

# Political Forum



## Thanks to You, City Getting Safer

By Mayor Jim Hahn

With the start of the New Year, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your hard work over the past year. With your teamwork and dedication, we are turning Los Angeles around and we are well on our way to meeting the goals we have set for this great city.

My number one priority as mayor is to make Los Angeles the safest big city in America, because in a safe city, all else follows. A safer city attracts housing development. A safer city attracts job-creating investments. A safer city helps our kids grow up right. A safer city improves neighborhoods, helps us sleep better at night and saves lives.

We have made great strides over the last two years in making Los Angeles a safer city. Citywide, homicides dropped more than 20 percent and violent crime decreased more than 18 percent.

We are moving in the right direction and we cannot afford to reverse course. In order to maintain our momentum against crime – to make Los Angeles the safest big city in America – we need more police officers on our streets.

The LAPD has done too much, with too little, for too long. It is time to act. Sixty-four percent of voters in the City of Los Angeles agree with Chief Bratton and me that the City needs more police officers. The addition of at least 1,200 officers is critical to meeting our goal of making Los Angeles a safer city.

With the hard work of our police officers and all the City employees, we are turning Los Angeles into the city we all know it can be. The dedicated public servants of the Housing Department have helped double the pace of

housing production since I became mayor. The Department of Street Services will improve more streets this year than ever before, while Los Angeles Public Library and the Department of Recreation and Parks are helping me make Los Angeles the safest big city in America by giving our kids secure, fun and productive places to spend their time.

I want to thank you all for your energy, enthusiasm and effort in serving the people of Los Angeles. I wish each of you and your families a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.



## Chief Legislative Analyst Plays Critical Council Role

by Cindy Miscikowski, Councilwoman, District 11

As you may have heard, Ron Deaton has left this role as the head of the Chief Legislative Analyst's (CLA) office, and the City Council is embarking on a search for a new CLA. The CLA and its staff are a crucial and important part of the operations of the City Council and the City of Los Angeles as a whole. The CLA's duties include investigation and analysis for the Council, its committees and its individual members regarding legislation, including preparing reports, schedules, analyses and recommendations. Further, the Chief Legislative Analyst coordinates the development of legislative policy for the Council and monitors and reports on the City's legislative program at the state, federal and local levels of government.

In my almost 30 years of service to the City of Los Angeles, the Chief Legislative Analyst has been the backbone of the City's legislative might, and I believe it is important that it remain as such. At times the Council and/or its membership may not agree with the advice of the Chief Legislative Analyst, but it is important for whoever is selected to this position to be able to continue to give the Council unbiased and independent advice. It is crucial in the proper governance of the City that the office of the CLA maintains independence and integrity. The CLA's office has been and should remain an institutional force that provides accurate and independent

feedback to the City Council. The role of the CLA is of great significance, and choosing a successor should be a high priority for the City Council to focus on over the next several months.

### Ms. Miscikowski Council District 11 represents the following areas:

- LAX
- Westchester
- Playa del Rey
- Del Rey
- Mar Vista
- Playa Vista
- Marina del Rey (City of LA)
- Venice Palms
- West LA
- Brentwood
- Pacific Palisades

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 column are independent of Alive! and the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

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