

A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of a modern building with a curved facade. The building features large, circular windows with white frames and a grid of vertical white lines. The sky is overcast and grey.

Community Planning Month 2024

Planning Commission Meeting – October 17, 2024

Community Planning Month

Presentation Overview

- Planning Purpose
- Statistics for Fiscal Year 2024
- Significant Achievements
- Future Goals
- Planning Awards
- How to Stay Connected!

A Year of Progress and Looking Ahead

Purpose

The Long Beach Planning Bureau is dedicated to fostering a thriving, inclusive and resilient city through effective land-use planning, community engagement and policy development. We strive to create a sustainable environment, promote equitable development and enhance the quality of life for all residents.

In recent years, the Bureau has worked to address significant local challenges and changes, including the housing and homelessness crises, climate emergency and the need to rectify historical inequities. To address these issues, the Bureau has implemented a number of initiatives while also achieving key milestones.

Planning Bureau Statistics for FY24 (10/1/23-9/30/24)

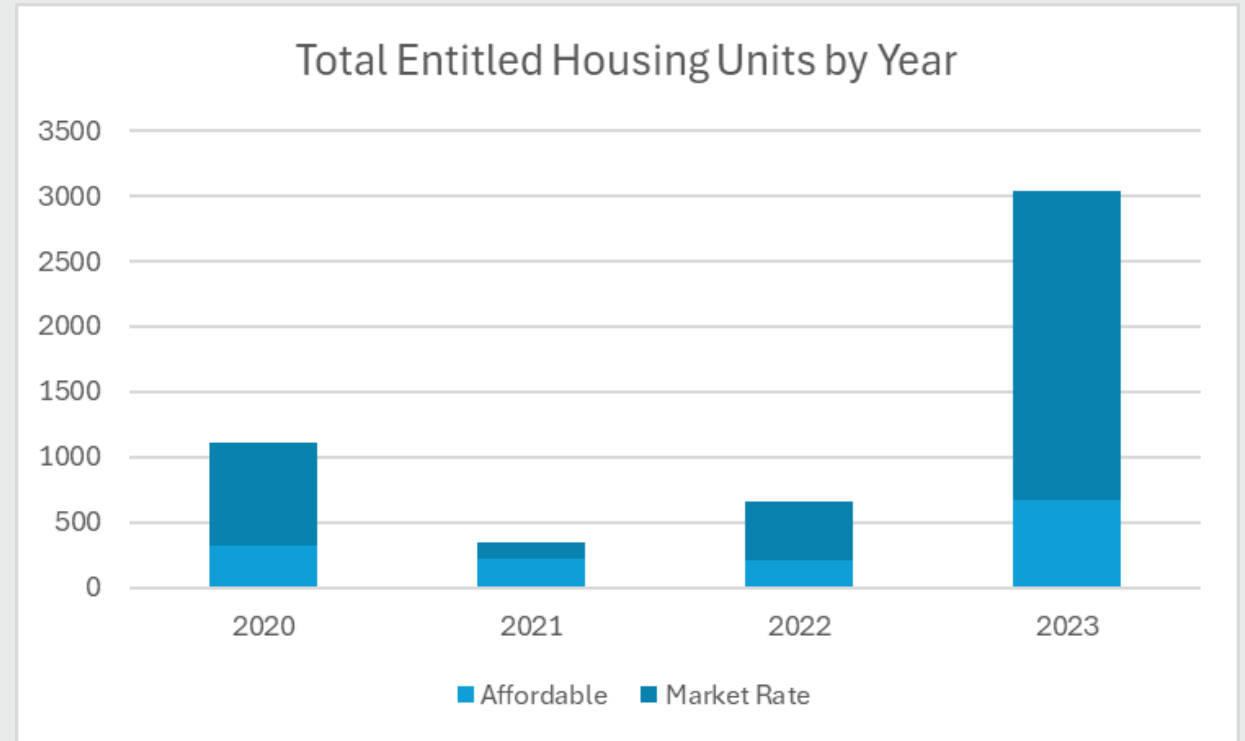
Planning Bureau FY24 Activity					
Activity	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan – Mar 2024	Apr – Jun 2024	July – Sep 2024	Total FY24
Applications Received	84	96	67	56	303
Applications Completed	62	61	30	50	197
Entitlement Application Activity	169	157	97	106	500
<i>Historic Preservation Cases Completed</i>	150	165	181	189	667
Zoning Line Customers Assisted	4,668	2,546	2,223	2,096	9,371
Permit Center Customers Assisted	1,435	1,840	1,989	2,164	7,725
Total Customers Assisted	6,422	4,386	4,212	4,260	17,096
Community Outreach Activities & Events	4	5	19	8	42

Significant Achievements - Housing

Housing Entitlements

In 2023, Long Beach achieved a record-breaking **2,934 housing units entitled**, far **exceeding the average of the previous three years**.

Of these, 645 units were designated as affordable.



