

Public Safety Presentation

City Council Meeting – April 21, 2026

CITY OF LONG BEACH

Agenda

- Background of City Council Requests and Departmental Actions
- Citywide Public Safety Data and Responses
- Citywide Business-Entertainment Corridor Safety and Quality of Life
- Belmont Shore Overview and Approaches

Background

City Council Requests

- **November 11, 2025**: City Council directed the City Manager to advance a series of analysis and report backs focused on late-night activity in Belmont Shore, as well as broader potential data-driven strategies to address violent crime and nuisance issues Citywide.
- **December 2, 2025**: City Council directed City Manager and relevant departments to explore strategies to support businesses and residential areas located near commercial and entertainment corridors affected by crime and quality of life issues and return with a presentation within 90 days.

Background

Departmental Actions

- **December 17, 2025**: Staff from the Community Development and Financial Management met with Belmont Shore business hospitality businesses.
- **December 24, 2025**: Police, Community Development, and the Financial Management Departments issued the *Late Night Belmont Shore Public Safety Plan* memorandum.
- **January 28, 2026**: A virtual community meeting held via and opportunity for written feedback on the *Late Night Belmont Shore Public Safety Plan* memorandum.
- **March 2, 2026**: Public comment period closed for initial feedback on *Late Night Belmont Shore Public Safety Plan* memorandum with nearly 400 comments received
- **March 3, 2026**: Staff provided an update memorandum on enforcement actions following the *Grants Pass v. Johnson* Supreme Court decision.
- **April 2, 2026**: Police and Community Development issued the *Citywide Public Safety Prevention and Enforcement Options Including for Late Night Issues* memorandum.
- **April 16, 2026**: Staff issued the *Citywide Business-Entertainment Corridor Safety and Quality of Life* memorandum.

