

The **GOOD** Voter Guide to the Los Angeles Election

Young Angelenos, a small group of volunteer citizen activists,

envision LA as a productive, prosperous town with citizens who are engaged, informed and excited to advocate for progressive public policy.

That's the dream. With that in mind, Young Angelenos have compiled this progressives' voter guide in partnership with GOOD Magazine for the Los Angeles general election on May 21st. On that Tuesday, we'll vote for the Mayor, four members of the City Council, and a host of other characters who will dictate the future of Los Angeles.

We've tried to provide as much info as we could about how these folks stand on issues like jobs, the environment, education, health care, civil rights — the stuff you care about. You can decide from there.

Some disclaimers: This guide is a volunteer operation, not produced by GOOD. Due to research fatigue, lame candidate websites and Murphy's Law, you may spot a mistake or two. Some candidates simply don't provide a lot of info, and our researcher styles varied, so some profiles may differ or seem a bit incomplete. We didn't get to all the candidates, but we tried to cover the ones who seemed most relevant to our generation. We used public sources, including government and candidate websites, so the guide's accuracy is contingent on those sources at the time of publication (May 2013).

If you have more info or an opinion to share, leave a comment. This is your election as much as it is ours. Remember, what happens in our backyard matters, and this election has some high stakes, so please pass this guide along. We hope you find it informative and helpful and that it will occasionally make you chuckle.

Your volunteers,
YoungAngelenos.com

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P.S. Don't forget to VOTE ON MAY 21. Find your polling place at <http://lavote.net>

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MAYOR

ERIC GARCETTI

Los Angeles City Councilmember

POLITICAL PARTY

Democrat

PLATFORM

Eric believes that achieving our city's full potential requires a focus on getting LA back to work – creating jobs and growing our economy, and innovating at City Hall to ensure it works for the people and businesses of Los Angeles.

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

- Fourth-generation Angeleno, grew up in the Valley
- Taught public policy, diplomacy and world affairs at Occidental College and USC
- Rockefeller Foundation's Next Generation Leadership Fellow
- Studied urban planning and political science at Columbia University, has a B.A. and M.A. in International Relations
- Studied as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University and the London School of Economics
- Won a hotly-contested election to the LA City Council in 2001, becoming one of the youngest city councilmembers in the city's history
- Lives in Silver Lake with his wife Amy Elaine Wakeland and their toddler daughter

JOB CREATION & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

- Supports digital and technology initiatives across the city because of their ability to bring jobs to the region
- Focuses on green jobs and workforce development, including a plan for creating 20,000 jobs in clean energy, energy efficiency, and clean water
- Helped bring clean tech, electric car, online and clean energy companies to LA
- Wrote solar legislation and stopped proposals to furlough cops, in the name of protecting jobs.
- Successfully worked to eliminate the business tax for LA's small businesses (who are 60% of LA businesses) that created targeted incentives for high-growth and highly-mobile sectors like Internet firms, entertainment businesses and car dealerships
- Opposed privatizing the city's parking lots, "because it was a one-time fix during a terrible real estate market and because we learned from the Chicago experience."

- Firmly supports local workforce development programs and expanding the city's summer jobs program for youth.

EDUCATION

- Supports competition in education and believes that many groups (charter schools, LAUSD schools, etc.) need to come together with ideas on a district-wide and community-wide basis to find what works best for kids in the classroom
- Also believes in educating for the future – including a focus on languages, both foreign and digital
- Advocates for strong workforce development – and enhancing the relations between community colleges and regional industry needs

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Created an innovative graffiti census and resident "block captain" program in his district that cut graffiti by almost 80% and was recognized as a finalist for the National League of Cities' Award for Municipal Excellence.
- Implemented a program to keep parks open late at night, offering programs during the summer when school is out. Today, more than 700,000 youth are served and gang crime is down 40% at 32 citywide locations.
- Brokered seriously groundbreaking agreements with LAUSD to open school fields to both LAUSD students and the community during non-school hours.

EQUALITY, HUMAN RIGHTS & INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES

- Spearheaded the passage of a pro-civil liberties resolution in 2004 urging a narrowing of the USA Patriot Act and affirming support for freedom in the post-9/11 era.
- Presided over the first ever legal gay marriage in the City of LA - he married two of his staffers who met while working in his office <3
- Awarded the first Olson Award from Human Rights Watch for his human rights activism
- Endorsed by the CA chapter of NOW: "[he] is the only candidate that is solidly progressive and focused on the intersection of women's empowerment," said their president Patty Bellasalma

ENVIRONMENT

- Took action to move the stalled plastic bag ban forward
- Authored the nation's widest-reaching green building ordinance, the nation's first municipal green building ordinance, legislation that made LA the biggest city in the nation to have a solar feed-in tariff initiative (see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feed-in_tariff), and the nation's largest clean water initiative of its kind

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- Committed to promoting green technologies, clean energy and other environmental measures.
- Presented with the Green Cross Millennium Award from former President Mikhail Gorbachev

HEALTHCARE & SAFETY NET

- Authored the nation's largest housing trust fund and the nation's first tenant foreclosure eviction moratorium
- Believes that ending homelessness isn't just a moral imperative; it's an economic one too
- Advocates for "moving beyond shelters and providing people with real housing that includes the treatment, services and training needed to permanently keep people off the streets"
- His council district has worked with the community to design and open three new supportive housing developments since November 2012

TECHNOLOGY

- Responsible for the city's first constituent services smart phone app (Garcetti 311), which allows residents to snap a picture of graffiti or a pothole or a bulky item and report them to the city on the fly - with the phone's GPS automatically sending in the location
- Also deployed an app named Parker in his district that directs people to available parking spaces, following research showing that up to 30% of congestion can be caused by people circling for parking

TRANSPORTATION

- Installed the city's first bicycle sharrows (shared lane markings) in his district
- Actively sought to maximize and streamline rail and bus travel
- Expanded car sharing
- Authored the city's first valet ordinance to reclaim those clogged lanes in front of busy night spots
- Advocates expanding options citywide and tackling big projects, including connecting the Green Line to LAX, moving forward the Crenshaw Line, getting the Wilshire extension in motion and the Westside subway extension (from Koreatown to Santa Monica) that would run under a Beverly Hills high school.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

- Believes that it is safer for every Californian to be eligible for a driver's license
- Agrees with Chief Beck's directive to always impound cars with unlicensed drivers

OTHER POSITIONS/TOPICS

- Very pro development and takes credit for revitalizing Hollywood's economy, which includes development
- This is a double edged sword for him, as LA Weekly and some local activists have railed against his support for the Hollywood Community Plan which would allow skyscrapers to be built in Hollywood
- LA Weekly has credited Eric's work in Hollywood for pricing out Latino residents whom he is now courting for votes – though the specific accuracy of that claim is questionable
- Established an academy called the Neighborhood Leadership Institute (in English and Spanish) which included courses like Government 101, Budget 101 and Land Use 101 that have trained over 1,000 Angelenos to advocate for their communities
- Believes the federal government should reclassify cannabis "so that we can actually get folks the medicine that they need... As far as recreational use, if the voters of the state were for it, I'd be happy to regulate it like alcohol, especially to make it less easy for underage use."

FUN FACTS

- Avid photographer, jazz pianist and composer
- Big big fan of hip hop.
- Honed his breakdancing skills in junior high while he was part of a dance crew
- Played the "Mayor of Los Angeles" twice on the TV show The Closer.

ENDORSEMENTS

- Los Angeles Times: "The candidate with the most potential to rise to the occasion and lead Los Angeles out of its current malaise and into a more sustainable and confident future is Eric Garcetti."
- Jan Perry, Emanuel Pleitez and Kevin James, all three former candidates for mayor
- Council colleagues Richard Alarcón, Joe Buscaino, Paul Koretz, Paul Krekorian, Tom LaBonge, Bernard Parks, Ed Reyes (and the aforementioned Jan Perry)
- La Opinión
- Organizations including Latino Coalition of Los Angeles
- Stonewall Democratic Club, California National Organization for Women (NOW), LA County Young Dems, CA League of Conservation Voters, Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, California Federation of Teachers, United Teachers Los Angeles and a slew of private sector unions
- Newark Mayor Cory Booker
- Howard Dean

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- Entertainment notables including Michael Eisner, Moby, Will Ferrell, Jimmy Kimmel, Salma Hayek
- Steve Soboroff
- Has raised \$5.7 million for the entirety of his campaign as of April 6th, edging out Wendy Greuel
- Supported by \$600k in independent expenditures

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WENDY J. GREUEL

Los Angeles City Controller

POLITICAL PARTY

Democrat. She was a registered Republican through 1992.