Significant Achievements - Housing

Housing Construction

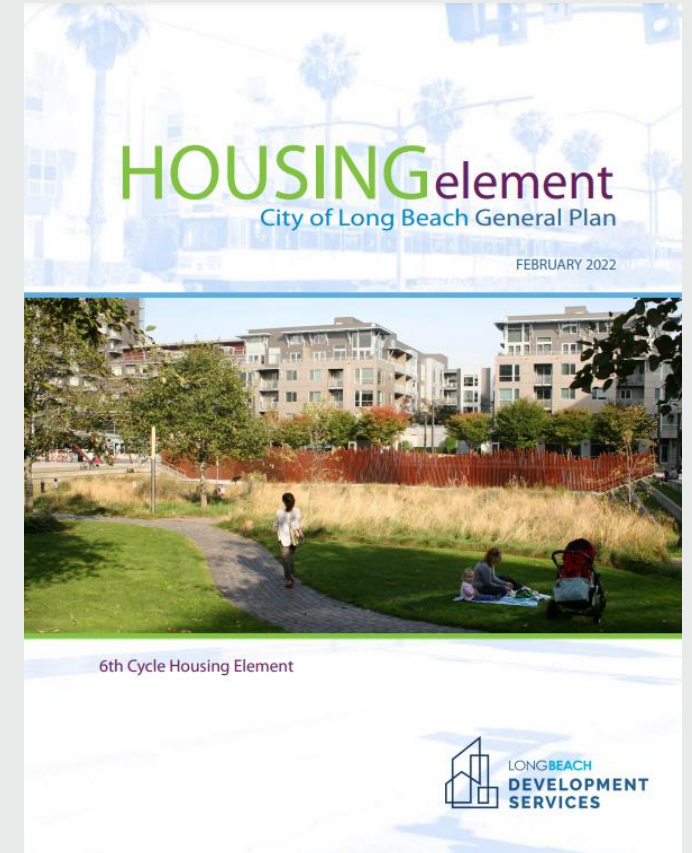
- Last year, the City granted building permits to **1,011 new units, including 671 Accessory Dwelling Units** (ADUs), contributing to much needed housing options throughout Long Beach.
- In 2024, we anticipate being on track to have another record year for new housing starts.



Significant Achievements – Advancing the Housing Element

Achieving Multiple Goals and Policies

- **Ensure Fair and Equal Housing Opportunity**
 - Equal access to housing opportunities
 - Increase affordable housing in high resource areas
- **Provide Increased Opportunities for the Construction of High-Quality Housing**
 - Rezoning for housing production and affordability
 - Residential development in activity centers, near transit and jobs



Significant Achievements - Housing

Advancing Fair Housing

The approval of **three major mixed-use, mixed-income housing developments**, providing the first **covenanted affordable housing units** in the **southeastern “high-resource” area** in decades.



Significant Achievements - Zone In

Zone In: Key Goals and Accomplishments



Improved Housing Opportunities: The updated zoning regulations have created opportunities for increased housing density and a wider range of housing types, including affordable housing.



Enhanced Walkability and Transit-Oriented Development: The citywide rezoning helps to promote the development of denser, mixed-use neighborhoods that are more pedestrian-friendly and accessible by public transportation.



Support for Economic Development: The initiative has also created a more favorable environment for businesses and economic growth.

Significant Achievements - Zone In

Zone In: Key Goals and Accomplishments



Adoption of New Zoning Districts: New zoning districts have been adopted in North, Central and West Long Beach, providing a framework for more diverse and sustainable development patterns.



Community-Centered Process: The initiative has engaged residents and stakeholders through a series of community meetings, workshops, specialized workgroups, online surveys, and new, innovative community-outreach to gather input and ensure that the zoning updates reflect the community's needs and desires.

Looking Ahead

Key Initiatives

- **Engaging with the Community:** Community Development will continue to host events such as the Housing Policy Forums series to continue soliciting feedback while showcasing progress achieved so far and explore creative ways to increase access to quality, affordable, stable housing.
- **Rectifying Historical Inequities:** Staff will work on initiatives that help to address the legacies of inequality and segregation to further fair housing commitments while tackling the City's housing and climate crises.
- **Updating the Downtown Plans:** Planning staff is working closely with the community and organizational partners to shape the future of the Downtown and Downtown Shoreline.

Key Initiatives

- **Continuing "Zone In" Initiatives:** Ongoing Citywide rezoning efforts and the adoption of Title 22 will further support housing development and land use equity.
- **Further Promoting Housing in High-Resource Areas:** Housing and Planning staff are working to create new opportunities for housing citywide, including in high resource areas.
- **Updating the Open Space Element:** The City will focus on park equity and open space access as staff begins efforts to update this element of the General Plan later this year.

Key Initiatives

- **Advancing Historic Preservation:** Historic Preservation staff is working to apply an equity lens to its historic preservation initiatives, ensuring marginalized groups and their histories are included in the process.
- **Environmental Justice Initiatives:** Community Development staff is working on being awarded grants to support environmental justice goals and projects while ensuring residents' voices shape these efforts.
- **Enhancing Communication Strategies:** The Community Development department is working on a host of communication improvement strategies, such as continued website reform and introducing digital engagement through video series and interactive multilingual resources.

Community Engagement

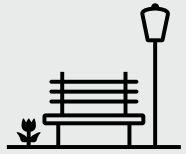
Furthering our reach...

- Cultivating Community Partnerships
- Focus on marginalized communities
- Creating collaborative and mutually beneficial outreach
- Enhancing communications and outreach strategies



Significant Achievements

Bureau Awards & Recognition



Adoption and award for Victory and Santa Cruz Park Design Guidelines



APA Los Angeles "Agency of the Year"

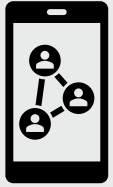


"Pro-Housing City" recognition from the State Housing and Community Development Department

Stay Connected!



Signing up via LinkLB for notifications about planning initiatives, public hearings, and more - **longbeach.gov/linklb**



Following Community Development on **social media** (Facebook, X, Instagram) - **@LongBeachBuilds**



Getting involved to make the Downtown Shoreline “Everyone’s Shoreline”! - **longbeach.gov/dtshorelb**

THANK YOU TO OUR PLANNERS & COMMUNITY!





Thank you

Alison Spindler-Ruiz

Planning Manager

Community Development Department