Citywide Crime Trends

2025 Citywide Crime Overview



17.9%
Decrease Compared to 2024

Murders
23.7
Decrease

Shootings
36.0%
Decrease

Violent Crime
9.2%
Decrease

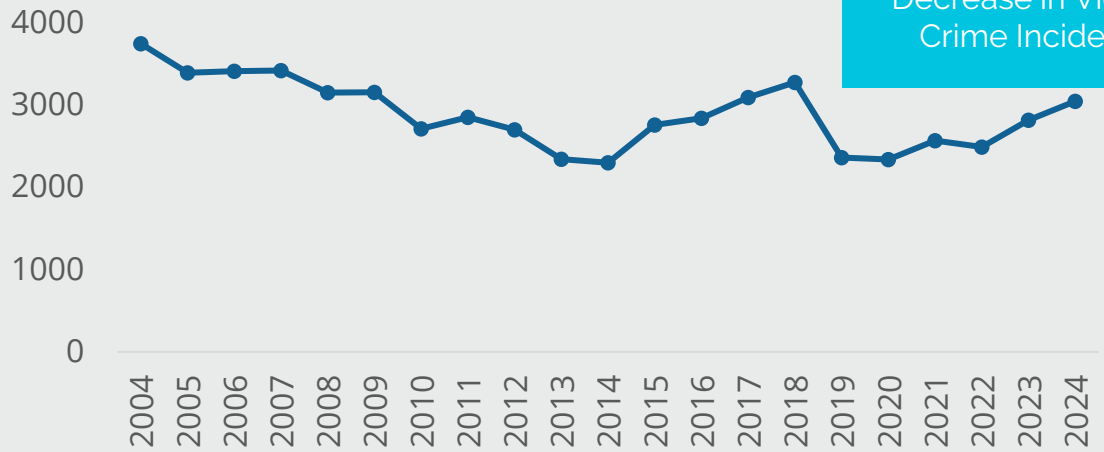
Property Crime
25.6%
Decrease

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2025 Statistics

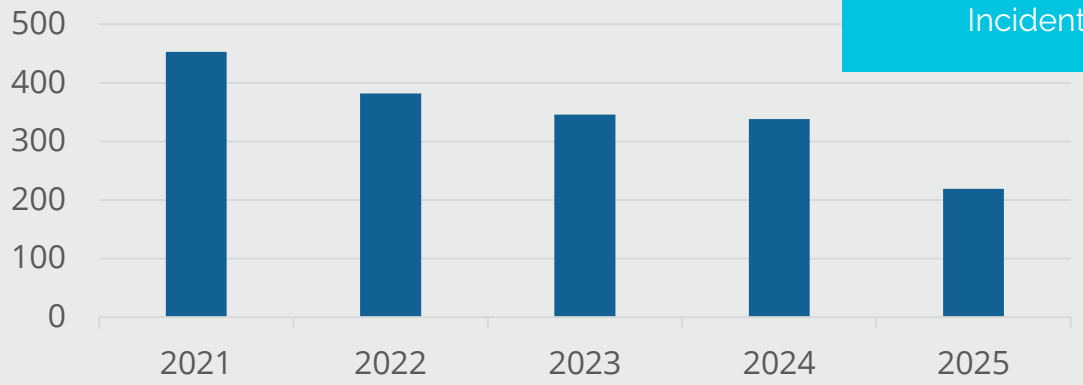
20 Year Crime

2004 to 2024: 19% Decrease in Violent Crime Incidents



Shooting Incidents

2024 to 2025: 35% Decrease in Shooting Incidents



By the Numbers

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Murders	39	37	26	38	29
Shootings	453	382	346	338	219
Traffic Fatalities	47	46	36	41	56
Use of Force Incidents	273	235	248	320	278
Officer Involved Shootings	6	2	5	7	0
Guns Recovered	1436	931	889	868	940

4,022 felony arrests made

Over **187,00 calls for service**, an average of 512 calls each day

278 use of force incidents and 0 officer involved shootings, **0.07% of all police interactions**

Average Priority 1 response time: **5.55 minutes**

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Violent Crime Within 500 ft of ABC Locations

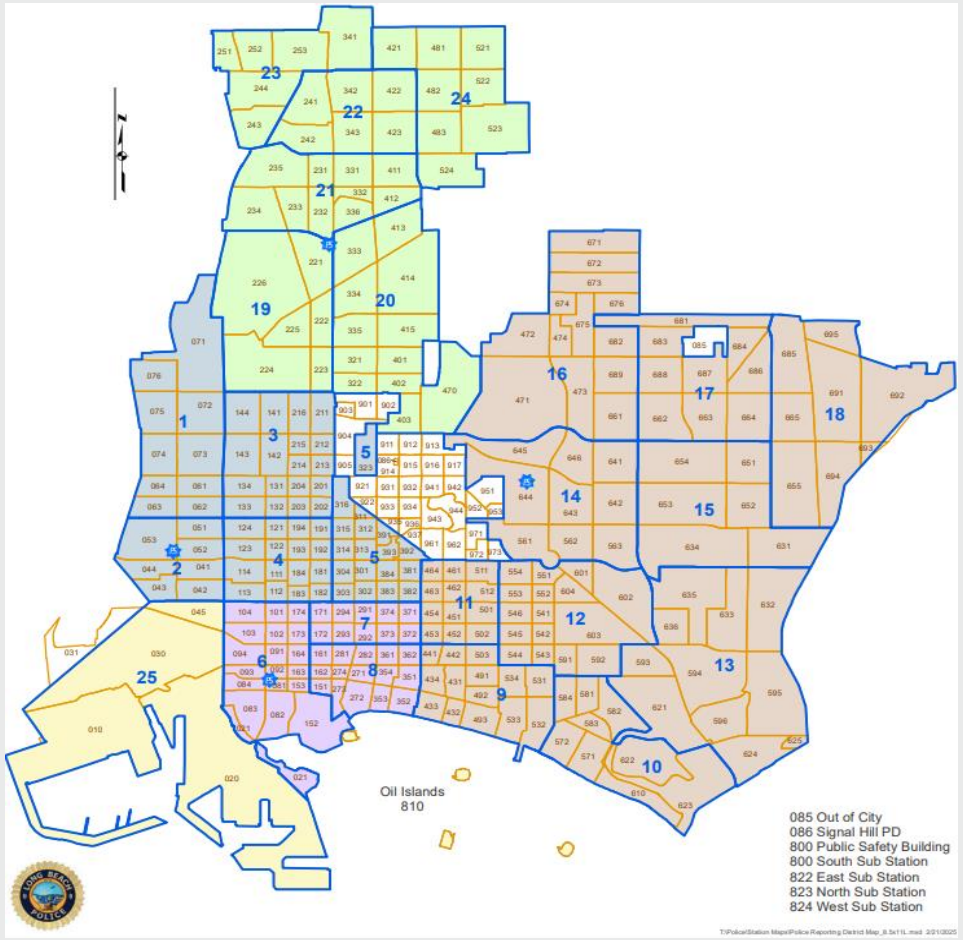
Top Five Locations Citywide

1. 100 block of West Broadway
2. 110 block of Pine Avenue
3. 120 block of East Broadway
4. 150 block of Pine Avenue
5. 140 block of Pine Avenue