PLATFORM

Rebuilding infrastructure, expanding transportation, rewarding investment and training workers for the jobs of the economy.

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

- Lifelong Angeleno, born and raised in the San Fernando Valley and attended UCLA
- Worked for then-Mayor Tom Bradley as the mayor's liaison to the City Council, City Depts and the community on public policy issues including child care, the homeless, the elderly, and health issues.
- Served with Cabinet Secretary Henry Cisneros as the Field Operations Officer for Southern California for the US Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), oversaw the emergency response and recovery programs after the '94 Northridge earthquake.
- Worked in the Corporate Affairs Department of DreamWorks SKG where she coordinated DreamWorks' legislative and governmental activities
- Elected to the LA City Council in '02 and represented the 2nd District in the Northeast San Fernando Valley for 7 years
- City controller since 2009
- Lives in Studio City and is married to Dean Schramm with their 8-year-old son, Thomas.

JOB CREATION & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

- Wants the mayor of LA to be the jobs czar of LA, and to use her private-sector experience to help create jobs and a business-friendly city. Focused on creating hubs of economic opportunities, similar to the Clean Tech Corridor. (See <http://www.cleantechlosangeles.org/corridor>)
- Architect of the historic business tax reform and supports the effort to eliminate the gross receipts tax.
- Wants "a responsive government that holds departments accountable to the job gets done"
- Stresses four priority areas to create jobs and get the economy moving: rebuilding infrastructure, expanding transportation, rewarding investment and training workers for the jobs of the economy.
- Proposes to advocate for the investment in infrastructure at the ports, to expand transportation options, including

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bikeways and pedestrian friendly streetscapes, and to reduce congestion and pollution.

- Believes in rewarding investment by business by providing tax incentives to locate in LA and to put people back to work, also proposing to advocate for providing workers with the skills they need to thrive in today's economy, from software design to solar panel installation.
- Supports privatizing the city's parking lots and convention center to "save the city millions of dollars."
- **Note:** Wendy's claim of eliminating \$160 million in "waste, fraud and abuse" at city hall has been debunked by the Los Angeles Times. "Most of the dollar total in Greuel's claim, now featured in television ads, relies on two audits that depend on an accounting maneuver and a large revenue projection that the controller's office itself said was unrealistic from the start."

EDUCATION

- Wendy is a product of LA public schools and her child follows in her footsteps.
- Aims to champion "common sense" reform ideas such as supporting effective teachers and considering longer school days.
- Believes in protecting teacher salaries even as Sacramento works to balance the budget.

EQUALITY, HUMAN RIGHTS & INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES

- When Patty Bellasalma, president of the CA Chapter of NOW, was asked why Wendy was not granted the endorsement of her organization, she pointed to Wendy's lack of endorsement for CEDAW – the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (an international treaty that commits governments to removing barriers to women's equality). She said, "I've known Wendy for 30 years. She could have endorsed CEDAW. She could implement CEDAW but when asked why she hasn't committed to its implementation her answer has been, 'We'll have to do a study to determine its efficacy.' Studies have already been done."

ENVIRONMENT

- While on the City Council, she helped protect an additional 1,200 acres of open space, and all of the parks in her district were expanded or improved.
- A strong advocate of expanding transit options and of programs like CicLAvia, which let us experience car-free streets.

HEALTHCARE & SAFETY NET

- Worked on housing and homelessness issues for LA Mayor Tom Bradley and then at HUD under President Clinton.
- Understands that "while there is a great need for emergency housing, it's not sufficient to end homelessness – that takes a range of services and permanent housing to help get people back on their feet."
- Has been working with the United Way of LA as part of their Bring LA home campaign to leverage public private partnerships to provide the services and housing needed to serve LA's homeless population.

TRANSPORTATION

- Leading proponent of the Measure R transportation campaign and the extension of Measure R funds, which has helped enhance mobility, improved air quality and served as a catalyst for capital improvement and economic development in the City.
- Committed to continuing to work to deliver traffic improvements such as hot lanes on the 405 to looking at innovative ways to expand carpool and light rail in the city.
- Intends to invest in transit-oriented development to spur job creation.
- Has worked to reduce congestion through practical initiatives such as:
 - a ban on all street construction during rush hour
 - anti-gridlock zones which double fines for parking in restricted zones during rush hour
 - synchronizing 75% of all traffic lights across the city
 - successfully lobbying Sacramento for funds to complete the construction of the I-405 carpool lane.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

- Supports driver's licenses for undocumented immigrants, because it "keeps our roads safer."
- Wendy believes that "the real issue here is the failure of the federal government to pass comprehensive immigration reform. As Mayor, I will continue Mayor Villaraigosa's efforts to push Congress to pass immigration reform and provide undocumented immigrants with a path to citizenship."

OTHER POSITIONS/TOPICS

The Los Angeles Times reported in February that while Wendy was a city councilmember, she didn't disclose her half-ownership in her family's building supply store while fighting the opening of a Home Depot about nine miles away from it.

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Marijuana: Wendy is concerned about the proliferation of marijuana dispensaries, but at the same time, supports compassionate and safe access to marijuana for personal medicinal use under a doctor's supervision. She would "consult with my Chief of Police and medical experts to determine the balance between access to marijuana for personal medicinal purposes and keeping our neighborhoods safe."

FUN FACTS

Wendy co-owns a family business, Frontier Building Supply. If she were elected, she would be the first female mayor of LA.

ENDORSEMENTS

Wendy has raised \$5,639,290.13 for the election as of the April 6 filing deadline.

The Huffington Post notes that the candidate has received criticism lately for the large sums of campaign money she is accepting from super PACs. (\$2,414,927.82 has been spent on her in the form of Independent Expenditure.) She turned down a challenge in late February from opponent Garcetti, to donate half the super PAC amount she receives to charity. Garcetti said he would sign a "People's Pledge" to do so if Wendy would. Wendy's campaign manager's response: "It's not a 'People's Pledge,' it's an 'Eric Garcetti is afraid of Wendy Greuel' pledge." (Ouch.) For all that it's worth, Eric is now supported by an independent expenditure committee started by Mary Jane Stevenson, who was California field director of President Barack Obama's campaign, and Rick Jacobs, who chairs the Courage Campaign.

Among notable endorsements:

- Magic Johnson
- Former President Bill Clinton
- Sen. Barbara Boxer
- Congresswomen Janice Hahn, Judy Chu, Linda Sanchez and Maxine Waters
- Supervisor Gloria Molina
- LA County Supervisor Mark Ridley Thomas
- LA City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl
- Comedian George Lopez
- Valley leader and former state Assembly speaker Bob Hertzberg
- UFW Co-Founder - Dolores Huerta
- Los Angeles Police Protective League
- Various unions like the United Firefighters of Los Angeles City Local 112, ILWU Local 63 - Marine Clerks Association, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 18
- Emily's List

Wendy Greuel and Eric Garcetti were both denied endorsement by the Democratic Party.

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CITY ATTORNEY

CARMEN “NUCH” TRUTANICH

Los Angeles City Attorney

PLATFORM

Nuch describes himself as a protector of neighborhoods, a friend of tax payers, and a defender of the vulnerable. He claims victories like prosecuting a rather large number of graffiti-related cases a year, prosecuting large corporations for excessive pollution, and cracking down on “deadbeats” that owe taxes and debts to the city. He is running with “a term of experience behind him” and sees his track record as being the key to his successful reelection. However, Nuch has made some decisions in office that have angered many Angelenos; particularly by prosecuting Occupy LA protestors and for all intents and purposes, declaring a war on street art, graffiti and “illegal” billboards.

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

A Southern California native, he received a business administration degree from USC and then pulled all-nighters getting his law degree at South Bay Academy of Law night school. He headed up his own law practice for 20 years and as a LA Attorney worked in Misdemeanors, Juvenile, and Hardcore Gang and Environmental Crime units. His hard work didn't go unnoticed: California Lawyer Magazine chose him as one of the top ten lawyers in the field of environmental law, and California Super Lawyers named him one of the top attorneys in SoCal for four consecutive years. In 2009, Nuch became LA's 39th City Attorney, and in 2012 he set his sights on higher office, running for LA County District Attorney and coming in third.

