



#08-3050

June 18, 2012

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and  
Los Angeles City Council  
City of Los Angeles  
200 North Spring St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**District Council 36**

514 Shatto Place  
3rd Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90020  
Phone (213) 487-9887  
Fax: (213) 487-9822  
Web <http://afscme36.org>  
Cheryl Parisi  
Executive Director

**Executive Board**

Alice Goff  
President  
Karen Norwood  
Secretary  
Roy Stone  
Treasurer  
Gwendolyn Jones  
Vice President  
District 2  
Sylvena Parker  
Vice President  
District 2  
Andreas Jung  
Vice President  
District 2  
Jose Trujillo  
Vice President  
District 2  
Jason Stinnett  
Vice President  
District 2  
Ernesto Davalos  
Vice President  
District 3  
Isabella Meni  
Vice President  
District 4  
Frank Pitarro  
Vice President  
District 5

Herman Martinez  
Vice President  
District 6  
Andrea Houtman  
Vice President  
District 7

As you know the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees ("AFSCME") represents the Basic, Supervisory, Professional, and Management bargaining units (Locals 164, 585, 1890, and 2204) at the Community Redevelopment Agency of Los Angeles ("CRA/LA"). We have appreciated the recognition that the City has given us over the years in praising our efforts.

On Wednesday, you will consider approving the establishment of a new Economic Development Department - functions previously performed by CRA/LA. We ask as you do so that you take the following steps:

1. Ensure the organization is a public entity
2. Hire qualified CRA/LA employees prior to considering other outside candidates (now and in the future)
3. Honor each hired CRA/LA employee's seniority

We must make sure the organization is accountable and functions in a way that engenders the public trust. Private non-profit models in San Diego and elsewhere have resulted in Grand Jury indictments, firing of CEO's who make improper payments to themselves and others, and worse...

Furthermore, we believe that you are legally obligated to hire the CRA/LA staff and the City is receiving additional property tax revenue due to the dissolution of the CRA/LA.

Taking these steps will not only add to the talent of the City, but also support the new obligations the City is assuming - all while treating the former CRA/LA employees with the respect they deserve.

Thank you,

Steve Koffroth  
Business Representative

Cc: Christine Essel, CEO CRA/LA-DLA  
Maria Elena Durazo, LA County Federation of Labor  
Willie Pelote, AFSCME CA Leg. and Pol. Director

Orange County  
2101 W. Crescent Ave  
Suite C  
Anaheim, CA 92803  
(714) 778-4417

Ontario  
320 West G Street  
Suite 201C  
Ontario, CA 91764  
(909) 460-6200

South Bay  
500 East Carson Plaza Dr.  
Suite 107  
Carson, CA 90706  
(310) 516-1645

San Diego  
3737 Camino Del Rio South  
Suite 400  
San Diego, CA 92108  
(619) 640-4939