Top Five Locations by Division

Rank	North Division	South Division	East Division	West Division
1.	5400 Atlantic Ave	100 W Broadway	5200 2nd St	300 W Anaheim St
2.	5200 Atlantic Ave	110 Pine Ave	5300 2nd St	200 W Anaheim St
3.	6000 Atlantic Ave	120 E Broadway	2000 E Anaheim St	400 W Anaheim St
4.	6100 Atlantic Ave	150 Pine Ave	100 La Verne Ave	100 W Pacific Coast Hwy
5.	6000 Long Beach Blvd	140 Pine Ave	3900 E Ocean Blvd	400 W Pacific Coast Hwy

Overnight Calls for Service (12:00 AM-04:00 AM)



Top Five Reporting Districts Citywide

1. RD 153 (South Division)
2. RD 272 (South Division)
3. RD 362 (South Division)
4. RD 164 (South Division)
5. RD 82 (South Division)

Top Five Reporting Districts by Division

Rank	North Division	South Division	East Division	West Division
1	524	153	571	121
2	244	272	501	184
3	423	362	572	41
4	235	164	532	122
5	243	82	562	111

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North Division Strategies

Targeted Enforcement & Visibility

- Directed patrols in hotspot areas
- High-visibility presence to deter criminal activity

Nuisance & Compliance Efforts

- Coordinated compliance checks at smoke shops
- Focused enforcement at repeat nuisance locations

Corridor-Focused Strategy

- Long Beach Boulevard Corridor: nuisance activity, traffic violations, and quality-of-life concerns

Street Racing Enforcement

- Proactive traffic enforcement targeting SRT activity
- Coordination with the Los Angeles County
- Street Racing Task Force

Community Engagement

- Ongoing community policing and outreach events

South Division Strategies

Targeted Enforcement & Visibility

- Directed patrols in high-activity areas
- High-visibility presence to deter criminal activity

ABC Location Compliance & Oversight

- Coordinate with the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), the City's Zoning Administrator, and Business Licensing
- Focus on problem locations

Focused Operations

- Enforcement at high-impact locations
- Support during Clean Team operations

Business Compliance

- Collaborate with the Commercial Code Enforcement
- Oversight of Entertainment Permit conditions

Accountability & Prevention

- Impose stay-away orders for repeat offenders
- Public messaging to reinforce enforcement efforts

East Division Strategies

Targeted Enforcement & Visibility

- Directed patrols and high-visibility

Outreach, Services & Quality of Life

- Coordination with the Health Department and Mobile Access Center (MAC)
- Clean Team and Beach Maintenance support

Expand Field Presence

- Increased Neighborhood Safety Bike Team coverage

Environmental Strategies

- Implementation of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) improvements

Community Engagement

- Community policing and activation events
- 602 Trespass Program enrollment

West Division Strategies

Targeted Enforcement & Visibility

- Coordination with High Crime Focus Team and Gang Unit
- Focused enforcement in high-activity areas

Riverbed: Enforcement & Services

- Ongoing operations addressing RV activity
- Coordinated outreach with Health & Homeless Services
- Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) initiative
- Connecting individuals to interim housing through sustained outreach

Quality of Life & Business Outreach

- 602 Trespass Program Enrollment
- Focus on high-demand ABC locations

Citywide Public Safety Strategies

Coordinated, data driven approach to public safety and quality of life concerns

- Targeted Outreach in Identified Hotspots
- Targeted Enforcement and Deployment Adjustments
- Refinement of Regulatory and Operational Tools
- Reporting Requirements Already in Place
- Monitoring and Future Updates

Grants Pass v. Johnson Refresher

- Supreme Court decision allows for enforcement of camping regulations without requiring available shelter
- Memo released on August 12, 2024, outlining the City's response:
  - One of the first to launch a balanced framework for leading with services but with the ability to enforce if not successful
  - Increased enforcement of camping laws and associated violations
- Balanced approach: continued connection to services while addressing need to ensure access to public space

What the City is Doing

- Expanding coordinated outreach and enforcement efforts
- Using data to establish priority focus areas
- Between January-December 2025:
  - Homeless Services connected with 4,508 individuals across outreach teams, Library outreach, Mobile Access Centers, REACH teams, and Harm Reduction teams.
  - Public Works Clean Team conducted 2,949 encampment cleanups, removing over 982 tons of garbage and debris.
  - PRM conducted 555 clean-ups in the 166 parks facilities across the City, removing 404 tons of debris, and 880 clean-ups in beach and marine areas, in coordination with the Queensway Bay and Marine Grounds.