It should be noted that Nuch promised to serve two terms as city attorney during his first campaign, and ran for D.A. anyway. He pledged that if tried to leave office before a second term, he would donate \$100,000 to LA's Best and take an ad out declaring himself a gigantic liar. While LA's Best has finally seen some of the money come in, we are still waiting for the “I'm a liar” ad to present itself..

EDUCATION

Nuch boasts his city attorney office's partnerships with different organizations around LA to get gang members, potential gang members and vets committing non-violent crimes into “alternative” sentencing programs that would provide education and counseling.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Particularly in the spotlight right now is that fact that Trutanich's former law firm represented the National Rifle Association in its legal fights against local gun control issues. Nuch has refuted attacks on this, claiming that it was a partner at the firm, not him, who was involved in the NRA cases. Regardless, in light of the Newtown tragedy, Nuch has expressed his support for a ban on assault weapons and other measures. It is argued that this has not always been his position.

ENVIRONMENT

In his early days at the LA District Attorney's office, Nuch helped start up the Environmental Crimes/OHSA unit and he spent much of his private career working environmental cases. Nuch and his team reached a \$16 million settlement with Walgreen Co. over their disposal of hazardous waste, pharmacy records practices.

HEALTHCARE & SAFETY NET

Nuch sure doesn't like the mary jane. He has been trying, without great success, to shut down medical marijuana dispensaries across the city. His aggressive tactics have not moved the city any closer to regulating medical marijuana dispensaries.

Over on skid row, his office has attempted to lift a court order stopping the city from taking and disposing of homeless residents' property.

He successfully implemented an injunction that bars known drug dealers, who frequently targeted homeless in Skid Row, from entering Skid Row - with the logic that easy access to drugs sets the residents back from fighting addiction and mental illness.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

Along with Sheriff Lee Baca and LAPD Chief Charlie Beck, Nuch supports special driver's licenses for undocumented immigrants, more as a matter of public safety rather than a vote in support or against any overall immigration issues. However, in 2011, Nuch pressed charges against nine people at a rally in support of the DREAM act. They faced up to a year in county jail while the case was closely watched by civil liberties advocates. The charges were dropped because of a lack of criminal records for the nine who were arrested.

FUN FACTS

In his 2012 bid for District Attorney, he won the support of the one and only Shaquille O'Neal.

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ENDORSEMENTS & FUNDRAISING

Nuch is being outpaced financially at this point by Greg Smith and Mike Feuer, having raised about \$313k since the last reporting cycle. Nuch's list of endorsers is slow to grow, but he counts on the support of former LA mayor Richard Riordan, LA County Sheriff Lee Baca and LA City Councilman Jose Huizar.

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MIKE FEUER

Assembly Member/Attorney

POLITICAL PARTY

Democrat

PLATFORM

Mike has a rather comprehensive vision of what his job as city attorney would entail, including improving the overall safety

of LA, protecting consumers, improving business in LA, preserving the environment and keeping kids out of gangs. He sees the most important issues facing the city today as keeping neighborhoods free of gang activity and safe from gun violence. Good on you Mike.

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

Mike was elected to California's 42nd Assembly District in 2006 and served up until 2012. He chaired the Budget Subcommittee on Information Technology and Transportation, and was a member of the Budget, Judiciary, Environment and Toxics, and Revenue and Taxation Committees. Mike also served on the Assembly working group addressing California's water crisis, and the Select Committees on Youth Violence Prevention and on Air Quality. Before that, Mike represented Los Angeles' Fifth City Council District (1995-2001). Mike is the recipient of numerous awards for his work to promote education reform, affordable housing, violence reduction, and the rights of seniors and children. Mike also taught public policy at UCLA's School of Public Affairs, and litigation techniques at UCLA Law School.

JOB CREATION & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

We are impressed with Mike's job creation record. While in Sacramento, he was co-chair of the Working Group on Jobs and Economic Prosperity which advocated for access to capital and job training for small businesses. He also supported legislation that would require wage, hour and working condition requirements for domestic work employees. While on LA City Council, he helped author legislation to waive gross receipts tax for the first year of operations for small businesses.

EDUCATION

Mike helped to create the READ LA program; won the Education Advocacy Award for his work to resolve a case that lead to significant new resources to low-income neighborhood schools in California. Yea votes on education bills in the house such as requiring teaching gay history and a bill to authorize students (including undocumented immigrants) to be able to pay in-state tuition if they meet criteria.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mike has worked on the following legislation: Good Samaritan Law; the law to require ignition interlock devices be installed in vehicles of convicted drunk drivers in Los Angeles; AB 809 which requires the Department of Justice to keep copies of rifle and shotgun sales records. He backs legislation that would require micro-stamping of semi-automatic handguns to make it easier to identify weapon owners at crime

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scenes. To address gun violence, Mike says he will, among other things, establish a gun violence prevention unit in the City Attorney's office, as well as advocate for enhanced training in youth mental health issues.

EQUALITY, HUMAN RIGHTS & INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES

Mike authored Assembly Joint Resolution 29 to protect financial property of same-sex spouses; authored legislation to establish LA's Human Relations Department; has received multiple awards for his commitment to defending people's rights to justice.

ENVIRONMENT

The League of Conservation Voters gave him a 100 in 2012, and he consistently votes in support of pro-environmental legislation, including "Yea" votes on bills in the House to: authorize low-emission vehicles to use HOV lanes, ban the use of plastic bags, giving solar power energy credits and expanding enforcement of water pollution laws.

HEALTHCARE & SAFETY NET

Mike helped write the law implementing federal requirements that children have access to health insurance and has voted in favor of bills including: prohibiting sexual orientation conversion therapy (AKA health therapists trying to un-gay our youth), authorizing registered nurses to dispense contraceptives, regulating marijuana dispensaries, banning caffeinated alcoholic drinks and prohibiting the use of BPA in baby products.

TECHNOLOGY

During his time representing California's 42nd in the house, Mike voted to impose sales tax on online retailers conducting business in CA. He also supported a bill that targeted cyber bullies, and another bill to ban texting and driving.

TRANSPORTATION

Mike wrote legislation authorizing Measure R to fund billions in transportation improvements across the country and infuse \$35-40 billion into new transportation projects that will "create hundreds of thousands of jobs and transform our region." Let's hope so!

IMMIGRATION REFORM

Mike has supported legislation to authorize driver's licenses for qualifying individuals ineligible for social security numbers, legislation that prohibits excessive detention of undocumented immigrants, supported legislation to ban e-verify in the state of California.

FUN FACTS

Mike was recently in a close-call car accident on his way to the swearing-in ceremony of District Attorney Jackie Lacey where a truck allegedly ran a red light and twisted up his Prius. (Yikes!) Mike was hospitalized with non life-threatening injuries. We are not sure if his Prius was so lucky.

ENDORSEMENTS

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Sierra Club, Dolores Huerta, Ed Begley Jr., U.S. Senator Diane Feinstein, Amalgamated Transit Union, California Nurses Association, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 770, United Steel Workers, California Chapter of National Organization for Women, Mexican-American Bar Association PAC

Mike has raised nearly \$1.2 million, including 300,000 in matching city funds, outpacing all of his opponents.

OTHER POSITIONS/TOPICS

Mike helped to author the Homeowners' Bill of Rights, along with Attorney General Kamala Harris, to help prevent families from losing their homes, and to protect consumers from shady lending practices. While on the LA City Council, he helped create LA's Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

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CONTROLLER

RON GALPERIN

Efficiency Commissioner/Businessman

POLITICAL PARTY

Democrat

PLATFORM

Ron's 10-Point "Dollars & Sense Plan" for LA

1. Demand accountability
2. Get more efficient
3. Focus on collections and new revenues
4. Reform city contracting
5. Buy in LA
6. Encourage business and economic development
7. Prioritize
8. Plan & invest
9. Put city assets to work
10. Develop our human capital

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

Ron Galperin is an "attorney, business owner, and community leader." He's a member of his Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council, the President of the City of LA Quality and Productivity Commission and a member of the County of LA Quality and Productivity Commission. Ron served as Chair of the City of Los Angeles Ad-Hoc Commission on Revenue Efficiency (CORE) – formed in the spring of 2010 to evaluate and recommend improvements in collections, billing and new revenues. The first of the CORE reports that he authored, entitled: Blueprint for Reform of City Collections, identifies revenues and savings of up to \$100 million annually through improved collection of non-tax receivables. In the spring of 2012, the Commission issued 8 additional comprehensive reports – 4 focused on Business & Economic Development and another 4 on Collections & Efficiencies. All together, they identify and detail the potential for additional combined revenues and savings of \$100 million annually – with opportunities for up to \$350 million in such additional revenues and savings annually.

