



25-0600_pc_05-17-2025

1 message

City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>
To: City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

Mon, May 19, 2025 at 9:24 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Office of the City Clerk <cityclerk@lacity.org>

To: City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Mon, 19 May 2025 07:32:47 -0700

Subject: Fwd: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 and 25-0600)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **'insidethecourt@yahoo.com' via Clerk - CityClerk** <cityclerk@lacity.org>

Date: Sat, May 17, 2025 at 12:48 PM

Subject: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 and 25-0600)

To: councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org <councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org>

Cc: councilmember.soto-martinez@lacity.org <councilmember.soto-martinez@lacity.org>, CityClerk@lacity.org <CityClerk@lacity.org>, katy.yaroslavsky@lacity.org <katy.yaroslavsky@lacity.org>, DOD.Contact@lacity.org <DOD.Contact@lacity.org>, councilmember.hernandez@lacity.org <councilmember.hernandez@lacity.org>, councilmember.mcosker@lacity.org <councilmember.mcosker@lacity.org>, heather.hutt@lacity.org <heather.hutt@lacity.org>, Clerk.BudgetandFinanceCommittee@lacity.org <Clerk.BudgetandFinanceCommittee@lacity.org>, rita.moreno@lacity.org <rita.moreno@lacity.org>, councilmember.nazarian@lacity.org <councilmember.nazarian@lacity.org>, contactCD4@lacity.org <contactCD4@lacity.org>, Councilmember.Jurado@lacity.org <Councilmember.Jurado@lacity.org>, councilmember.Lee@lacity.org <councilmember.Lee@lacity.org>, councilmember.park@lacity.org <councilmember.park@lacity.org>, councilmember.price@lacity.org <councilmember.price@lacity.org>, councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org <councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org>, councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org <councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org>, councilmember.padilla@lacity.org <councilmember.padilla@lacity.org>, PublicComments@bos.lacounty.gov <PublicComments@bos.lacounty.gov>

Dear Council President Harris-Dawson and Council Members,

I'm submitting public comment to urge immediate action on two related issues: the City's \$1 billion budget crisis and the \$13 million in unspent pandemic relief that could directly mitigate it, if applied where it's needed most. More than 268,000 Angelenos live with Long COVID. It is the most disabling and costly outcome of the pandemic, yet it is not mentioned once in the City's budget. Not a single dollar has been allocated to address it.

At the same time, Council File 24-0500-S3 proposes to reprogram \$13.15 million in unspent federal pandemic funds originally intended for COVID response. Choosing to ignore this crisis and redirect the funds to superficial building improvements and unrelated business programs is a failure of public duty and a misuse of emergency relief. This money is on the table now and eligible for Long COVID response:

- \$4,230,880.26 in CDBG-CV (CARES Act) funds
- \$8,921,083.88 in regular CDBG funds

CDBG-CV funds are especially relevant. They were created specifically to respond to COVID-19. According to HUD guidance, they can be used for post-COVID care, navigation, case management, mental health, and long-term recovery. Unlike regular CDBG, CDBG-CV funds are

not subject to the 15% public services cap. They can fully fund direct services for Long COVID with fewer barriers and faster impact.

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The \$4.23 million in CDBG-CV is just 0.4% of the City’s general fund and 1.3% of the current budget gap. Allocating it to Long COVID is both legally sound and fiscally strategic. Not doing so will deepen the crisis.

In February 2023, LACDPH Director Barbara Ferrer said, “There is temptation to say the pandemic is ending... For others, they continue to feel the impact daily—whether it is living with the loss of a loved one, the economic toll of the pandemic, or the effects of Long COVID... We have made a commitment to not leave these people behind.” Now is the moment to honor that commitment.

I urge you to:

1. Revise Council File 24-0500-S3 to allocate CDBG-CV and relevant CDBG funds exclusively to Long COVID services: patient education, clinical guidance, disability navigation, return-to-work support, financial and legal help, and case management.
2. Create a Long COVID Office or Task Force for the City of LA, modeled on the City’s 1989 AIDS response.
3. Ensure Long COVID patients and disability justice leaders are paid to help design and oversee any program. Lived experience improves efficiency and trust.
4. Make Long COVID a standing agenda item in public health discussions, with clear goals, timelines, and transparency.

