

## BLDG. AND SAFETY



Ruben Pérez and Dr. Hortencia Quiroz, his sister from Arizona.

## Ruben Retires

Ruben Pérez retires from Building and Safety after 35 years of City service.

*Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Communications and Marketing*

A retirement party was held April 11 for Ruben Pérez at the Takami Sushi restaurant's Elevate Lounge.

Here is a resolution prepared for him at his retirement.

"Whereas, Ruben Pérez has completed 35 years of devoted service with the City of Los Angeles; and

"Whereas, Ruben Pérez began his City career on March 3, 1973, as a Maintenance Laborer with Public Works/Street Services; moved to the Bureau of Sanitation as a Truck Operator on Jan. 19, 1975; joined Building and Safety as an Assistant Inspector on Jan. 15, 1978; and was promoted to Building Mechanical Inspector in February 1981 and then to Senior Building Mechanical Inspector on April 23, 1985. On Feb. 9, 1988, he advanced to Principal Inspector, Housing, and then returned to Building and Safety in February 2000 as a Chief Inspector. Subsequently, he was promoted to Assistant Deputy Superintendent of Building II on July 23, 2003 and then to Deputy Superintendent of Building on April 8, 2007, the position from which he now retires after a lengthy and prominent career of service to the City of Los Angeles; and

"Whereas, Mr. Pérez's constructive attitude, affability, attention to details, and strong work ethic have made him a superb leader and manager of the Department's Code Enforcement Bureau and earned him the esteem of his peers, the regard of his superiors, and the appreciation of his subordinates; and

"Whereas, Mr. Pérez' public relations skills helped to build alliances, gain consensus, and defuse potentially volatile situations throughout the many communities he has served, even among those who stridently disagreed with City policies; and

"Whereas, Mr. Pérez has displayed superior initiative and thoughtfulness throughout his City career with his willingness to mentor staff, assist his co-workers and supervisors, and even develop inspection training programs on his own time and at his own expense; and

"Whereas, Mr. Pérez has repeatedly demonstrated an outstanding ability to take on and complete the most daunting workloads and responsibilities, properly manage controversial projects, effectively reform and streamline procedures, and increase productivity as demonstrated in the reduction of the backlogs of the Commission Office and Conservation Bureau (Conservation Bureau case backlogs dropped from over a year to just three weeks) for which he received the 2002 Serving Communities and People Award; and



Cynthia Pérez, Executive Administrative Assistant, Public Works/Sanitation; and her husband, Ruben Pérez, Assistant General Manager, Building and Safety.

"Whereas, Mr. Pérez has continuously and skillfully 'thought outside the box,' which culminated in his ability to quickly and successfully adapt to new and difficult situations, effectively respond to unforeseen crises and rapidly changing and dangerous situations, including the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, the 1992 Civil Disturbance, and the 1994 Northridge earthquake, all for which he received commendations; and

"Whereas, Mr. Pérez has shown a deep commitment to the safety of the residents of Los Angeles, including his important contributions to the City's Seismic Reinforcement Seminars and Earthquake Preparedness Fairs, for which he received Council and Mayoral commendations, respectively; and

"Whereas, Mr. Pérez contributed greatly to the successful development and implementation of the Department's mission-critical enterprise-wide Plan Check and Inspection System (PCIS), using his consensus-building skills as well as his knowledge of the codes and inspection policies and practices; and

"Whereas, Mr. Pérez made innovative and far-reaching contributions to the development and successful implementation of the Department's Code Enforcement Information System (CEIS), for which the Department received a 2004 Quality and Productivity Award; and

"Whereas, the outstanding leadership, innovative ideas, productivity and overall performance of Mr. Ruben Pérez have contributed greatly to the high achievements of Building and Safety and thereby made the City of Los Angeles a safer and more desirable place for residents, businesses and visitors, and have demonstrated the highest ideals of public service:

"Now, therefore be it resolved, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Los Angeles, by adoption of this resolution, do hereby congratulate Ruben Pérez upon his retirement after 35 years of loyal service, commend and thank him for his dedication in providing the best service possible to the residents of the City of Los Angeles, and forthwith wish him many deservedly enjoyable years of retirement with his wife, Cynthia."

Congratulations, Ruben and Cynthia. Have a great retirement!



From left: Andres Lopez, friend of Ruben from college; Cynthia Pérez, Ruben's wife; and Karen Chapkaneh, Cynthia's sister.



From left: Ismael Hernandez, Housing Inspector, Housing, 2.5 years of service; and Lee Smith, Sr. Housing Inspector, Housing, 10 years of service.



From left: Marie Park, Sr. Systems Analyst, DWP, 17 years of service; Joann Troncale, Management Analyst II, Public Works/Street Services, 22 years of service; and Jeanne Ly, Systems Programmer, Building and Safety, 13 years of service.



Frank Bush, Building and Safety, Chief Inspector, 18.5 years of service.



From left: Marty Weight, Building and Safety, Sr. Building Inspector, 22 years of service, and his wife, Linda; and Stephen Reed, Building and Safety, Sr. Building Inspector, 8 years of service.



Reid Daub, Sr. Building Inspector, Building and Safety, 18 years of service; with his wife, Joan.



From left: Anastacio Gallegos, Complaints Housing Inspector, Housing, 6 years of service; and John Tompkins, Sr. Housing Inspector, Housing, 9 years of service.