JOB CREATION & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Ron has a detailed plan to address the city's budget woes and his priorities are, "solving the City's ongoing "structural deficit" – guided by principles of fairness and protections for our residents and workers; having the Controller take a more active role in budgeting and budget projections; adopting budgeting best practices seen in other cities and governmental

entities, including: analysis and presentation of "net costs" associated with various governmental departments and functions, and consultation with both department heads and labor reps for their input and ideas." Additionally, Ron will "focus on collections and new revenue – and put city assets to work; demand and cultivate accountability, quality and efficiency to achieve the best public services – including reform of city contracting; plan and invest in the future and infrastructure of LA – and encourage business and economic development."

EDUCATION

Ron said, "The best way for a city to pay its bills and to grow is with good jobs and an attractive business and regulatory environment. And for this, of course, we need to strengthen our schools and invest in human capital. Protecting middle class jobs in LA is essential for ensuring that we do not become a city for only the very wealthy and the very poor."

PUBLIC SAFETY

Ron said, "We must invest in fixing and improving our infrastructure: Transportation, parks, utilities, streets, sidewalks, bridges and more. This is essential to our City's future and to our being prepared for inevitable emergencies."

TECHNOLOGY

Ron wants to use new technologies to improve the City's efficiency in monitoring outstanding debts owed to the city for unpaid fines, fees, taxes, etc.

FUN FACTS

Ron is a lyric tenor and a Cantor.

ENDORSEMENTS

Former LA Controller Laura Chick, Insurance Commissioner State of California Dave Jones, Former LA Controller Rick Tuttle, Former Chief of Police and Current LA City Councilman Bernard Parks, The Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley, The North Valley Democratic Club, the New Frontier Democratic Club in South LA

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Questionnaire from the Galperin Campaign

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DENNIS P. ZINE

Los Angeles City Councilman

POLITICAL PARTY

A registered Republican until 2009, now considers himself an Independent. Previous voter guides have listed Dennis Zine as a “Republicrat.”

PLATFORM

Dennis said, “As your next City Controller, I’ll be an independent fighter who will eliminate waste, fraud and abuse and protect the taxpayers and residents of Los Angeles.”

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

A tried and true Angeleno, Dennis was born, raised and educated here and is still an LAPD reserve officer. He currently represents LA’s 3rd City Council District and serves on several committees including as Chairman of the City Council’s Audits & Governmental Efficiency Committee.

JOB CREATION & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Worked within the 3rd District communities to attract new businesses and develop quality housing. Dennis believes the city needs a “tough controller to navigate the tough fiscal climate”. He helped build a new West Valley Police Station, new Woodland Hills fire station, 4 new libraries and the renovated Topanga Plaza. Recently he supported the Village at Westfield, a project that will generate new sales tax revenues and create thousands of new jobs. He also has worked to support the \$3 billion modernization of LAX and backed critical traffic-relief transportation projects.

EDUCATION

Dennis served on many education committees, where he helped review matters related to city schools, such as determining the location of new schools and coordinating interaction with the LAUSD. He is active with afterschool programs and Neighborhood Council governance, and works to raise public involvement in city government, or as he calls it “general civic participation and empowerment initiatives.”

PUBLIC SAFETY

As a former police officer, Dennis takes public safety issues, as you would imagine, seriously. He is an advocate for using new technologies, like cameras, as tools to fight crime. Additionally he supports bulldozing buildings that are abandoned, not only because they are “eyesores” but also because they invite graffiti and other criminal activity. Dennis established the 3rd District P.O.S.S.E. (People Organized for a Safe Secure Environment). Unlike the Wild West, this posse consists of over 400 community members trained by our city to rid

neighborhoods of graffiti, abandoned cars, potholes, unkempt properties and illegal sign postings. Dennis introduced a motion into City Council to amend Special Order 40 to allow LAPD officers to notify federal immigration officials of known gang members in the country illegally. Additionally, if a known gang member is arrested and found to be undocumented, an immigration hold will be placed on him until he can be released to Immigration & Customs Enforcement.

ENVIRONMENT

Dennis supports using reusable bags and limiting the use of plastic bags.

TECHNOLOGY

Worked as city councilman to install mobile cameras to combat property crime across his district.

TRANSPORTATION

Successfully fought to secure a parking structure for the East/West Orange Line to encourage people to use it. No plan for increased public transit.

FUN FACTS

Is Britney a constituent of CD3? If, so, her Council Member has got her back. In 2007, Dennis proposed a law named after the oft-troubled pop singer: the “Britney Spears” Law would ensure a safety zone for celebrities against paparazzi. Also he voluntarily took a 10% pay-cut to show he’s committed to fixing the City’s budget troubles.

ENDORSEMENTS

A handful of different police associations, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, DA Steve Cooley, City Attorney Carmen Trutanich, LA County Sheriff Lee Baca, U.S. Congressmen Tony Cardenas and Brad Sherman, and Councilmembers Jose Huizar, Herb Wesson, Eric Garcetti, Tom LaBonge, Mitch Englander, Bill Rosendahl and Ed Reyes.

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COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

JOSE A. GARDEA

Councilmember's Chief Deputy

POLITICAL PARTY

Democrat

PLATFORM

- Continuation of a strong delivery model of constituent services given our budget issues
- Ensuring that budget accountability is maintained
- Neighborhood protection, using land use powers to ensure our neighborhoods are protected and that residents are part of the planning process for any type of development.

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

Jose was born in and grew up in the MacArthur Park area of Los Angeles, and has 20 years experience in the community of Council District 1. He has worked under two Council Members, Mike Hernandez in 1991 and was the chief of staff for outgoing Council Member Ed Reyes starting in 2001. This would be his first elected office.

JOB CREATION & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Jose proposes creating a one shop stop to increase the ability of mom and pop businesses to open up: a single space where new business owners could come and get the required licenses and permits. He wants to use planning and land use laws similar to the way they are used in Highland Park to improve the conditions of all of District 1.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Serving as a community organizer and on Ed Reyes' staff Jose was involved in directing money to opening police and fire stations in underserved sections of his city. He also takes credit for Los Angeles's first Gang Injunction (banning a group of people from certain behaviors) in the Pico Union area. He partly attributes the crime problems in the area to the Northeast police division (which covers CD1) being too large and has proposed "having a discussion... and perhaps making it smaller."

ENVIRONMENT

Jose worked on the Los Angeles River Master Plan during his time at Ed Reyes' office. He has made it a part of his platform pledging to continue to support the plan to preserve and refresh the river. As he told the Mount Washington

Association, "It's a long-term effort that will require resources and patience. I'm committed to making sure that moving forward the city will continue to be a strong partner in developing the river."

TRANSPORTATION

Jose is against the 710 project to create a tunnel linking the 710 to the 210, and he would seek to stop it, as he believes it's badly designed and will only provide temporary relief to the freeway at the expense of the surrounding communities. Gardea strongly supports bike routes and would seek to hasten the implementation of the LA Bike Master Plan. One of his more controversial proposals is creating diagonal parking on North Figueroa, reducing space for traffic but increasing parking - all in an attempt to make the street more of a Destination.

OTHER POSITIONS/TOPICS

Medical Marijuana: "As currently distributed, I am against it."

FUN FACTS

According to his Facebook profile, his favorite books are, "This Blinding Absence of Light, No One Writes to the Colonel, and everything from John Steinbeck."

ENDORSEMENTS

Councilmembers Ed P. Reyes, Jose Huizar, Joe Buscaino, Mitch Englander, & Dennis Zine, Congressman Tony Cardenas, State Senator Alex Padilla, Assembly Members Jimmy Gomez, Felipe Fuentes & Raul Bocanegra, North East Democratic Club, various labor orgs, small business owners from the area, and a few small donations from corporations (e.g. Clear Channel)

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GILBERT CEDILLO

California State Lawmaker

POLITICAL PARTY

Democrat

PLATFORM

- Public transportation: focus on highway congestion
- Getting Los Angeles back to work
- Environment: preserving open spaces and parks
- Public safety: increase vocational training as a way to combat crime
- Healthcare: fully implement the Affordable Care Act in LA with any gaps in coverage offset by local programs
- Support of immigrant rights

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

Gil Cedillo grew up in Boyle Heights as the son of mechanic father and a garment worker mother. His father was in the United Steelworkers of America. He attend public school in Los Angeles where he met and became close friends with Antonio Villaraigosa. He attended UCLA for college and attended an unaccredited Law School. He has not passed the bar.

