



**DOWNTOWN
LONG BEACH
ALLIANCE**

June 4, 2024

Long Beach City Council
411 W. Ocean Boulevard, 11th Floor
Long Beach, California 90802

Dear Honorable Mayor Rex Richardson and Members of the City Council,

Please accept this correspondence on behalf of the Downtown Long Beach Alliance (DTLB Alliance) and enter it into the public record for the City Council meeting scheduled for June 4, 2024, as our support for Item 30 regarding the City's use of the property located at 150 Alamitos Avenue. We understand this is a temporary agreement, and that ultimately these 60 additional beds in close proximity to encampments, means that more individuals will receive more services aimed at lifting them out of both temporary and chronic homelessness situations.

As you know, the DTLB Alliance is a nonprofit organization operating on behalf of the tenants and commercial and residential property owners in Downtown Long Beach. It is dedicated to the management, marketing, security, maintenance, advocacy, economic and community development of its two assessment districts in cooperation with the City of Long Beach, as well as the public and private sectors.

Throughout the homelessness crisis, the DTLB Alliance has been a partner with the City at every turn to respond to the needs of our unhoused population — from our day-to-day work through our safety ambassadors, to adding a new full time position into our organization focused on homeless outreach. We support efforts like this occupancy agreement between the City and Kola Partnership because ultimately these temporary housing services will allow a faster pathway to permanent housing for these individuals in need. The faster that unhoused individuals enter into the pipeline for permanent housing, the stronger our community and Downtown as a whole will be for residents, businesses and visitors alike.

To that end, we encourage the City Council and City Staff to simultaneously explore and invest in permanent housing solutions citywide. We also encourage the council and staff to ensure adequate resources for the Health, Police and Fire Departments to address any resident concerns around safety and security that may come with taking on this additional burden for the community at-large.

We are encouraged by the recent progress around homelessness and look forward to future information and communications that we can share with our many stakeholders throughout the downtown.

Sincerely,

James A. Ahumada
Sr. Vice President & Deputy CEO
Downtown Long Beach Alliance

Denise Carter
Chair of the Board of Directors
Downtown Long Beach Alliance