What the City is Doing

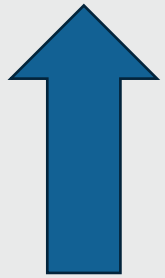
- Additional enforcement is intended to resolve encampments that pose significant and persistent obstruction to use of public resources like parks, libraries, and beaches.
- The City identified the following “Priority Focus Areas”:
  - Billie Jean King Library and Lincoln Park
  - Veterans Park
  - Gumbiner Park
  - Jenni Rivera Memorial Park
- Priority Focus Areas allow staff to utilize an intensive encampment resolution approach, including outreach, supportive services and shelter, clean-ups, and notification that the area needs to be vacated
- Enforcement may be used as a means of dispersing encampments if other outreach and service provision measures prove ineffective.

What the City is Doing

- Before the Grants Pass decision—between January 2023 and June 2024—the Police Department made 8 arrests/citations in Priority Focus Areas and 370 arrests/citations citywide related to encampments.
- Following the Supreme Court decision—between July 2024 and December 2025—arrests/citations for encampments increased significantly:
  - 270 arrests/citations in Priority Focus Areas
  - 856 arrests/citations Citywide
- Encampment enforcement has also shifted from a roughly 50/50 split between Priority Focus Areas and Citywide efforts to approximately 25/75, with a greater share now occurring citywide.

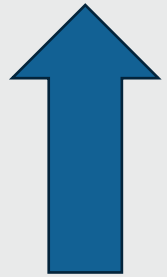
Priority Focus Areas

34 X



Citywide

2 X



CARE Court & Behavioral Health Responses

- CARE Court designed to connect individuals with severe mental illness to treatment through court-ordered plans
- Requires:
  - Petition process
  - Clinical evaluation and court oversight
- Intended as an alternative to traditional enforcement

CARE Court Process

Petition Filed

- Case begins with a civil court petition
- Court assesses eligibility (may require County behavioral health review)

Eligibility & Engagement

- If eligible, County attempts voluntary engagement with the individual
- Goal: establish a voluntary CARE agreement

Clinical Evaluation (if needed)

- If no agreement is reached, court orders a clinical evaluation
- Determines whether criteria for a CARE plan are met

CARE Plan or Agreement

- Court may order a CARE plan (mandatory) or approve a CARE agreement (voluntary)
- Both include treatment, housing, and supportive services

Ongoing Court Oversight

- Court monitors progress and compliance

Program Timeline

- Up to 1 year, with option to extend for an additional year or graduate

Consequences of Not Completing a CARE Plan

- Termination from the Program
- Loss of Priority Services
- Presumption for Further Intervention
- Potential Conservatorship Referral
- No Penalty for Medication Non-Adherence

City Experience with CARE Court

- Minimal utilization to date
- Key challenges include:
  - Process is complex and resource-intensive
  - High threshold for eligibility
  - Requires significant coordination and documentation
- CARE Court is not currently a primary tool for field response
- City continues to prioritize:
  - Direct outreach
  - Service referrals
  - Existing behavioral health response programs

Feasibility of Increased Police Support

- The City currently has a $61.3 million deficit identified for FY 27 and a 3% savings target in effect for the current fiscal year (FY 26), which will require difficult choices in the upcoming budget.
- The Police Department remains committed to addressing quality-of-life and public safety concerns in our business districts and adjacent neighborhoods/residential areas.
- However, any proposed enhancements should be considered in the context of the potential reductions across City services, including the Police Department, when the Proposed Budget is released in August.