He started working for the Service Employees International Union, as general manager, before entering politics. He got elected to the California State Assembly in 1998. He was the author of the California DREAM Act and expanding healthcare. He ran for a Federal Congress seat in 2009 but lost to Judy Chu. He currently represents the 45th District of the California State Assembly.

JOB CREATION & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Gil Cedillo has stated that Job Creation will be his major focus. Specifically he seems to be focusing on job training initiatives in his statements on the website. His background is representing the SEIU and he has a good track record of being involved with efforts to keep union rights. He routinely gets a 100% on the California Federation of Labor Scorecard.

During the 2009 Budget talks he was against austerity measures and more in favor of public spending in order to keep employment high. “We must act to stop the IOUs, to restart construction projects, and to halt the layoffs of any additional workers.

In addition, in order to invigorate the economy he wants to seek revenue neutral tax reform. He believes LA gets a disproportionate amount of income from licenses and fees for

starting business and he believes this is a regressive system. He wants to simplify the Tax Code and close loopholes while not adjusting revenue levels.

EDUCATION

In his position statements he states that he is pro vocational training and expanding educational opportunity. He has heavily supported the California Dream Act and other opportunities for immigrants to attend school.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In his positioning statements Gil has come out in strong support for Comstat (Check out Season 3 of the Wire if you aren't sure what that is) and analytical methods. In the past he has generally supported bills that prohibit extensive sentencing, and he voted Yea on SB1449 to reclassify Marijuana as a misdemeanor (as opposed to a felony). Gil wants to work with local business to create a path to employment out of poverty, and as a deterrent to crime.

EQUALITY, HUMAN RIGHTS & INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES

His main focus on human rights is the protection of undocumented immigrants. His voting record solidly supports for gay rights and protection of human rights. He voted to support AB2654 which increased the anti-discrimination language in law to include sexual orientation and disability.

ENVIRONMENT

In the state senate he has a strong track record of voting with most environmental issues. He also proposes green job training as a way to help increase employment. However he has no specific policy proposals stated for this election. His opponent Gardea likes to bring up the fact that he didn't take a vote on California's landmark Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32).

HEALTHCARE & SAFETY NET

Gil Cedillo has focused on supporting access to healthcare for low income families. He has already voted in the state assembly to enact the health care exchanges mandated by the Affordable Care Act. He has stated we need to strengthen local health care for the gaps in the bill. In the past he has voted for bills such as SB32 which extended health care coverage to low income families.

TRANSPORTATION

Gil wants to invest heavily in alleviating congestion and traffic with the rationale that traffic is a productivity loss for Los Angeles and minimizes business opportunities. He supported the sales tax increase to support the LA County Metro Public

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Transit system. However his main goals seem to be around alleviating traffic through continued road construction such as the completing the 710 freeway.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

As we've mentioned, Gil has been heavily in favor of immigration reform. He has a strong record for providing pathways to citizenship and protecting immigrant rights. He is known in the state senate as One Bill Gil for his authoring of AB2189 which allowed undocumented immigrants to get drivers licenses. According to his website "Gil Cedillo believes that being an Angeleno is a choice, a frame of mind, and a way of life, and that we should be welcoming to those who want to make that choice, because everyone in this city had somebody in their family who made that choice." (Choice words, Gil.)

FUN FACTS

Gil was arrested during a protest at LAX in 2006. He and 200 others blocked Century Boulevard to support the right to Unionize at LAX hotels.

ENDORSEMENTS

Los Angeles Sheriff Lee Baca, Los Angeles City Attorney Carmen Trutanich, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles Councilmembers Richard Alarcon, Paul Koretz, Councilmember Bill Rosenthal, Tom LaBonge, Herb Wesson, Bernard Parks, aaaannndd.... Armando Barragan, of Barragan's Mexican Restaurant!

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COUNCIL DISTRICT 6 SPECIAL ELECTION

NURY MARTINEZ

School Boardmember

PLATFORM

- Attract and retain businesses that create solid middle class jobs by revitalizing the Van Nuys Corridor with a smart economic development plan
- Incentivize new businesses to inhabit the old Montgomery Ward site in the heart of Panorama City
- Work to finish the 40-acre Cesar Chavez park project and turn some of the existing landfills in Sun Valley into more open space for the residents of CD 6
- Fight to fully fund public safety so that all our City's residents can count on faster emergency response times and well trained first responders.

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

- School board member for District 6 since 2009
- Former mayor of the City of San Fernando and member of the City Council, elected in '03 and again in '07. Past experience includes:
- Former Special Assistant to State Senator Alex Padilla, Field Director for former State Senator Richard Alarcon, Health Educator at Northeast Valley Health Corporation, Past President of Commission Femenil of the San Fernando Valley, and Past Vice President of the San Fernando Valley Mexican American Political Association
- Graduated from Cal State Northridge with a BA in 1996
- First in her family to graduate from college
- Has a home in San Fernando, but secured a Sun Valley residence to run in this district

JOB CREATION & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

- As Mayor of San Fernando she is credited with implementing a living wage ordinance and built a "world class" aquatic center.
- Serves on Board of Directors of Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE)

EDUCATION

- Believes charter schools are "just another alternative for parents. Some are doing well, have a proven record. Others are struggling, and they need to be held accountable like any regular school."

- According to her website, "Earlier this year, Nury authored and passed a historic policy change that restored funding for art programs that were cut during the financial downturn, and she is currently developing a program that creates a link between students and jobs."

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Promises to get more funding for the LAPD

ENVIRONMENT

- Executive Director of Pacoima Beautiful, a grassroots, environmental justice community based non-profit organization dedicated to the creation of a healthy, environmentally safe and sustainable Northeast San Fernando Valley
- Manages several Pacoima Beautiful environmental education programs, and under her guidance, the org launched an afterschool program this year
- According to her website, through Pacoima Beautiful she has fought to protect the rights of workers who deal with toxic chemicals on the job and to reduce community exposure to lead poisoning

HEALTHCARE & SAFETY NET

- Healthcare advocate whose advocacy work helped create a support group for women with HIV in the San Fernando Valley
- Favors universal health care
- While Mayor of San Fernando she helped expand access to affordable housing for seniors

FUN FACT

According to KPCC, while serving as Board Member, a group of activists angry about continuing budget cuts launched a recall campaign against Nury in mid-2012. Their grievances included her support of plans to shut down adult education and occupational centers throughout the district and her support of charter schools. However, the activists couldn't get the 33k signatures they needed to force the recall election. (Shocking when you consider the 20% voter turnout for local elections here in LA.)

DONORS & ENDORSEMENTS

As of the April 6th filing deadline, Nury had raised \$121,778.00, around \$15k more than her main opponent Cindy Montañez.

Endorsements include: City Controller Wendy Greuel, LA Teachers Union, LA Police Protective League, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, City Council members Huizar, Reyes and Koretz, L.A. Economic Development Corp. Chairman

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Bob Hertzberg, and former Congressman Howard Berman. The unit of Service Employees International Union that represents thousands of city employees.

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CINDY MONTANEZ

Businesswoman/Environmental Advocate

PLATFORM

- Public safety
- Advance public transit improvement projects on Van Nuys and Sepulveda Boulevards
- Increase affordable housing and restore the city's Housing Trust Fund
- Promote economic development, including support of public-private partnerships to bolster advanced manufacturing and green technology industries
- Improve the complicated and cumbersome city planning process that often delays development, as well as support reorganizing the city's zoning code.

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

- Attended UCLA
- Member of the San Fernando City Council from 1999 to 2002
- Held the post of Mayor from March 2001 to December 2002 before being elected to the State Legislature

- Since leaving public office she's served as member of the City of Los Angeles Planning Commission, and as Assistant General Manager to the LA DWP
- This is not the first time Montanez has run for a Los Angeles City Council seat: In 2006, she ran for District 7, but dropped out to clear the way for eventual Councilmember Richard Alarcon
- In exchange, Montañez was appointed to several LA City commissions
- Recently moved to Van Nuys to run for the District 6 seat

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Authored policy the State Assembly that increased penalties for bringing guns on school campus and cracked down on identity theft.
- Also tried to pass a bill that would have established a state Correctional Education Board that would have created statewide standards for education of the incarcerated. (Gray Davis vetoed it. How's that works out in the end Gray? See <http://www.sacbee.com/2013/04/12/5336157/federal-judges-deny-california.html>)

EQUALITY, HUMAN RIGHTS & INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES

- According to data from Project Vote Smart, Cindy has received 92%-100% ratings on Civil Liberties and Civil Rights according to "interest group" rankings - groups like Lambda Letters Project, Asian Americans for Civil Rights and Equality, and Equality California.

