

WEST COVINA NEIGHBORS

A reference sheet on the issue of

Establishing a Local Health Department

City Council Meeting: May 18, 2021 7:00 PM

Adopt Ordinance No. 2484 to establish a public health department.

- **Agenda Item** 5. Consideration of Ordinance No. 2484 to Establish a Public Health Department

[Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1](#) – Ordinance No. 2484
[Attachment 2](#) – Letter Dated February 23, 2021 from Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

- **Motions** **Motion(s) Passed:**
 1. Approve Ordinance 2484 – Establish a Public Health Department (Second Reading)
Vote: Yes: Rosario Diaz, Letty Lopez-Viado, Tony Wu
No: Brian Tabatabai
Absent: Dario Castellanos

- **Meeting Video** **Public Comments:** Speakers who mentioned the health department during their public comment are identified below.
 - **In Person:** [Bill Robinson](#); [Peggy Martinez](#); [Jerri Potras](#); [Jim Grivich](#); [John Shewmaker](#); [Therese Garcia](#); [Angie Gillingham](#); [Gabriel Padua Rodriguez](#); [Theresa Cozad](#); [Fredrick Sykes](#); [Bill Elliott](#); [Sarah Love](#); [J.D.](#)
 - **Phone In:** [Minerva Avila](#); [James Toma](#); [Bridgett Ramirez](#); [Daniel Luna](#); [Shahrazad Shishegar](#).
 - **Email:** [Mary Ann Roberts](#)
 - [City Manager's Response](#) to Speaker Comments on Health Department

- [City Council Presentation and Discussion:](#)
Time: Approximately 56 Minutes

Specific Discussions/Segments (Timestamps are underlined.)

Item 5 was removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion by Councilmember Tabatabai.

- Councilmember Tabatabai Question: Regarding Timelines and Process [1:50:47](#)
- City Manager Response [1:51:36](#)
- City Attorney Comment [1:53:31](#)
- Councilmember Tabatabai Question Regarding Transtech Hiring of Health Director, Timeline, Process [1:53:46](#)
- City Manager Response [1:54:00](#)
- Councilmember Tabatabai and City Manager Q & A on: [1:54:35](#)
 - Possibility of City having to run health department if contractor finds it is not a profitable endeavor;
 - Fee for service and not fee-for service “chapters”;
 - Pasadena & Long Beach having to use general fund to provide all 12 required services of a health department;
 - City’s current financial position to take over 11 components if vendor’s find health department is not profitable;
 - Implementation concepts;
 - City’s Financial Recovery Plan as submitted to the State Auditor and Long-Term Planning commitment;;
 - City’s ability to compete for subventions, grants; state and federal opportunities for funding
- Councilmember Tabatabai Question Regarding Transtech Statement Anticipating Issues with Roll-Out [1:59:33](#)
- City Manager Response [2:01:14](#)
- City Attorney Interrupts with Second Reading Reminder [2:02:24](#)
- Councilman Wu explains funding health department and how health department will not bankrupt City; comments approval will bring \$15 to \$20 million to the City; City can swiftly respond to take care of situations if inspector causes issues; states no idea who to contact with County on complaints; issue is how to protect community; moves to approve. Motion immediately seconded (Diaz). [2:02:36](#)
- Councilman Tabatabai asks for opportunity to discuss. [2:04:25](#)
 - Asks about May 31 deadline City Manager mentioned.
 - Councilman Wu raises point of order and asks for roll call vote;
 - Mayor Lopez-Viado allows “One quick question” pertaining to Second Reading.
 - Councilman Tabatabai asks, “Once we establish this health department after the Second Reading is there any last action the Council will have to take prior to May 31st?”
 - City Attorney responded this is Second Reading, this puts it on the books, and in 30 days will be in effect. Mentions recitals technically state effective date is July 1st.
- Mayor calls for roll-call vote. [2:06:06](#)