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**For Long Beach City Council**  
**District 1**  
**Platform Snapshot**

**DebForLongBeach.com**

## BUDGET/Transparency

Long Beach families are being told we have an **\$80 million deficit**, now downplayed to **\$62 million**, yet the city continues spending millions on failed rollouts and reactive projects while trust in City Hall declines.

### I will request:

- **Independent Audits:** A full audit of every department, especially the **Homeless Services Bureau**. **\$69 million** has been poured into homelessness with little visible progress, recently resulting in the abrupt termination of **First to Serve** and a lawsuit involving a organization with the **youth shelter** that had a ribbon-cutting but never opened.
- **End Project Failures:** Stop repeating costly mistakes like the **\$2.9 million failed tiny homes project** where Long Beach became the only city in the nation forced to return grant money because we couldn't identify a site.
- **Freeze Wasteful Spending:** Immediately pause non-essential hiring and consultants; we cannot justify a **\$790,000 library fence** while root safety and homelessness issues remain unsolved.
- **Prioritize Maintenance:** Fix streets, sidewalks and infrastructure now. Deferred maintenance leads to lawsuits and legal payouts of taxpayers money.
- **Real Transparency:** Launch a public budget dashboard so residents can track contracts, bids, overtime, and homelessness outcomes in real-time.
- **Regional Accountability:** Ensure the city continues to work out that upstream cities share the cost of **LA River trash cleanup** and regional pollution issues so Long Beach isn't the only one footing the bill.
- **Protect Core Services:** Safeguard parks, seniors, and youth by cutting administrative waste and cost for duplicate studies—like the **self-checkout ordinance**—which interferes with business operations while the state is already working on a plan for this.
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- **Smarter Policy:** Stop rushing ordinances without evaluating real impacts or unintended consequences on businesses and neighborhoods. Like the MEHKO ordinance just passed. This has so many holes that will hurt both sides.
- **Natural Revenue Growth:** Activate our **400+ vacant storefronts** by streamlining permitting and implementing an aggressive vacant property ordinance to end "land banking."

I will start by auditing, cutting waste, and demanding measurable results because the answer is not more taxes, it's smarter spending.

# PUBLIC SAFETY

Public safety is my #1 priority throughout all of District 1

## **I will:**

- Organize more community watch programs and community responders.
- Create Safety Coordination Team between LBPD, the City Prosecutor, DTLB, Quality of Life officers, businesses, and neighborhood groups to improve accountability and faster response times
- Push for faster alley cleanups, light repairs, graffiti removal, and quicker Public Works responses
- Request more deployment in hotspots and targeted enforcement operations
- Improve communication and LBPD dashboard follow-ups so residents stop feeling ignored
- Work with Metro for better end of line solution than we have here now
- Coordinate with LA County, Highway Patrol, State Agencies and neighboring cities for more and creative ways to temporarily support us.

## **I will also push in Council to:**

- **Immediate audit of police overtime**, deployment, and staffing so resources are used smarter
- Hire Special Service Officers to handle non-violent calls so beat cops can focus on serious crime
- Expand foot patrols, bike patrols, cadet patrols, and visible policing throughout neighborhoods
- Enforce existing laws on theft, vandalism, illegal dumping, drugs, and repeat nuisance activity
- Improve lighting, cameras, sidewalk maintenance, vacant storefront activation, and waterfront safety planning

We need to take the handcuffs off our police and send a clear message that if you come or are in Long Beach looking to commit crime, there will be consequences.

## **HOMELESSNESS**

Homelessness has become one of the biggest failures of accountability in Long Beach government, spending \$69M dollars over 5 years while homelessness continues to rise.

This is shameful. (2020 count 2,034, 2025 count 3,595)

I will publicly track programs monthly so residents can see what is working and what is not.

1<sup>st</sup> I will request a 3<sup>rd</sup> party audit of our Homeless Bureau and shelters.

I support a 3-level approach.

