

# Mayor Emphasizes Safety, Housing, Budget Priorities

## State of the City

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ambulances and paramedics in every firehouse in Los Angeles.

"The people assembled here today represent all this City is—diverse, hardworking and vibrant. And the young people I see are a shining reminder of our future, a future dependent on the actions we take now. We must not let them down," Mayor Hahn said. "I have worked to make Los Angeles a fitting legacy to leave to our children. Today, I am proud to report to you that the state of our city is safer, a better place for our families and is improving every day."

"I am proud to announce that next year will see paramedics and ambulances in every firehouse in the city," Mayor Hahn added. "And they will be busy—85 percent of calls to the Fire Department are for medical emergencies, not fires. With trained medical help in every neighborhood citywide, people will be able to get help faster when they need it – this will save lives."

Mayor Hahn also spoke of his goal of making Los Angeles the safest big city in America. "Last month, I was in Washington, D.C., to lobby for more Homeland Security funding, but as I drove by the Franklin D. Roosevelt memorial, I was reminded of the danger some of us see right outside our windows," Mayor Hahn said. "Etched into the memorial's stone were the words 'freedom from fear.' What a gift that freedom would be to our City—freedom for seniors to feel safe walking down the street at all hours; freedom for parents to be secure in letting their children play in the front yard; freedom for young people to dream about a bright future."

"It's time the overwhelming majority of good, hardworking people in our city, did not have to live in fear of the criminal few," Mayor Hahn added.

Mayor Hahn highlighted his administration's efforts to keep up with Los Angeles' need for affordable housing through the Housing Trust Fund.

"To attract quality jobs, we must have quality housing that is affordable. Our city's business leaders have told me again and again—the workers that keep the economic engines running need homes they can afford on their salaries—otherwise, businesses and jobs will go elsewhere," Mayor Hahn said. "The cornerstone of my commitment to affordable housing in Los Angeles was my pledge to create an unprecedented \$100 million dollar Housing Trust Fund. Just last week I was proud to announce that we have fulfilled that pledge of 100 million—Los Angeles is now home to the nation's largest local housing trust fund."

"The nation, state and this city are amidst tough economic times," Mayor Hahn added. "City Hall—and our families—are not immune from economic forces affecting the entire globe. There are bright spots—in November, a Cal State Northridge study reported that the Valley is outpacing the state in job growth. We want to see even greater success citywide."



ITA employees helped coordinate the media needs for the State of the City Address.

Mayor Hahn also spoke of the city's efforts to work with the community, in neighborhoods citywide, to make Los Angeles a better place in which to live and work. "Bringing the community to the table is essential to meeting Los Angeles' priorities. I have heard a loud and clear message from residents and businesses across our city – you want a more responsive city government. We are listening," Mayor Hahn said. "We have heard over and over again that public safety is something that concerns people the most – and we know that by addressing public safety, jobs, housing and more revenues to pay for things like street maintenance will follow."

Mayor Hahn cited the extension of the city's Winter Homeless Shelter program, the dedication of \$2 million to pay for almost 40,000 hours of police overtime directed to Housing Authority communities, and the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice Planning, as examples of efforts

his office has undertaken to maintain vital services despite tough economic times and less funding from Sacramento and Washington.

"By getting creative," Mayor Hahn said, "we have found solutions to save money and keep up with the city's priorities no matter what the economic situation." 🏠

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Eric Robles, Special Events Coordinator.



GM of Bureau of Sanitation and Club Board member Rita Robinson.



In attendance at the State of the City Address: Michael Tortorice, Heavy Equipment, Maintenance Department, 5 years.



Councilmember Bernard Parks remarking on the State of the City Address.



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