

Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services Receives \$150,000 Grant to Expand Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Education

The Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services (LBDHHS) has been awarded a \$150,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to expand its bicycle and pedestrian education activities.

“This funding will expand our City’s effort to prevent injuries while promoting active transportation,” said Mayor Robert Garcia.

The grant will help fund the Walk and Roll Long Beach program by:

- Providing free bike and pedestrian safety workshops for youth.
- Providing free bike helmets for youth that have been properly fitted by staff.
- Providing bike and pedestrian safety information and community events throughout the year.

In 2016, the OTS funding provided eight bicycle and pedestrian safety workshops reaching 232 children, and distributed and fitted helmets for 529 individuals.

“The grant will bring greater support to achieve the goal of Vision Zero, which the City of Long Beach signed on to in May 2016, to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries among all road users including pedestrians and bicyclists by 2026,” said Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services. “The Office of Traffic Safety funds will help the City of Long Beach to ensure that active transportation is not only healthy and fun, but also safe.”

In partnership with the Long Beach Unified School District, funding will also support the LBDHHS’ participation in Walk and Bike to School activities.

“Fatalities involving non-motorized street users, especially pedestrians, are growing at an unprecedented rate,” said OTS Director Rhonda Craft. “This grant will give the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services, with assistance from the Office of Traffic Safety, some of the resources and tools needed to help keep Long Beach streets safe for all users.”

Funding for this program is from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. For information on how to participate, or for more information about the Walk and Roll Program, please contact Lara Turnbull, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Division Officer, at lara.turnbull@longbeach.gov or (562) 570-4294.

About Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services

The mission of the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services is to improve quality of life by promoting a safe and healthy community in which to live, work and play. Long Beach Health is one of only three city-run health departments in California, which allows for better engagement with residents, neighborhoods, businesses and community partners, and fosters a greater understanding of the City's strengths. For more information, visit us at www.longbeach.gov/health, "Like" us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).