

City Innovation Snapshot | Long Beach, United States

Spotlight on Long Beach | Justice Lab

Overview

- ▶ Mayor: Robert Garcia
- ▶ Lead staff on innovation: Tracy Colunga & Lauren Vargas
- ▶ Population of municipality: 480,000 (2018)
- ▶ Innovation/open data website: www.longbeach.gov/iteam
www.longbeach.gov/openlb/

Long Beach launched a first-of-its kind **Justice Lab** to provide new tools to first responders to **divert residents in need out of the criminal justice system** and **toward much-needed resources like treatment and care**. The Justice Lab was **developed through a partnership between the City's Innovation Team, and the Long Beach Public Safety Continuum**. The Continuum consists of Police, Fire, Health, and Development Services Departments; the City Prosecutor's Office; neighbourhood associations; non-profits; and residents who work collaboratively to make Long Beach a better and safer place. **The Lab has several initiatives** designed to help break the cycle of incarceration.

Vision and approach to innovation capacity

The city's innovation strategy

Along with 44% of cities surveyed, Long Beach has an **explicit innovation strategy**.

The city most closely associates innovation capacity with the following terms:

Data analytics

Human-centred design

Approaches to innovation capacity

Similar to 40% of cities surveyed, Long Beach approaches innovation capacity both from a **holistic/macro level**, as well as in **specific policy areas**.

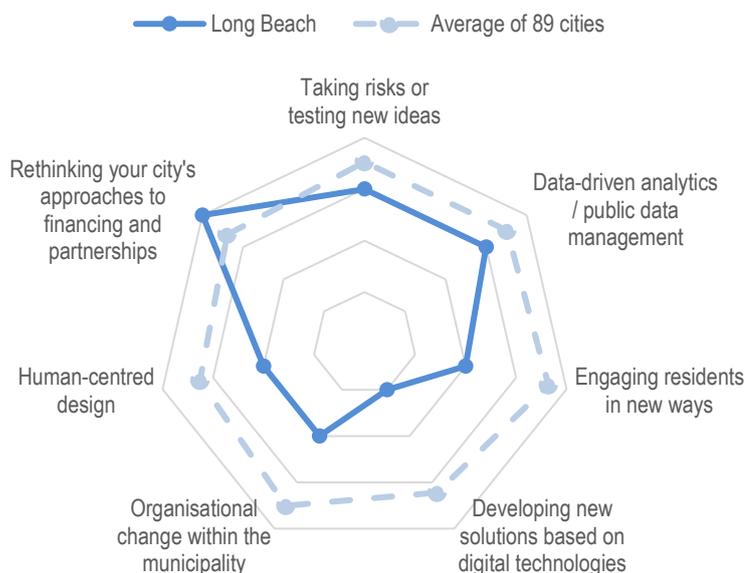
The **top two priority policy areas** for the city's innovation work include:

Economic Development

Policing and Law Enforcement

Most common innovation activities

Long Beach's most common innovation activity is **rethinking the city's approach to financing and partnerships**.



Funding for innovation capacity	
<p>Funding to support innovation capacity</p> <p>Like 77% of cities surveyed, Long Beach has dedicated funding to support innovation capacity, which originates from the following sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Municipal budget (city council approved funds/operating budget) ✓ External funding (philanthropy/non-profit/academic/think tank resources) ✓ Non-financial resources (in-kind contributions) 	<p>Types of activities being funded</p> <p>Long Beach's funding for innovation capacity is generally directed towards launching or sustaining a project, and generating ideas & brainstorming. These are the two most commonly funded activities among all cities surveyed. Long Beach also invests in digital systems and physical infrastructure as well as paying for services to a third party.</p> <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; width: 45%; text-align: center; background-color: #0056b3; color: white; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Launching or sustaining a project</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; width: 45%; text-align: center; background-color: #0056b3; color: white; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Idea generation & brainstorming</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; width: 30%; text-align: center; background-color: #0056b3; color: white; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Investing in digital systems</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; width: 30%; text-align: center; background-color: #0056b3; color: white; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Investing in physical infrastructure</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; width: 30%; text-align: center; background-color: #0056b3; color: white;"> <p>Paying for services</p> </div> </div>

Organisational structure & staffing	Partnerships for innovation & data
 <p>Situated in the City Manager's office, along with designated staff in the Mayor's office, Long Beach's dedicated team for innovation consists of 10 staff.</p> <p>Staff skills and profiles include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Director ✓ Project manager ✓ Data scientist ✓ Designers ✓ Masters level social worker ✓ Cultural anthropologist ✓ Communications 	 <p>Long Beach has developed partnerships to promote its innovation capacity with other public agencies, not-for-profit organisations, and city residents/resident associations.</p> <p>To improve data use, the city has also developed data partnerships with the private sector, academia, think tanks, and private philanthropy to collect and analyse data, as well as with other cities.</p>

Measuring outcomes	
<p>Policy areas that benefit from sufficient data, or lack sufficient data, to support innovation capacity in the city:</p> <div style="display: grid; grid-template-columns: repeat(5, 1fr); gap: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #c00000; color: white; text-align: center;">Transport / mobility</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center;">Economic development</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #c00000; color: white; text-align: center;">Housing & built environment</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center;">Policing & law enforcement</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center;">Health</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #c00000; color: white; text-align: center;">Water</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #c00000; color: white; text-align: center;">Waste and sewage</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center;">Labour markets & skills</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #c00000; color: white; text-align: center;">Environment & climate change</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #c00000; color: white; text-align: center;">Education</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #c00000; color: white; text-align: center;">Culture</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #c00000; color: white; text-align: center;">Social inclusion, equity</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #cccccc; color: #000000; text-align: center;">Public works</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center;">Tourism</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #0056b3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center;">Digital governance</div> </div> <p><i>NB: No response provided by the city for the policy areas in grey.</i></p>	<p>Innovation is helping the city to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Improve service delivery ✓ Generate new sources of revenue ✓ Improve resident outcomes <p>The most critical success factors in supporting the city's innovation work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Dedicated funding ✓ Dedicated innovation team ✓ Culture of innovation in city ✓ Support from outside city administration