At the height of the AIDS crisis, LA County had under 10,000 known cases. Today, over 25 times that number live with Long COVID. Its impact is severe. Studies show quality-of-life scores lower than Stage IV cancer and fatigue equal to or worse than HIV. Yet the City still has no Long COVID plan, office, or line item.

A 2024 California study found that 31% or 3.3 million residents with confirmed COVID cases resulted in Long COVID. Most had “mild” infections. This is also most certainly an undercount given the dismantling of testing, reporting, and publishing programs and requirements.

Long COVID hits hardest in frontline, low-wage jobs and among Black, Latine, Indigenous, immigrant, and disabled residents. Only 6–9% recover. One in four are unable to work. Nearly half lose income. Housing loss is rising as benefits run out and discrimination worsens. People with Long COVID are being pushed deeper into poverty and out of the workforce.

This condition is a leading cause of new disability. Racial disparities are worsening. A 2025 study found that Long COVID patients lose nearly 100 work hours every three months. Black Americans with Long COVID are more likely to be dismissed, misdiagnosed, and denied care. An equitable response must include these realities in every funding and program decision.

This is a critical moment. The funding is available. The need is urgent. Long COVID is a test of your equity commitments, your leadership, and your budget priorities. I ask you to meet it.

Sincerely,
Bob Saget

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From: Office of the City Clerk <cityclerk@lacity.org>

To: City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Mon, 19 May 2025 07:32:57 -0700

Subject: Fwd: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kevin Albert Sandow** <kevin.sandow@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, May 17, 2025 at 12:11 PM

Subject: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600)

To: <councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org>

Cc: <councilmember.soto-martinez@lacity.org>, <CityClerk@lacity.org>, <katy.yaroslavsky@lacity.org>, <DOD.Contact@lacity.org>, <councilmember.hernandez@lacity.org>, <councilmember.mcosker@lacity.org>, <heather.hutt@lacity.org>, <Clerk.BudgetandFinanceCommittee@lacity.org>, <rita.moreno@lacity.org>, <councilmember.nazarian@lacity.org>, <contactCD4@lacity.org>, <Councilmember.Jurado@lacity.org>, <councilmember.Lee@lacity.org>, <councilmember.park@lacity.org>, <councilmember.price@lacity.org>, <councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org>, <councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org>, <councilmember.padilla@lacity.org>, <PublicComments@bos.lacounty.gov>

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Sincerely,
Kevin Sandow - Tujunga

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From: Office of the City Clerk <cityclerk@lacity.org>

To: City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Mon, 19 May 2025 07:32:36 -0700

Subject: Fwd: Urgent Request: Please apply the Unused COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID Equity Response (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Samantha Guillen** <samanthag Guillen@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, May 17, 2025 at 11:39 AM

Subject: Urgent Request: Please apply the Unused COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID Equity Response (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600)

To: <councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org>

Cc: <councilmember.soto-martinez@lacity.org>, <CityClerk@lacity.org>, <katy.yaroslavsky@lacity.org>, <DOD.Contact@lacity.org>, <councilmember.hernandez@lacity.org>, <councilmember.mcosker@lacity.org>, <heather.hutt@lacity.org>, <Clerk.BudgetandFinanceCommittee@lacity.org>, <rita.moreno@lacity.org>, <councilmember.nazarian@lacity.org>, <contactCD4@lacity.org>, <Councilmember.Jurado@lacity.org>, <councilmember.Lee@lacity.org>, <councilmember.park@lacity.org>, <councilmember.price@lacity.org>, <councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org>, <councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org>, <councilmember.padilla@lacity.org>, <PublicComments@bos.lacounty.gov>

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Sincerely,

Samantha Guillen
Tujunga, CA 91042

Samantha Guillen
samanthaguillen@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Office of the City Clerk <cityclerk@lacity.org>

To: City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Mon, 19 May 2025 07:30:04 -0700

Subject: Fwd: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Angela Infrerra** <angela.infrerra.info@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, May 17, 2025 at 4:06 PM

Subject: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600)

