first two years of employment.

•Over \$1 million for 12.5 positions in the library services department in order to increase library hours across the city.

•\$200,619 for staff for the sidewalk vendor program

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