ENVIRONMENT

- Authored policy in the State Assembly that protected children from exposure to pesticides in schools.
- Received top scores from Enviro orgs like CA League of Conservation Voters (93%), Sierra Club CA (91%), and Environment CA (100%).

HEALTHCARE & SAFETY NET

- Claims responsibility for, while Mayor of San Fernando, building a new senior housing complex, a new library, two new community parks, and expansion of a community/senior center.

FUN FACTS

- At the age of 28, Cindy was the youngest woman ever elected to the California State Legislature and the first Democratic woman to chair the powerful Assembly Rules Committee.
- At the age of 25, she became the youngest person ever elected to her hometown's San Fernando City Council.

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DONORS & ENDORSEMENTS

As of the April 6th filing deadline, Cindy had raised \$107,888.00, around \$15k less than her main opponent Nury Martinez.

Endorsements include: State Controller John Chiang, civil rights leader Dolores Huerta, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, State Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones, Board of Equalization Member Jerome Horton, various US Congress Members, State Senators, State Assemblymembers, LA City Councilmembers Rosendahl & Galanter (ret). Labor groups like UTLA and the United Auto Workers, and community organizations/political orgs like the LA County Democratic Party, San Fernando Valley NOW, Democratic Party of San Fernando Valley.

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COUNCIL DISTRICT 9

CURREN D. PRICE, JR.

State Senator/Professor

POLITICAL PARTY

Democrat

PLATFORM

- Job Growth
- Affordable Housing
- Reducing recidivism in the criminal justice system

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

Born and raised in LA, Curren attended Morningside High School in Inglewood and earned a scholarship to Stanford University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science. He studied law at Santa Clara University and graduated in 1976 with a JD. He worked in the private sector until 1999 when he served as a deputy to two members of the LA City Council, and has served twice on the Inglewood City Council. He was elected to the California Assembly in 2006 and reelected in 2008, and then elected to the State Senate in 2010. He currently serves on the following State Senate standing committees: appropriations, banking, finance and insurance, education, and public safety.

Over the past three years, he has been awarded “Legislator of the Year” by the University of California Student Association, the West Basin Municipal Water District and the Southern California Apartment Owners Association.

For someone who has been in public service so long, there is surprisingly little information available about him.

JOB CREATION & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

If elected, Curren pledges that local hiring goals during the construction and operation of the proposed football stadium at LA Live and the “Village” at USC will be achieved or exceeded. He also wants to ensure that programs that offer technical and financial assistance to support business development and procurement efforts are measurable and targeted to businesses capable of creating real jobs.

HEALTHCARE & SAFETY NET

On his website, he points to the “paucity” of affordable housing in the 9th District. For Curren, that means that “resources must be focused on creating new affordable housing, along with the preservation of existing affordable housing stock. My pledge is to work with for-profit and non-

profit housing developers and community activists to create projects that reflect single housing and multi-family needs. We must provide housing that is near public transportation, close to jobs and that contributes to making the New 9th sustainable and prosperous. I will find the manpower to clean up our streets and neighborhoods and remove blight to create a community that residents are proud to live in.”

FUN FACTS

In 1967, Curren was elected the first black student body president in the history of Morningside High School.

ENDORSEMENTS

Congresswoman Diane Watson (Ret.)

Congresswoman Karen Bass

Congressman Tony Cardenas

Congresswoman Gloria Negrete McLeod

Congressman Juan Vargas

Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

Los Angeles City Council President Herb Wesson

SOURCES

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<http://votesmart.org/candidate/biography/28973/curren-price-jr#.UR0ZFjTONA>

ANA CUBAS

Councilmember’s Chief Deputy

POLITICAL PARTY

Democrat

PLATFORM

There’s not that much out there on Ana. In her words, she is a leader with a strong work ethic and is running for office to create a movement of young leaders with a focus and positive vision for CD9. “I will work for more jobs, safer streets, and better schools. And I will make sure that the roads are paved, graffiti is painted over, abandoned cars are picked up, and more libraries and parks are built.”

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She wants to:

- Reform the budget
- Improve our transportation and city infrastructure, such as streets, sidewalks, and parks
- Jobs and economic development, including investment in urban areas

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

Began her public policy career by working for the U.S. Department of Education and then California Legislative Analyst's Office. Worked for LA City Councilmember Jose Huizar, Youth Policy Institute, LAUSD School President Jose Huizar. Attained a Master's Degree in Public Affairs/Urban and Regional Planning at Princeton University. She also attended UC Berkeley, gaining a B.A. with the Highest Honors in Sociology.

JOB CREATION & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

For Ana, the single most important issue facing the city of Los Angeles is the budget deficit. Job creation will revitalize the city and stabilize the use of city's services. She plans to attract green tech industries and create a stable partnership to allow for the economy of CD9 to thrive.

EDUCATION

Nothing stated except that she used to work on LAUSD under School Board President Jose Huizar.

ENVIRONMENT

Ana is interested in creating green jobs and improving parks.

TECHNOLOGY

Ana is interested in bring in Green Tech companies to create job opportunities.

TRANSPORTATION

She just mentions improving streets and sidewalks.

FUN FACTS

Ana would be the first Salvadoran-American to serve on LA City Council. She was arrested with other SEIU members on the biggest travel day of the year (Thanksgiving) because their permit expired and still chose to block the busy intersection. The union was protesting Aviation Safeguards, which they say illegally broke a contract.

ENDORSEMENTS

Los Angeles City Councilman José Huizar, 14th District
Former LA Councilwoman Rita Walters, 9th District
Congresswoman Linda Sanchez

Honor PAC – advocacy organization to promote civil rights and civic engagement of Latino LGBT individuals and families.

SOURCES

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COUNCIL DISTRICT 13

MITCH O'FARRELL

Councilmember's Senior Advisor

POLITICAL PARTY

Democrat

PLATFORM

A longtime resident of Glassell Park, Mitch O'Farrell has spent more than a decade working for district residents as a member of Eric Garcetti's council staff. Mitch told the League of Women Voters that his priorities are economic development and jobs, the city budget deficit, public safety and quality of life in the district's neighborhoods.

DONORS & ENDORSEMENTS

- Has raised less than half of John Choi's war chest, with \$160k raised by April 6th
- Independent expenditures for Mitch only total \$2,300 to John's staggering \$283,000
- Endorsed by Los Angeles Times: "He is articulate, tenacious and well versed on the district. He is highly regarded for his responsiveness and his ability to deliver service to residents and business... O'Farrell is steeped in the needs of district residents and better positioned to advocate for the city on crucial budget issues. He is the best choice for the 13th District."
- Congressman Xavier Becerra
- Councilmembers Jan Perry, Bill Rosendahl, Tom LaBonge
- Former CD13 candidates Sam Kbushyan, Josh Post, Mike Schaefer
- California Assemblymember Anthony Portantino

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

- Moved to LA Angeles from Oklahoma 30 years ago to work in theatre and dance
- Discovered his penchant for public service as a community activist in Glassell Park
- Co-founded the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council
- Worked for Councilmember Eric Garcetti from 2002-2012, taking on roles as field deputy, deputy director, district director and senior advisor
- Accomplishments in CD13: shut down a gang headquarters house and turning it into a community garden, bringing farmer's markets to multiple neighborhoods and creating new bike lanes.

- Served as the Glassell Park Improvement Association president
- Served on the board of the Santa Cecilia Orchestra and California Wilderness Coalition
- President of the Northeast Democratic club in 2005
- Member of the Wyandotte Native American Tribe, which his grandfather twice led as chief

JOB CREATION & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

- Seeks to solve the city's budget problems by reforming how city hall deals with small businesses, according to the League of Women Voters
- Cites that 322,000 small businesses in LA that are burdened by red tape
- Would completely overhaul regulations for small businesses, because he believes that there is "a direct correlation to our high unemployment in Los Angeles and the city's inability to adequately serve our small business community." By helping small businesses thrive, Mitch believes that he would help create jobs and add to the city's coffers through the gross receipts tax.
- Would create an ad hoc committee of the city council that would "serve as a clearing house for issues important to the entertainment industry," to help bring back entertainment industry jobs to Los Angeles.
- Advocates for a reduction in City Council salaries as well as a reduction in cronyism – he'd like the Board of Public Works dismantled, as its members are chosen by the mayor and earn as much as \$130,000 a year.

