

Each month, *Alive!* invites political leaders to speak directly to City and DWP employees and retirees. *Alive!* brings you these views as a public service. The opinions of those on this monthly page are independent of *Alive!* and the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

## Political Forum



### City Employees Critical to Making L.A. Even Better

by Mayor James K. Hahn

As Mayor of Los Angeles, my vision is very straightforward — to improve the quality of life for every resident in every neighborhood in Los Angeles. That includes making our streets safer, working to improve the quality of our schools, making sure that the delivery of city services is efficient, improving transportation, and providing safe and adequate housing for all of our residents. But to meet these needs, the foundation of our city must be built on a strong and vibrant economic base.

Los Angeles today is already an economic powerhouse. But, Los Angeles is also a city of unlimited potential. Our harbor and our airport make us the key gateway to the entire Pacific Rim. Our diversity, both in terms of people and resources, make us more nimble to respond to shifts in the economic winds. And the unfettered entrepreneurship and imagination of the industries we already have here including film, fashion and biotechnology keep us consistently on the cutting edge.

Our challenge as employees and residents of this great city is to work together to foster this potential, help to strengthen our economic foundation, and provide opportunities for economic growth. To keep Los Angeles' economy moving forward, we need good jobs that have career ladders for advancement; an adequate supply of safe housing available to families of all income levels; a healthy and friendly business environment; and policies that maximize the utilization of land.

City employees are an integral part of the process that will take place to fulfill my vision for Los Angeles. Your continued commitment to my goals and dreams for this administration are greatly appreciated and recognized. I would like to thank city employees for your support and dedication to helping me bring forth my initiatives for the City of Los Angeles. ■

**Wanna be heard?**

Tell *Alive!* what you think about the Mayor's thoughts: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



### Sept. 11 Tells Us We Need Strong City Workforce

by Ed P. Reyes, Councilmember, District 1

The month we just finished, September, was somber because of the memorial tributes that commemorated the tragic events of September 11, 2001. We learned many lessons from that day. Among these, I believe, was the importance of having competent, experienced and dedicated city employees. While I hope that nothing so tragic will ever befall our beloved Los Angeles, I take great comfort in knowing that our city is not only well prepared, but also that we are in the hands of what I consider the finest city workforce in the nation.

This confidence stems from having been a member of the city workforce myself for more than a decade before being elected to the City Council. In those years, I witnessed some amazing feats of courage by our very own City departments. We pulled together during the worst riots in our nation's history and fought to make people's lives better. I recall our efforts in

the wake of some of the worst fires and floods in this regions' history, and how dutifully our departments and bureaus responded following our worst earthquake in decades. We met every challenge head-on, and through it all, our workforce continued to deliver services to the residents of this great city.

This is a time to remember all those who perished on that fateful day one year ago. In particular we should remember our City counterparts on the East Coast.

But it is also a time to remind ourselves here in Los Angeles that we are a seasoned and dedicated workforce that takes pride in our work and in our City. And in the mind of this Council member, there is none better.

**Wanna be heard?**

Tell *Alive!* what you think about Councilmember Reyes' thoughts: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

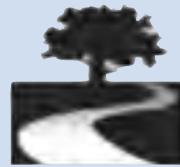
## Enjoy a Debt-Free Life!

- WE STOP Creditor Harassment
- WE REDUCE your debt by up to 60%
- WE ELIMINATE your interest payments
- YOU CAN BE DEBT FREE in less than 18 payments



**1-800-99HELP ME  
(1-800-994-3576)**

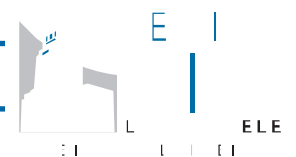
**Call us NOW for a FREE Consultation**  
Your peace of mind starts with your first call.



HARRISON FINANCIAL INC.  
DEBT ELIMINATION SERVICES

**New!**

from the Club!



EXCLUSIVELY FOR CLUB MEMBERS:

### The best group-rated Auto Insurance & Homeowners Insurance plans available.

- Group rated, low cost premiums
- Fast approvals, easy applications
- Many plans, coverage levels available



**Call (888) 777-1744 for a free quote.**

Offered in affiliation with Crusberg Decker LLC, CADOI #OB75123.