To: <councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org>

Cc: <councilmember.soto-martinez@lacity.org>, <CityClerk@lacity.org>, <katy.yaroslavsky@lacity.org>, <DOD.Contact@lacity.org>, <councilmember.hernandez@lacity.org>, <councilmember.mcosker@lacity.org>, <heather.hutt@lacity.org>, <Clerk.BudgetandFinanceCommittee@lacity.org>, <rita.moreno@lacity.org>, <councilmember.nazarian@lacity.org>, <contactCD4@lacity.org>, <Councilmember.Jurado@lacity.org>, <councilmember.Lee@lacity.org>, <councilmember.park@lacity.org>, <councilmember.price@lacity.org>, <councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org>, <councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org>, <councilmember.padilla@lacity.org>, <PublicComments@bos.lacounty.gov>

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Sincerely,
Angela Inferrera
Selma Ave Hollywood 90028

4 attachments

-  **Fwd: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 and 25-0600).eml**
26K
-  **Fwd: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600).eml**
20K
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21K
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20K



05/17/2025 pt2

1 message

City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>
To: City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

Mon, May 19, 2025 at 9:26 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Office of the City Clerk <cityclerk@lacity.org>

To: City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Mon, 19 May 2025 07:28:08 -0700

Subject: Fwd: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: : **Gwendystar** : <gwendystarhill@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, May 17, 2025 at 11:12 PM

Subject: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600)

To: <councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org>

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Sincerely,
Gwendolyn Hill, Historic Filipinotown

Sent from my iPhone

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Office of the City Clerk <cityclerk@lacity.org>

To: City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Mon, 19 May 2025 07:27:56 -0700

Subject: Fwd: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **William** <wllmhttn@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, May 17, 2025 at 4:11 PM

Subject: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600)

To: <councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org>

Cc: <councilmember.soto-martinez@lacity.org>, <CityClerk@lacity.org>, <katy.yaroslavsky@lacity.org>, <DOD.Contact@lacity.org>, <councilmember.hernandez@lacity.org>, <councilmember.mcosker@lacity.org>, <heather.hutt@lacity.org>, <Clerk.BudgetandFinanceCommittee@lacity.org>, <rita.moreno@lacity.org>, <councilmember.nazarian@lacity.org>, <contactCD4@lacity.org>, <Councilmember.Jurado@lacity.org>, <councilmember.Lee@lacity.org>, <councilmember.park@lacity.org>, <councilmember.price@lacity.org>,

[<councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org>](mailto:councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org), [<councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org>](mailto:councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org), [<councilmember.padilla@lacity.org>](mailto:councilmember.padilla@lacity.org), [<PublicComments@bos.lacounty.gov>](mailto:PublicComments@bos.lacounty.gov)

Dear Council President Harris-Dawson and Council Members,

I'm submitting public comment to urge immediate action on two related issues: the City's \$1 billion budget crisis and the \$13 million in unspent pandemic relief that could directly mitigate it, if applied where it's needed most. More than 268,000 Angelenos live with Long COVID. It is the most disabling and costly outcome of the pandemic, yet it is not mentioned once in the City's budget. Not a single dollar has been allocated to address it.

At the same time, Council File 24-0500-S3 proposes to reprogram \$13.15 million in unspent federal pandemic funds originally intended for COVID response. Choosing to ignore this crisis and redirect the funds to superficial building improvements and unrelated business programs is a failure of public duty and a misuse of emergency relief. This money is on the table now and eligible for Long COVID response:

- \$4,230,880.26 in CDBG-CV (CARES Act) funds
- \$8,921,083.88 in regular CDBG funds

CDBG-CV funds are especially relevant. They were created specifically to respond to COVID-19. According to HUD guidance, they can be used for post-COVID care, navigation, case management, mental health, and long-term recovery. Unlike regular CDBG, CDBG-CV funds are not subject to the 15% public services cap. They can fully fund direct services for Long COVID with fewer barriers and faster impact.

CDBG funds also support eligible Long COVID uses such as housing modifications, clinic improvements, and microenterprise support for disabled workers. Both funding streams are legally applicable, but CDBG-CV is the most direct and underused option.

