

PUBLIC WORKS

Goodbye, Manny

Manny Cajucom, Club Member, retires from Public Works after 35 years of City service.

Photos courtesy Manny Cajucom



Manny addressed and thanked all the attendees.



SCI Joe Zamora and Johnny Yutronic (not in picture) presented Manny with a Commemorative Inspector's Badge in honor of his retirement. They represented MCI, the inspectors union.

Manny Cajucom, Principal Construction Inspector, Public Works/Contract Admin, and longtime Club Member, celebrated his retirement from City service with a luncheon in his honor. His fellow Principal Construction Inspectors from the Bureau of Contract Administration and Airports attended the event at Luminarias Restaurant June 19.

Manny has served the City for the last 35 years, most of it spent with the Bureau of Contract Administration. At the time of his retirement, he was assigned to District 4 of the Metro Construction Division, where he managed and supervised a group of inspectors. His responsibility is to administer contracts for City projects, including street improvements, public buildings, bridge program, street lighting projects, traffic signal construction, storm drains, and permits for improvements on public rights of way. His district area includes central Los Angeles, Montecito Heights, Monterey Hills, El Sereno, Lincoln Heights, China Town, Little Tokyo, Boyle Heights and downtown.



John L. Reamer Jr., Director, Public Works/Contract Admin, presented Manny a citation from the Board of Public Works, signed by all Commissioners, and a 35-year service pin.



Public Works/Contract Admin Principal Construction Inspectors joined Manny at his retirement event. They are, front row, from left: Emmanuel Achonu, George Stofila, David Tang, Manny Cajucom, Brett McReynolds, John Olinger, Sefy Wiles and Ted Galsim. Back: Jim Cassley, Chris Cox, Chief Const. Inspector Charley Mims, Marc Wright, Greg Pifer and Ken Hendricks.

Prior to this assignment, he worked at the San Pedro Area office, West L.A. and at the Valley Construction Division.

Before moving to Los Angeles from the Philippines, Manny worked in design and construction of residences, office and commercial buildings. He is licensed to practice architecture in the Philippines. Manny is well liked in the Bureau and will be missed by his fellow inspectors.

Congratulations on your great career, Manny!



Manny was presented with a commemorative badge.



A signed group picture of current Principal Inspectors was presented to Manny. Shown in picture, from left: David Tang, Frank Rinaldi, Ted Galsim, Chief Insp. Charley Mims, George Stofila, Brett McReynolds, Manny Cajucom, Sefy Wiles, Ken Hendricks and Marc Wright.



The event was graced with the surprise appearance of Amanda and Fred Brown, Retired Assistant Director and Principal Inspector. They were here on vacation from Belize.

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SEEN
Around Town
By Jennifer Shackelford
Club Application Coordinator

The Past and Present

In a city as diverse as Los Angeles, there is always going to be change. In fact, that has always been a heavy criticism of L.A. We pave over our history. While I agree that much of this is annoyingly true, sometimes, a little change is a good thing. Let's take the Homer Laughlin Building. It was designed by architect John Parkinson in 1896. It was the first fireproofed, steel reinforced structure in L.A. In 1917, it became the home of the Grand Central Market. The location was chosen for its proximity to Angels Flight, allowing the people who lived in Bunker Hill to access the market. Fresh fruit and veggies, just a funicular away.

Originally it was built in the Beaux Arts style, but alterations done in the 1960s hid the second story windows and drastically altered its appearance. Another major renovation in the 1990s added apartments and created the first true mixed use development in decades.

And things are changing here yet again. New vendors are in place with new and tasty offerings. The new BBQ place has its own outdoor patio. A swanky new coffee counter brings magic to those who need a caffeine kick and a new Thai place offers up sticky rice and tasty meats. There is even a little gelato place, if you need a cool treat on a hot day.

A little change can be a good thing. As much as I loved the past, the present has a wonderful flavor.

Grand Central Market is located at 317 Broadway in Downtown L.A.