

## **JOINT PRESS RELEASE**

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For Immediate Release

### **Residents Sought for City of Long Beach's Ethics Commission**

Residents interested in serving on the City of Long Beach's (City's) Ethics Commission are encouraged to apply now. On November 6, 2018, Long Beach voters approved Measure CCC which amended the City Charter to create an Ethics Commission composed of seven Long Beach residents for monitoring, administering, and implementing governmental ethics in the City.

"The Ethics Commission is key to building public trust and ensuring accountability in City Hall," said Mayor Rex Richardson. "We're calling on civic-minded residents to help uphold the integrity of our local government and strengthen transparency across Long Beach."

The Commission's advisory responsibilities include the impartial and effective administration and implementation of the provisions of the City's Charter, statutes and ordinances concerning campaign financing, lobbying, conflicts of interest, and governmental ethics.

Ethics Commissioners serve a four-year term and members can serve no more than two consecutive terms. The Mayor and City Auditor appoint two members each, with the City Council confirming the appointments. The remaining three members are appointed by the City Council confirmed Commissioners.

Since one of the Mayor's previously appointed Commissioners withdrew early and was replaced, the Mayor will appoint one new member at this time. The City Auditor will appoint two new members. The City Council will then need to confirm the three new appointments.

"The Ethics Commission is comprised of experts in public policy and law, governmental ethics, and campaign finance," said City Auditor Laura Doud. "Those who apply must be fair-minded, diligent, and committed to ensuring that the City adheres to ethical standards."

Requirements for all Ethics Commission members are as follows:

- No member of the Commission, during their term, shall currently hold elective office in the City of Long Beach, including the Long Beach Unified School District Board or the Long Beach Community College Board of Trustees.
- No member of the Commission, during their term, may serve as an officer in any election campaign for or against a candidate for any current elected office in the City of Long Beach, Long Beach Unified School District or the Long Beach Community College District, or any City or District measure.
- No member of the Commission, during their term, may be an employee of the City.
- No member of the Commission, during their term, may employ or be employed as a person required to register as a lobbyist with the City.

Other basic requirements include: 1) attend monthly Commission meetings; 2) complete outside preparation work each month for meetings; 3) complete a LiveScan background check; and 4) participate in required ongoing trainings of Commissioners.

Requirements for the Mayor's appointment include being involved with local civic organizations with a demonstrated history of involvement in local governance. Requirements for the City Auditor's two appointments include a background in public policy or public law, governmental ethics or open government matters, campaign finance, auditing of ethics laws, and/or protection of whistleblowers.

The application is available online [here](#). Interested candidates should submit applications by June 5, 2025 for consideration. The Mayor and City Auditor plan to announce their appointees in July 2025. For more information about the Ethics Commission and its duties and responsibilities, residents can review [longbeach.gov/citymanager/Office-of-Ethics-and-Transparency/ethicscommission](https://longbeach.gov/citymanager/Office-of-Ethics-and-Transparency/ethicscommission). For any questions on the Ethics Commission, please contact Heather Van Wijk, Ethics Officer, by phone at (562) 570-7443 or email at [Heather.VanWijk@longbeach.gov](mailto:Heather.VanWijk@longbeach.gov).

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