### **LEVEL 1 — PREVENTION**

- Expand prevention programs because it is far less expensive to keep someone housed than to get them back off the streets later
- Programs like One Step Away and Upstream LB stabilize people before they become homeless

### **LEVEL 2 — FASTER RESPONSE & ACCOUNTABILITY**

- Create faster pathways into shelter, mental health treatment, addiction recovery and transitional housing.
- We need more Quality of Life officers and Community Crisis Response Teams so LBPD can focus on actual criminals (Outsource this)
- Develop a real-time shelter bed tracking system so outreach teams can immediately place people into available beds
- Reform shelters so they are safe and focused on moving people into permanent housing

### **LEVEL 3 — LONG-TERM STABILITY**

- Require follow-up support 2–3 years to reduce repeat homelessness
- Enforce existing laws when public safety, parks, businesses, and neighborhoods are being impacted.

**We need results, accountability, audits, and real solutions not an industry.**

## How would I support Small Businesses?

Businesses are struggling because the City has made it too difficult to succeed.

If we want our business corridors to thrive, we need leadership that treats small businesses like partners not second to big investors.

As your Councilwoman, I would:

- Create a small business response team to improve communication between the City, business owners, and neighborhood groups so problems get addressed faster with accountability.
- Streamline permitting and improve coordination between departments.
- Reduce delays and unnecessary fees that make it harder to open or stay open.
- Push to activate long-vacant storefronts faster with an accountability ordinance similar to Santa Monica's who just past this year CA toughest vacant property ordinance.
- Support pop-up retail, adaptive reuse, and temporary activations to bring energy back into empty spaces.
- Prioritize local small business owners, not just large developers and outside investors.
- Regulate and enforcement with the food carts and food trucks which we know isn't happening.
  - For the Food Trucks, they hired a consultant in 2022 and 4 years later this past Tuesday, they passed an ordinance on it. This kind of delay is costing us tax payers money.
- Not push ordinance that don't have a clear process to not cause unintended consequences, like the recent MEHKO (Micro Home Kitchen) – Too many loops holes in this one that will hurt both sides.

I'm running to replace 'taking our time' with 'taking action.'"

## Vacancy Rentals & Store Fronts

Downtown or any neighborhood cannot thrive when brand-new housing sits empty and storefronts remain boarded up while residents struggle with affordability and small businesses struggle to survive.

This year Santa Monica passed one of California's toughest vacant property ordinance.

- I will bring forward a similar ordinance with vacancy registration, accountability measures and stronger enforcement on vacant commercial properties.

I will:

- Push the City to fix its own barriers such as slow permitting, inconsistent processes, high fees, and poor coordination between departments.
- Streamline permitting and fast-track vacant storefront activation so local small businesses can open faster
- Create incentives for pop-up retail, adaptive reuse, and temporary activations to bring life back into empty corridors and increase foot traffic

A well-run city focuses on results, and my approach is simple:

Accountability + Activation to get District 1 moving again.

## **PARKING**

Parking has become one of the biggest quality-of-life frustrations for residents, businesses, and visitors, and the City can't keep approving growth without addressing the real impacts on the people already living here.

- Conduct a full parking and traffic impact audit before approving major new developments
- Require new developments to provide realistic parking based on actual neighborhood demand
- Improve enforcement against abandoned vehicles, illegal storage, and permit abuse taking up residential spaces
- Expand smart parking technology and real-time parking availability systems to reduce unnecessary circling and congestion
- Work with businesses, residents, and parking operators on shared parking agreements during off-peak hours
- Increase safety and lighting in parking structures so residents actually feel comfortable using them
- Improve public transportation, shuttle, and rideshare coordination during major events to reduce overflow into neighborhoods
- Review street sweeping schedules and underutilized loading zones to identify opportunities for additional parking capacity
- Ensure major event venues have stronger traffic management, rideshare staging, and enforcement plans
- Audit empty parking lot spaces to utilize 24/7.

I don't support removing any parking requirements, we need stronger parking requirements for all these new builds.

**Residents should not feel like they are competing for parking in their own neighborhood every single day because the City failed to properly plan for growth.**

## **ICE**

**ICE enforcement is a federal issue, but the impact is felt right here in our neighborhoods.**

I don't support the way these raids are being carried out. They're not just targeting serious criminals, they're also sweeping up people with no criminal background and creating fear and division in our communities.

My priority is keeping District 1 safe while building trust, so residents feel comfortable reporting real crime without fear.

I don't believe hardworking people wanting or pursuing a path to citizenship should be at risk when enforcement should be focused on serious criminals.