

## A Foreword from the City of Long Beach

For many people, Long Beach is a great place to live, work, learn, and play. Yet as this equity profile describes, racial and social inequities affect our economic well-being, our neighborhoods, and our health. While the city has been making investments and progress on many fronts, many of our communities still need better access to grocery stores, banks, good jobs, safe parks, and affordable housing.

The Long Beach Office of Equity strives for a city where everyone can reach their highest level of health and potential for a successful life, regardless of their background, neighborhood, or identity. We do this by partnering with those most affected to advance policy and systems changes, making injustice visible using data and storytelling, and by building the city's capacity to advance equity through trainings, tools, and technical assistance.

By engaging with community members and partnering with initiatives like the Government Alliance on Race and Equity, we have a better understanding of government's role and responsibility in explicitly advancing equity through our programs, services, and policies. This kind of culture shift requires a long-term commitment and a willingness to co-create with communities in responsive and engaging new ways.

It's exciting to be part of this movement in Long Beach. We celebrate our progress toward a more equitable community with achievements such as the creation of the city's Office of Equity and the Everyone In economic inclusion initiative. I look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts to make Long Beach a place where everyone is healthy, safe, and thriving.



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