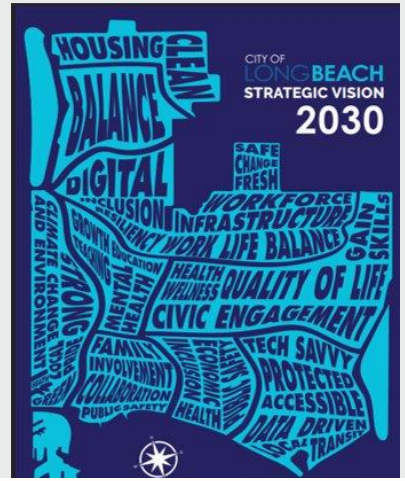
Feasibility of Increased Police Support

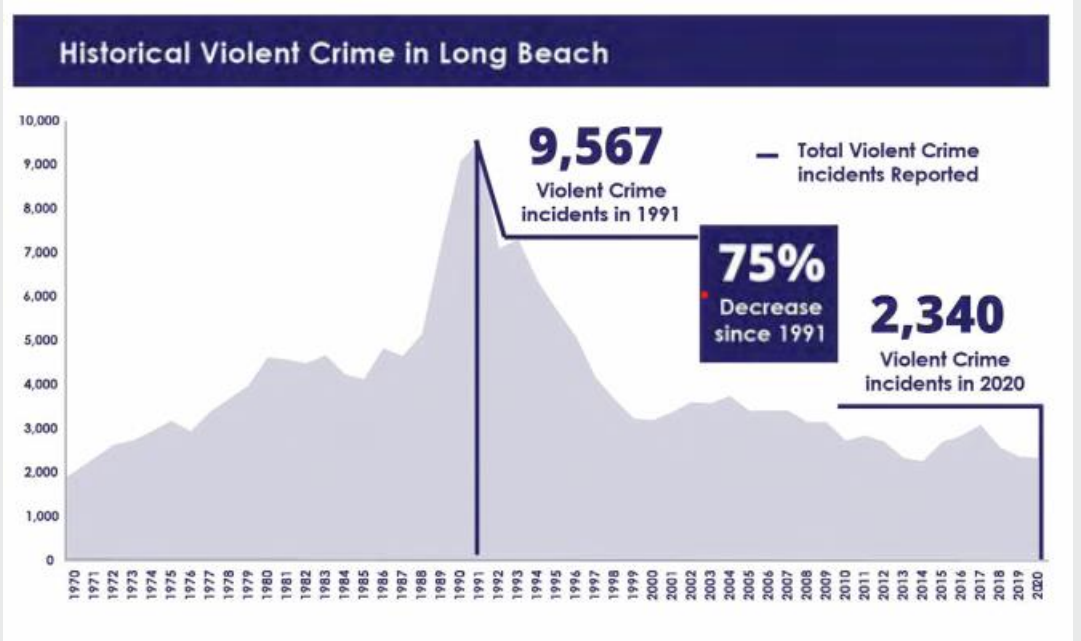
Should City Council wish to increase staffing levels, here are examples of costs for specific units:

- Quality of Life Team: $2,155,146
  - 1 FTE – Sergeant
  - 6 FTEs – Officers
- Walking Beat:
  - $522,490 – 2 Officers, four nights per week
  - $1,397,490 – 1 Sergeant and 4 Officers, seven nights per week
- High Crime Focus Team: $3,455,956
  - 1 FTE – Sergeant
  - 12 FTEs - Officers
- Neighborhood Safety Bike Team: $2,511,609
  - 8 FTEs - Officers

Towards a Thriving & Resilient City

- More than ever, a **collaborative approach** to public safety and violence prevention efforts is necessary and has grown to closely tie together the missions of various city departments and public agencies.
- Public Safety **continuum** includes not only **regulation and enforcement** but also **prevention**.
- Not only Fire and Police Departments, but also Community Development; Economic Development and Opportunity; Financial Management; Health and Human Services; Library, Arts and Culture; Parks, Recreation and Marine; and Public Works Departments.





Regulating Businesses That Serve Alcohol

Multi-Tiered Regulatory Framework:

- Regulatory framework can help facilitate prevention and ensure appropriate enforcement
- Regulation of the sale of alcohol is authority of the State of California and direct regulation of alcohol sales cannot be implemented by the City.
- For a business to sell alcohol, required to have:
  - Zoning Approval;
  - Business License; and,
  - CA Department of Alcohol and Beverage Control (ABC) License
  - Optional: Entertainment Permit is required in addition to a Business License if live performances or amplified music.
- Zoning and Land Use controls are included in Titles 21 and 22 of the LBMC.
- The type of Planning approval required for alcohol-serving businesses depends on the nature of the use and when the business was established.
- Changes to Title 5 (Business Regulations) can immediately apply to all businesses and non-compliance can lead to business license suspension

