



PRESS RELEASE

July 26, 2023

Contact: Meghan King, Communications Director, 562.570.6726, Meghan.King@longbeach.gov

For Immediate Release

Long Beach City Auditor to Conduct Performance Audit of Homeless Services' Agreements with Service Providers

Long Beach, CA – Long Beach City Auditor Laura Doud today announced that she is commencing a performance audit of the City of Long Beach's (City's) Homeless Services Bureau's (Homeless Services') agreements with service providers. Homeless Services within the City's Health and Human Services Department has agreements with nonprofit and community organizations that provide direct services to individuals experiencing homelessness. These services include transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, mental health support, and various other basic need services to individuals experiencing homelessness. The audit will evaluate the collaboration and contracting process between the City and service providers and whether service providers are fulfilling the requirements outlined in their agreements.

As homelessness has increased, the City has proclaimed a local state of emergency to provide a comprehensive response by expanding homelessness and housing services. This response includes the City expanding its homeless services to better meet the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness.

"We are committed to addressing this complex homelessness crisis in our community," said City Auditor Laura Doud. "As homelessness is a priority for the City, this audit will look to ensure best practices are being implemented as homeless services are being expanded. We found that the City has significantly increased the amount of funding for agreements with homeless service providers over the last five years. During Fiscal Year 2022 homeless service provider agreement funding exceeded \$18 million."

City Auditor Laura Doud and her team met with Health and Human Services Department Director Kelly Colopy and the Homeless Services team to review services being provided by service providers. Currently, the audit plan includes review of agreements with service providers related to mental health, short-term housing, and case management of individuals experiencing homelessness.

"Meeting the needs of people experiencing homelessness is of utmost importance," said Health and Human Services Director Kelly Colopy. "Our team works hard to ensure that every organization with which we contract provides high-quality service to people experiencing homelessness, and we welcome additional review by the City Auditor's Office."

About the Long Beach City Auditor's Office

The Long Beach City Auditor's Office's mission is to make Long Beach better through independent audits and fraud investigations. The Office works to provide assurance City funds are spent as intended, promote transparency and accountability of City operations, and prevent fraud, waste and abuse of City resources. For more information visit CityAuditorLauraDoud.com and connect with the Office @LBCityAuditor on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#). Sign up to receive email [updates](#) and download the MyAuditor App at the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

###