EDUCATION

- Worked with gang intervention specialists as an activist in Glassell Park, and expanded this work to the rest of the council district when he worked at Councilmember Garcetti's office.
- Has experience in afterschool programming as a board member of the LA-based nonprofit Santa Cecilia Orchestra
- Said "we need to" increase funding for education throughout Los Angeles and told Young Angelenos that the most he could do as a councilmember is to "form a working group on education issues w/LAUSD, LACC, the Charter Associations, etc."
- Believes in the cross pollination of ideas and is excited about the idea of implementing better job training and apprenticeships for LA's big three industries of healthcare, entertainment and tourism.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

- Told the League of Women Voters, “Quality of life is everything in our residential neighborhoods and our commercial districts,” noting that public safety ties directly to quality of life.
- Promises to keep neighborhoods safe, improve delivery of basic city services and work on planning and funding of improvements in public streets, parks and institutions.
- Would bring a community garden to every distinct neighborhood in the district
- Would fix the city budget deficit so that the city can return to basic city services
- Would work to plan and secure funding for improvements in various neighborhoods in the district
- Would continue his work in community policing initiatives to keep “young people from joining gangs, and offering incentives such as jobs, for at-risk youth and adults to join the mainstream and make something of their lives.”

EQUALITY, HUMAN RIGHTS & INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES

- Is outspoken on issues of equality, as an openly gay man who has lived with his life partner George for 20 years
- Worked on elevating Silver Lake residents’ achievements for equality
- Helped the Black Cat Bar in Silver Lake receive designation as a city historic-cultural landmark for playing an important role in the gay rights, and he also helped with the designation of the Mattachine Steps in honor of LGBT pioneer Harry Hay
- Urged Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to lead a delegation of local leaders in the LGBT community to meet with Chick-fil-A president Dan Cathy, who spoke out against gay marriage and sparked protests against his restaurants

ENVIRONMENT

- Believes LADWP set the bar too low on renewable energy goals,
- Would make sustainability a priority as a councilmember.
- Would continue current efforts to make Los Angeles more sustainable, such as seeking state incentives and grants
- Would continue working on water conservation

HEALTHCARE & SAFETY NET

- Supports Young Angelenos’ call for reducing homelessness and ensuring that all Angelenos have access to adequate food, shelter and social services

- Felt President Obama “surrendered early on universal or at least single payer healthcare” in regard to the Affordable Care Act. “We can and must do better,” he said to Young Angelenos.
- Said that the city has not adequately maintained its affordable housing trust fund, resulting in a shortage of funds and poor accounting of existing funds
- Wants the city to focus on a city-wide policy for creating and building supportive housing

TECHNOLOGY

- Supports promoting and establishing LA as a hub for tech entrepreneurship

TRANSPORTATION

- Supports funding new Dash lines and said that the city needs to “get back to fiscal health” to make Dash a priority throughout the nine neighborhoods in CD13
- Supports building a world-class transit system that connects LA’s existing subway to above-ground light rail. Intends on being one of three councilmembers to have a seat on the MTA board
- Supports dedicated busways that would be carefully vetted with the public.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

- Supports comprehensive immigration reform, including reforming national immigration laws to show compassion and create a process for “people who are here without permits but contribute to American society”
- Believes that any undocumented person who commits a felony or repeated misdemeanor crimes should be deported

FUN FACTS

- Spent the ’80s traveling the world as a dancer on cruise ships
- Snuck into all the studio backlots during his first week in LA. “I remember sneaking into MGM’s backlot and sneaking onto the set of Dallas and sitting at J.R.’s desk,” he told KCET.

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Young Angelenos candidate questionnaire, completed by Mitch O'Farrell on 1/31/13

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- City Councilmembers Krekorian, Huizar, Buscaino and Councilmember-elect Fuentes
- State Senators DeLean, Lara and Padilla.
- Former CD13 Candidates Matt Szabo, Jose Sigala, Emile Mack and Robert Negrete
- Prominent Asian American politicians like California's State Controller John Chiang and former California Assemblymember Warren Furutani.
- Former City Controller Rick Tuttle
- Asian American community leaders who direct groups such as Search to Involve Pilipino Americans, Thai Community Development Corporation, Koreatown Youth and Community Center and Korean American Coalition.
- Actor & Environmentalist Ed Begley Jr.

The LA Weekly has questioned whether John is too closely aligned with labor, as John was quoted at an SEIU endorsement meeting saying, "I'm sick and tired of helping to elect politicians who abandon their friends when the going gets rough," John said. "We don't need politicians that answer the door only when we bang on it. If you endorse me, you're going to be on the inside. We're gonna decide together who to open the door for." John disagreed with the Weekly's take and later told them in an interview: "It's important to say we need to come together to find solutions to these problems, and not be in an adversarial position," John said. "It's important to bring them inside the conversation and get their ideas."

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

- An immigrant whose family left Seoul, South Korea when he was 10 months old, John has spent most of his life in Southern California and earned his undergrad and law degrees at UCLA.
- John, 31, started his career working for City Council member Martin Ludlow and then became a Special Assistant to Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.
- His official bio states that during his time as a city employee, he helped residents with basic city services such as pothole repair and graffiti removal.
- Later joined the AFL-CIO as their Economic Development Director and retains strong ties to local unions.
- In June 2011, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa appointed John to the Board of Public Works, where John's bio says he worked on building parks, improving water quality and streamlining city services such as trash collection, graffiti removal, and street repair.
- Although John is a longtime Angeleno, he moved to Echo Park in late 2012 to run for office in CD13. (The Los Feliz Ledger reported that John's fundraising

JOHN J. CHOI

Former City Commissioner/Community Organizer

POLITICAL PARTY

Democrat

PLATFORM

Former Public Works Commissioner John Choi is running on a platform of creating jobs, improving city services, building parks and improving transportation.

DONORS & ENDORSEMENTS

As of the April 6th filing deadline, John has raised \$400,408.00 and has had \$283,307.80 spent on him in the form of Independent Expenditures (over 100 times more than has been spent on opponent Mitch O'Farrell.) (That's nuts.)

Key endorsements include:

- Los Angeles County Federation of Labor (which represents more than 600,000 workers from 300 union locals. Prior to the federation's endorsement) and more than a dozen union locals including film, construction, electrical and teamster unions.
- Former U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis
- Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa

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statements filed through the September 30th deadline showed that “only about 6% of his funds have come from within the zip codes within the district.”)

JOB CREATION & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

- John is running on a campaign based on job creation, and he told Young Angelenos, “I think most importantly we need to create jobs that stimulate our local economy, and not just minimum wage jobs, but jobs that one can support a family on.”

EDUCATION

- Believes that public education needs better funding and told Young Angelenos that “building greater partnerships between the city and the school district can help free up resources and allow for more practical and efficient approaches to education on the part of the district.”

PUBLIC SAFETY

- John told Young Angelenos that “the safety of our communities is directly linked to our economic health. We need to raise revenue for public safety if we want to create more jobs and help our economy recover.”
- Supports raising new revenue for public safety with additional fees or efficiencies.

EQUALITY, HUMAN RIGHTS & INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES

- John supports marriage equality and told Young Angelenos he has volunteered on behalf of the LGBT community.
- He said that “we cannot pride ourselves on being a civilized society without giving people the ability to enjoy the full benefits and rights of marriage with the person of their choosing.”

ENVIRONMENT

- As Public Works Commissioner, he worked to “reduce waste, increase recycling, and expand green and park space in the City of Los Angeles.”
- Voted to ban single use plastic bags in the city.
- Worked to develop the city’s first bike share program.
- During his time at the LA County Federation of Labor, John said he “helped implement programs that resulted in sustainable development, transit friendly housing, and green collar jobs in our region.”

HEALTHCARE & SAFETY NET

- John told Young Angelenos he believes access to health care is a “fundamental human right.”

- Advocates for a single payer health care system to “cover all and ensure everyone has access to health care. Other systems tend to leave many uncovered and unprotected.”
- Supports Barack Obama’s Affordable Care Act: “After seeing the implementation of the ACA I believe we can take further actions to reduce costs.”