Belmont Shore: Approaches to Enhanced Enforcement

- Changes to business regulations related to Title 5 of the LBMC.
  - 2nd Street Approach
  - Significant community feedback
- Changes to land use regulations
  - Review opportunities to update the Zoning Code to address alcohol and other nuisance uses.
- Strengthen interdepartmental enforcement efforts and effectiveness.
- Review operations of city owned parking lots in the vicinity of alcohol uses.
- Form an interdepartmental staff workgroup focused on strengthening how the City engages with recently opened restaurants throughout Downtown and Belmont Shore.
- Improve public access and knowledge of how to report commercial operation concerns.

2nd Street Approach

Belmont Shore Dining and Coastal Enjoyment District

- Revise LBMC Title 5 regulatory requirements for geographic hotspots similar to the "Downtown Dining and Entertainment District" (DDED) model.
- Establish both rights and responsibilities for all businesses along 2nd Street in Belmont Shore and Naples.
- Standard conditions would include requirements for adequate security, noise and trash management, occupancy limits, security cameras accessible to the LBPD, and strategies to prevent loitering.
- If there is a substantial increase in complaints/calls for police service, the Permittee would be required to increase security staff, implement the use of electronic metal detection equipment, increase outside lighting, or make other changes to the premises or operation as the Chief of Police determines are necessary to protect the safety of the public.
- This framework includes a tiered compliance system. Expanding this model could ensure enhanced requirements for uses that currently do not have a CUP that govern the site.

2nd Street Approach (Continued)

Belmont Shore Dining and Coastal Enjoyment District

- The district is envisioned to include baselines rules such as:
  - Controlling noise at business entrances and exits,
  - Sharing information and camera footage with the Police Department and cooperation with the Business Improvement District.
  - Businesses open past 10:00 p.m. would be subject to additional noise and security requirements, and those open past midnight would be subject to the strictest requirements such as security screening (wanding) of guests, refusing new entry at 1:00 a.m., coordination across all late-night establishments and other controls.
- Businesses that serve alcohol as part of a bona-fide restaurant (ABC type 41 and 47) will also be required to make receipts available for city inspection and make food available at all times that alcohol is served.
- Summer 2026 - Community Development and Financial Management staff are preparing an item anticipated to come to City Council this summer to establish framework.
- A new fee structure within dining and entertainment districts would be proposed to support more robust enforcement.

Land Use Regulations

Research on Approaches to Regulating Businesses

- **City of Los Angeles**: Mapping alcohol sensitive areas even for streamlined approvals is a positive benefit to looking at neighborhood appropriateness.
- **City of Santa Monica** : The application for the exemption process requires the applicant to initial at each requirement. The format of the application ensures a property owner reviews every requirement.
- **City of Fullerton**: Regulations include operational standards for all businesses selling alcohol for on-site consumption in any zone, with security plan requirements for any business operating after 10pm, plus does not rely on calls for service data for some actions.
- **City of Hermosa Beach**: Planning Commission review of CUP if an establishment violates criterion.

City Owned Parking Lots

Adjustments to Parking Lot Operations

- February 2026 - City staff met with the Belmont Shore Parking Commission to discuss City parking lots and their impact on late night public safety. Staff will return in later summer or early fall with a more complete proposal.
- Current Efforts and Operational Improvements
  - Actively reviewing conditions of City-owned public parking lots along 2nd Street.
  - Recommend formal Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) analysis be conducted.
  - Maximize use of alternative transportation.
- Evaluating potential operational changes to public parking lots along 2nd Street for future policy consideration.
  - Extend paid parking hours in public parking lots to align with business operating hours, rather than ending paid parking at 7:00 p.m., and close before late night usage.
  - Modifying the flow of the lots to be one-way in and one-way out.

Interdepartmental Staff Workgroup

Customer Service and Business Support

- Community Development, in partnership with the Business License, Fire Prevention, Environmental Health, and Public Works teams, forming an interdepartmental staff workgroup focused on strengthening how the City engages with recently opened restaurants throughout Downtown and Belmont Shore in order to improve customer service through the permitting process.
- Working with restaurants, retailers and business associations, the City staff's goal is to support businesses and their operations so all businesses can thrive.
- Improving diverse daytime business operations including food will help Belmont Shore remain a thriving destination district and become less dependent on late-night alcohol sales over time.

Thank you



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