



115 Pine Avenue STE 350
Long Beach CA 90802



Cindy Allen

Candidate for Long Beach City Council

District 2

Municipal Elections

- Q. The creative economy encompasses people with creative occupations working in the creative industries, as well as workers with creative occupations working in any other industry, and people in a non-creative job working in a creative industry.¹ What would you do to deepen the City's investment in its creative economy?
- A. Long Beach is a perfect setting for the creative economy. Not only are we situated in Southern California, where there is already a hub for the entertainment industry and hi-tech, but we also have a flourishing artistic community here. These are the points I would use to attract creative economy employers to Long Beach. We must also show employers that the city itself is invested in this mission, by supporting arts programs and educational opportunities, especially at Long Beach City College, in our high schools, and in programs at Long Beach State.

¹ 2019 Otis Report on the Creative Economy, conducted by Beacon Economics



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- Q. How would you champion expansion of the City's current funding stream for local arts and culture?
- A. Passing Measure B this March will help us expand the funding stream right away. We must also seek ways to engage the nonprofit sector and business community to work in partnership with the city to support these great programs.
- Q. Ballot Measure B would increase the City's "hotel room tax" by 1% to support arts education in Long Beach schools; provide resources for Long Beach arts and cultural institutions; and pay for critical repairs and upgrades to the Convention Center. What are your views on this measure?
- A. I strongly support Measure B. It is critical for helping us grow the creative economy in Long Beach.
- Q. How can the City increase representation, diversity and access to the arts for all?
- A. While the 2nd Council District has flourishing arts scene, we must be mindful to expand it across the city. We must make sure every Council District is seeing an equitable amount in arts funding and programs, and make sure that existing programs are well-rounded. We should be mindful to give opportunities to artists and productions of diverse backgrounds, particularly to include women, people of color, and the LGBTQ community in all opportunities.



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- Q. Which art initiatives in your district do you find successful and how would you support these programs in the future?
- A. We have amazing public art throughout our district and the work done by the Arts Council deserves much of the credit. The re-opened East Village Arts Park is a particularly good example. Not only is it a public space for art, it is a great location for performances and art classes. As Councilmember, I will first and foremost work with the Arts Council to identify opportunities where the City can support important creative development.