TECHNOLOGY

- Citing the city’s “creative capital,” John told Young Angelenos he would prioritize linking the growing Silicon Beach technology sector with Hollywood.

TRANSPORTATION

- John told Young Angelenos, “I want to see CD13 become the most transit and pedestrian friendly district in the City.”
- Wants to see a “real interconnected” transportation system that includes increased access to public transportation, more affordable and workforce housing, a county-wide rail system, new bike lanes that connect with bus lines and development that incorporates public transit options.
- As Public Works Commissioner, John told the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council at a public meeting on May 2, 2012 about the Bureau of Street Services’ proposal to survey damaged sidewalks for repair. Neighborhood council leaders questioned John’s support for the survey, which the LA Times reported that the Bureau has estimated would cost more than \$10 million and take three years. Current CD13 Councilmember Eric Garcetti told the Times that such a survey would be too long and costly and that his office has conducted an annual street graffiti assessment in one day. “We can’t afford to wait three years and spend \$10 million on a study while our sidewalks are crumbling below our feet right now,” Garcetti said in the Times.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

- An immigrant, John supports the DREAM Act: “I believe that assistance should be provided to any and all who would seek to improve themselves through education, who cannot afford it.”
- Supports driver licenses for undocumented immigrants. He told Young Angelenos, “It’s important that all of California’s drivers are educated as to the rules of the road.”

FUN FACT

- John is vying to become the first Asian American city council member in 20 years, in a district where 22 percent of eligible voters will be Asian.

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SOURCES

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BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 6

MONICA RATLIFF

Fifth Grade Teacher

POLITICAL PARTY

Democrat

PLATFORM

Her platform is based on the following goals:

- Transparency of how the budget is being used and where the money is going.
- Collaboration among parents, teachers, administrators, school staff, charter school operators, and the community.
- College or vocational readiness for all
- Health and safety inside the classroom, outside the classroom, and in every school's neighborhood.
- Promotes fiscal responsibility and supports many models of schools, including public, charter, and pilot schools.

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

Fifth-grade teacher living in Sunland, CA. She serves on her school's site council and leadership council. Monica holds a Masters Degree in Education from UCLA as well as a Juris Doctorate from the Columbia University School of Law.

FUN FACTS

In addition to her teaching credential, Monica is also a member of the California State Bar. She was previously an attorney at the San Fernando Valley Neighborhood Legal Services, but left law in 2000 to become an elementary school teacher and has been teaching since 2001.

ENDORSEMENTS

United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA)

SOURCES

http://www.smartvoter.org/2013/03/05/ca/la/vote/ratliff_m/

ANTONIO SANCHEZ

Educator/Community Organizer

POLITICAL PARTY

Democrat

PLATFORM

His priorities for office are to:

- Manage the budget better
- Save and restore adult education
- Improve the quality of student learning

He believes that LAUSD needs to develop a multi-step plan to address various issues that plague schools, which includes resources for teachers and sufficient staff for administrators.

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

Antonio Sanchez is an education and community organizer and former Area Director for the City of Los Angeles Office of the Mayor; he has also worked for the County Federation of Labor. Antonio received his BA from California State University and an MA in Planning from UCLA, where he served as a researcher and teaching assistant.

FUN FACTS

Antonio has been an active member of the Democratic Party since 2004 and currently serves as recording secretary of the Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley.

ENDORSEMENTS

United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA); Los Angeles County Federation of Labor AFL-CIO, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Los Angeles County Democratic Party, Coalition for School Reform. His campaign has reported \$392,000 in independent expenditure spending from an organization called the Coalition for School Reform to Support Garcia, Anderson, & Sanchez for Board of Education 2013.

SOURCES

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES, DISTRICT 6

NANCY PEARLMAN

Community College Trustee

PLATFORM

Per Smart Voter, Nancy Pearlman plans to:

- Improve student success in transfers and credential completion
- Continue green building programs & make campuses ecological
- Maintain fiscal accountability

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

Per Smart Voter:

Occupation: Community College Trustee
Executive Director (for Educational Communications)
Cultural Anthropologist
Environmentalist
Educator (Community College Instructor)
Environmental Documentarian
Radio Host & Broadcaster

ENDORSEMENTS

Los Angeles Times
Congressman Brad Sherman
LA City Councilman Paul Koretz
Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter

SOURCES

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DAVID VELA

School Board Member

PLATFORM

Per Smart Voter, David Vela plans to:

- Improve access to courses offered by LA Community Colleges
- Create a 21st century learning environment for students
- Stop wasteful spending by finecombing annual budget

BACKGROUND & HISTORY

Per Smart Voter:

Occupation: School Board Member
Masters in Public Policy Pepperdine University
Bachelor's of Science Anthropology, UCLA
YMCA Board Member
LA County Trustees Association Director
CSBA Former Delegate

ENDORSEMENTS

American Federation of Teachers (AFT)/SEIU
Los Angeles County Democratic Party
LA County Federation of Labor

SOURCES

http://www.smartvoter.org/2013/03/05/ca/la/vote/vela_d/

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES MEASURES

PROPOSITION C

Limits to Campaign Spending and Rights of Corporations

WHAT THIS PROP WOULD DO

Provide City support to amend the constitution and limit campaign contributions from corporations. Basically, it would adopt a resolution in support of the effort to make an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would overturn Citizens United.

THE SITUATION

Since the Supreme Court's 2010 decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, corporations can now spend unlimited amounts of money to influence our elections, adding to the increasing amounts spent by billionaires and other special interests. In addition, in Citizen United and other decisions, the Supreme Court has ruled that corporations are entitled to the constitutional rights of people.

As we all know, the \$\$ resources at the disposal of corporations usually far exceed those of individuals. This imbalance undermines the voting process. (Ahem, Congress...)

A YES VOTE MEANS

You want the people of the City to support an Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would limit the rights of corporations so that spending money on campaigns is not constitutionally protected speech, and that ensures all citizens can have their views heard.

A NO VOTE MEANS

You do not want the people of the City to support an Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would limit the rights of corporations so that spending money on campaigns is not constitutionally protected speech, and that ensures all citizens can have their views heard.

NOTE: This is a vote to support the effort to make this amendment, not a vote to actually make the amendment.

SOURCES

<http://www.smartvoter.org/2013/05/21/ca/la/prop/C/>

THE MARIJUANA PROPS & ORDINANCES

Here's the deal, there are three pot measures on the ballot, and the measure with the most votes will win, but only if it receives more than 50% of the vote. If none of the three receives majority approval, they all fail. The basic premise is that there are around 700 pot shops in LA right now, and there are concerns about some of the newer shops catering to drug dealers for not requiring prescriptions and selling more than 8 oz. per visit.

We've summarized them below, but if you are still confused, check out this LA Times article at <http://articles.latimes.com/print/2013/apr/21/local/la-me-pot-measures-20130422>

PROPOSITION D

Medical Marijuana Regulation and Taxation

WHAT THIS PROP WOULD DO

- Shrink the number of pot shops in LA to around 135, only allowing those who opened before a failed 2007 moratorium on new shops to stay in businesses and who remain in good standing with the city.
- It would also increase the tax from \$50 to \$60 for every \$1,000 gross revenue.

WHO SUPPORTS

The Los Angeles County Democratic Party and by a labor union that has organized workers at dozens of older dispensaries. The measure was placed on the ballot by the City Council to counter the two measures below that qualified through the initiative process.

SOURCES

<http://www.smartvoter.org/2013/05/21/ca/la/prop/D/>
<http://articles.latimes.com/print/2013/apr/21/local/la-me-pot-measures-20130422>

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ORDINANCE E

Medical Marijuana Regulation

Ordinance E is moot. It's not even supported by the people who put it on the ballot – they've all moved to Ordinance D.

SOURCES

<http://www.smartvoter.org/2013/05/21/ca/la/prop/E/>

<http://articles.latimes.com/print/2013/apr/21/local/la-me-pot-measures-20130422>

ORDINANCE F

Medical Marijuana Regulation and Taxation

WHAT THIS PROP WOULD DO

- Place no limit on the number of pot shops but would require them to submit to city audits, test cannabis for toxins and keep a certain distance from schools, parks and other dispensaries.
- Increased taxes on pot sales from \$50 to \$60 for each \$1,000 of gross receipts.

WHO SUPPORTS

A coalition of shops that opened after the 2007 moratorium.

SOURCES

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