Harvard economist David Cutler projects that failure to address Long COVID will cost LA over \$12 billion in five years ("The Economic Cost of Long COVID: An Update - David Cutler," Harvard.edu, 2022).

The \$4.23 million in CDBG-CV is just 0.4% of the City's general fund and 1.3% of the current budget gap. Allocating it to Long COVID is both legally sound and fiscally strategic. Not doing so will deepen the crisis.

In February 2023, LACDPH Director Barbara Ferrer said, "There is temptation to say the pandemic is ending... For others, they continue to feel the impact daily—whether it is living with the loss of a loved one, the economic toll of the pandemic, or the effects of Long COVID... We have made a commitment to not leave these people behind." Now is the moment to honor that commitment.

I urge you to:

1. Revise Council File 24-0500-S3 to allocate CDBG-CV and relevant CDBG funds exclusively to Long COVID services: patient education, clinical guidance, disability navigation, return-to-work support, financial and legal help, and case management.
2. Create a Long COVID Office or Task Force for the City of LA, modeled on the City's 1989 AIDS response.
3. Ensure Long COVID patients and disability justice leaders are paid to help design and oversee any program. Lived experience improves efficiency and trust.
4. Make Long COVID a standing agenda item in public health discussions, with clear goals, timelines, and transparency.

At the height of the AIDS crisis, LA County had under 10,000 known cases. Today, over 25 times that number live with Long COVID. Its impact is severe. Studies show quality-of-life scores lower than Stage IV cancer and fatigue equal to or worse than HIV. Yet the City still has no Long COVID plan, office, or line item.

A 2024 California study found that 31% or 3.3 million residents with confirmed COVID cases resulted in Long COVID. Most had "mild" infections. This is also most certainly an undercount given the dismantling of testing, reporting, and publishing programs and requirements.

Long COVID hits hardest in frontline, low-wage jobs and among Black, Latine, Indigenous, immigrant, and disabled residents. Only 6–9% recover. One in four are unable to work. Nearly half lose income. Housing loss is rising as benefits run out and discrimination worsens. People with Long COVID are being pushed deeper into poverty and out of the workforce.

This condition is a leading cause of new disability. Racial disparities are worsening. A 2025 study found that Long COVID patients lose nearly 100 work hours every three months. Black Americans with Long COVID are more likely to be dismissed, misdiagnosed, and denied care. An equitable response must include these realities in every funding and program decision.

This is a critical moment. The funding is available. The need is urgent. Long COVID is a test of your equity commitments, your leadership, and your budget priorities. I ask you to meet it.

Sincerely,

William Hatton
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
(818) 522-0975
wilmhntn@gmail.com

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From: Office of the City Clerk <cityclerk@lacity.org>
To: City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>
Cc: CityClerk <cityclerk@lacity.org>
Bcc:
Date: Mon, 19 May 2025 07:27:41 -0700
Subject: Fwd: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sawyer Blatz** <sdblatz@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, May 17, 2025 at 3:41 PM
Subject: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600)
To: <councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org>
Cc: <councilmember.soto-martinez@lacity.org>, <CityClerk@lacity.org>, <katy.yaroslavsky@lacity.org>, <DOD.Contact@lacity.org>, <councilmember.hernandez@lacity.org>, <councilmember.mcosker@lacity.org>, <heather.hutt@lacity.org>, <Clerk.BudgetandFinanceCommittee@lacity.org>, <rita.moreno@lacity.org>, <councilmember.nazarian@lacity.org>, <contactCD4@lacity.org>, <Councilmember.Jurado@lacity.org>, <councilmember.Lee@lacity.org>, <councilmember.park@lacity.org>, <councilmember.price@lacity.org>, <councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org>, <councilmember.rodriguez@lacity.org>, <councilmember.padilla@lacity.org>, <PublicComments@bos.lacounty.gov>

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Sincerely,
Sawyer Blatz

Sent from my iPhone

3 attachments

 **Fwd: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600).eml**
20K

 **Fwd: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600).eml**
20K

 **Fwd: Urgent Request: Apply COVID Relief Funds to Long COVID (Council Files 24-0500-S3 & 25-0600).eml**
20K