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More Foreclosure News

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www.piconetwork.org

1st District Forum Summary

[..\elections\1st district forum write-up standard format.pdf](#)

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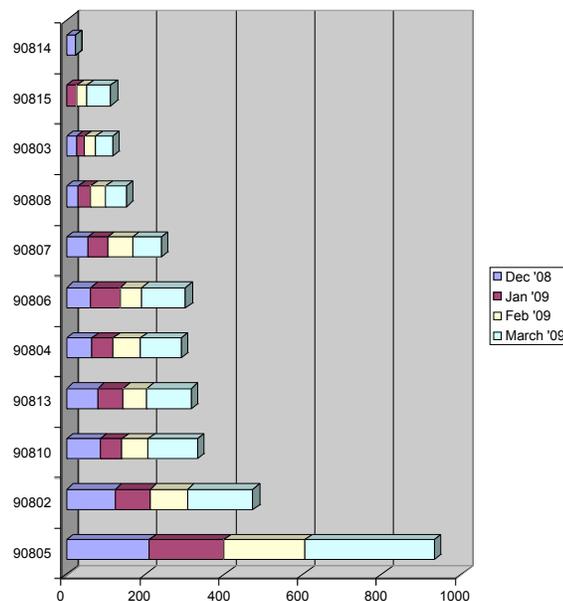
tom@greaterlongbeachico.org

St. Athanasius Hosts Foreclosure Forum as Crisis Escalates in North Long Beach

Families across North Long Beach are struggling to hold onto their homes in the face of an escalating economic crisis that has resulted in lost jobs, less income, and home mortgages that in some cases are more than three times the current value of the home.

On Saturday, May 9, from 10:00am to 12:00noon, St. Athanasius Catholic Church at 5369 Linden Avenue will host a foreclosure prevention forum and workshop. U.S. Rep. Laura Richardson and Long Beach 9th District Councilman Val Lerch are scheduled to attend, as are representations of the State of California Department of Real Estate – Fraud Prevention Office and the Los Angeles County Tax Assessor.

Long Beach New Foreclosures



As this chart, from the online tracking source www.realtytrac.com, shows, North Long Beach, particularly the 90805 zip code, has been especially hard hit by the foreclosure epidemic. This community has averaged more than 200 foreclosures per month since the beginning of 2009, with the number in March exceeding 300. A drive through the neighborhoods reveals many vacant and abandoned properties.

Neighborhood residents have come to St. Athanasius looking for advice and resources to help them through the

current crisis. ICO leaders at St. Athanasius moved quickly to reach out to local elected representatives for help. In addition, Operation HOPE, a national nonprofit working to help residents of low-income neighborhoods help themselves, will be at the Saturday forum to provide advice and assistance with loan modifications, refinancing and other steps to reduce the burden on struggling homeowners. The workshop will be conducted in Spanish, and translation provided of remarks by non-Spanish speakers.

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ICO Continues Ten-Year Plan Campaign



The Unitarian Universalist Church of Long Beach 

ICO leaders at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Long Beach are continuing their efforts to mobilize support for implementing the City's Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness. ICO organizers and leaders have delivered presentations to several non-ICO affiliated East Side congregations, including Temple Israel, Bay Shore Community Congregational Church, Los Altos United Methodist Church, St. Matthews Catholic Church and St. Gregory's and St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal churches.

ICO's strategy, in partnership with the Long Beach Community Action Network, PATH Ventures and Mayor Robert Foster, is to enlist all Long Beach council districts in designating and implementing local strategies to address homelessness, ensuring that housing and support services envisioned in the City's plan are not concentrated in those neighborhoods that already shoulder a disproportionate share of the burden.

For more information, and to schedule a presentation for your congregation, please contact ICO at (562) 984-2727, or ICO Community Organizer [Elijah Small](#).

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ICO Co-Sponsors 1st District Candidates' Forum and Voter Canvass



ICO leaders from First Congregational Church co-sponsored a candidates' forum for candidates vying for the Long Beach 1st District Council seat this past March. Joining ICO in sponsoring the event were: The Neighborhood United Methodist Church; CLI Alumni Group-Stevenson YMCA Community School; and Mothers' Brigade-Cesar Chavez Elementary School.

Following the forum, which was held at The Neighborhood UMC, a flyer was prepared summarizing the candidates' remarks, which was distributed during a precinct canvass conducted the weekend before the April 7 election. (*See attached*).

Long Beach City College administrator Robert Garcia won the election. ICO is now working with leaders to meet with Garcia to revisit the promises he made at the forum and discuss other 1st District issues.



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