



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

July 17, 2014

Honorable Members of the City Council
c/o City Clerk
City Hall, Room 395

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have reappointed Mr. Gabriel L. Eshaghian to the Board of Airport Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2019. Mr. Eshaghian's current term expired on June 30, 2014.

I certify that in my opinion Mr. Eshaghian is qualified for the work that will devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. Garcetti". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent "E" and "G".

ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor

EG:dlg

Attachment

COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

Name: Gabriel L. Eshaghian
Commission: Board of Airport Commissioners
End of Term: 6/30/2019

Appointee Information

1. **Race/ethnicity:** Caucasian
2. **Gender:** Male
3. **Council district and neighborhood of residence:** 4 - South Valley
4. **Are you a registered voter?** Yes
5. **Prior commission experience:**
6. **Highest level of education completed:** Masters of Science, Real Estate Finance, New York University
7. **Occupation/profession:** Principal and Vice-President of Acquisitions and Development, The Somerset Group
8. **Experience(s) that qualifies person for appointment:** See attached resume
9. **Purpose of this appointment:** Reappointment
10. **Current composition of the commission (excluding appointee):**

| Name | APC | CD | Ethnicity | Gender | Appt date | Term end |
|-----------------------|--------------|----|------------------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| Burton, Sean O. | West | 5 | Caucasian | M | 13-Aug-13 | 30-Jun-15 |
| Eshaghian, Gabriel L. | South Valley | 4 | Caucasian | M | 13-Aug-13 | 30-Jun-14 |
| Goldberg, Jackie | East | 13 | Caucasian | F | 13-Aug-13 | 30-Jun-15 |
| Hsu, Beatrice C. | Central | 4 | Asian Pacific Islander | F | 13-Aug-13 | 30-Jun-16 |
| Johnson, Matthew M. | South Valley | 4 | African American | M | 13-Aug-13 | 30-Jun-14 |
| Telles, Cynthia A. | South Valley | 4 | Latina | F | 13-Aug-13 | 30-Jun-18 |
| Velasco, Valeria C. | West | 11 | Latina | F | 06-Sep-05 | 30-Jun-17 |



THE SOMERSET GROUP

INVESTMENT | DEVELOPMENT | MANAGEMENT

Biography

Gabriel L. Eshaghian

Gabriel Eshaghian is a seasoned business leader with a proven track record in the real estate, travel and transportation industries. He is currently a Principal and Vice-President of Acquisitions and Development with **The Somerset Group**, a New York based real estate investment, development and management firm founded in 1979. Mr. Eshaghian has been with the organization for more than 7 years, since he opened their Los Angeles office in September 2005.

At **Somerset**, Mr. Eshaghian sits on the Executive Committee responsible for the management and optimization of the firm's 2 million square foot real estate portfolio. He oversees the company's new asset acquisitions, financing, strategic planning and development processes. During his tenure, he has personally lead the acquisition and financing of two high-profile Los Angeles office buildings; has been responsible for leading the entitlements and pre-development of a 300,000 square foot mixed use residential high-rise located on Wilshire Boulevard in the Westlake/MacArthur Park district of Los Angeles (due to commence construction in 2014); and has originated over \$250mm in debt financing/refinancing for properties owned and newly acquired.

Before joining Somerset, Mr. Eshaghian spent over 10 years in various executive positions within the travel and transportation industries. His previous responsibilities were with **PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP**, one of the world's largest professional services firms with over \$28 billion in global revenues. He spent two years as a **Director** with their UK subsidiary **NYRAS Capital**, focused on turnaround strategy consulting and investment banking transaction services in the global airline and transportation sector. Mr. Eshaghian led engagements at C-level on a global scale, with clients including: Qantas, British Airways, Swiss International Airlines, Lufthansa, Finnair, BC Partners, HBOS, Easyjet, Royal Jordanian & Amadeus.

Prior to that, he held the position of **Global Travel Manager**, where he was responsible for managing **PricewaterhouseCoopers'** corporate travel infrastructure and consolidated airline spend of \$540 million in more than 40 countries. During that time, he led a change management program that yielded more than \$50m in incremental savings by leveraging PwC's global participation and balance of trade.

Mr. Eshaghian also held various commercial management and business development positions in the airline industry, including positions with **Swissair**, and with **Virgin Atlantic Airways** as their US based Global Key Accounts Manager.

Mr. Eshaghian is a subject matter expert in the areas of real estate acquisitions and finance, global travel management and aviation strategy, and was the recipient of the Association of Corporate Travel Executives' "Global Vision Award" in 2001. He has lectured extensively throughout the world and has previously been quoted as a subject matter expert in the Los Angeles Business Journal, California Real Estate Journal, Financial Times, Wall Street Journal Europe, Business Travel News, Travel Weekly and Business Travel Executive Magazine.

A native of New York City, Mr. Eshaghian speaks French and Italian fluently, has travelled and worked extensively in over 50 countries, and is a classically trained concert pianist. He is an active member of the Urban Land Institute, Ipalpiti Young Artists International, The Maestro Foundation and the Children's Music Fund Charity. He also served as a founding member of the Campaign Finance Committee for Eric Garcetti for Mayor of Los Angeles 2013.

He holds a BA in Religion from the University of Southern California and a MSc. in Real Estate Finance from New York University.



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

July 17, 2014

Mr. Gabriel L. Eshaghian

Dear Mr. Eshaghian:

I am pleased to inform you that I hereby reappoint you to the Board of Airport Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2019. In order to complete the process as quickly as possible, there are several steps that must be taken, many of which require visiting City Hall. If you require parking during these procedures, please call Cary Gross in my Office at (213) 978-0621 to make arrangements for you.

To begin the reappointment process, please review, sign and return the enclosed Remuneration Form, Undated Separation Forms, Background Check Release and Information Sheet **within one week** of receiving this letter. These documents are necessary to ensuring the most efficient, open and accountable City government possible.

Under separate cover you will be receiving a packet from the City Ethics Commission containing information about the City's conflict of interest laws and a copy of the State Form 700/Statement of Economic Interests. You are required to complete and return this form **within 21 days** of your nomination to the City Ethics Commission, 200 North Spring Street, City Hall, 24th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012. Any inquiries regarding this form should be directed to Shannon Prior at the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960.

As part of the City Council confirmation process, you will need to meet with Tom LaBonge, your Councilmember and the Chair of the Trade, Commerce and Tourism Committee, to answer any questions he may have. You will be hearing from a City Council committee clerk who will let you know when your reappointment will be

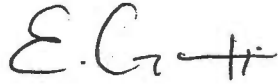
Mr. Gabriel L. Eshaghian
July 17, 2014
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considered by the Trade, Commerce and Tourism Committee. Some time thereafter, you will be notified by the committee clerk when your reappointment will be presented to the full City Council for confirmation. Once you are confirmed, you will be required to take the oath of office in the City Clerk's Office in Room 395 of City Hall. Cary Gross will assist you during the confirmation process if you have questions.

Commissioners must be residents of the City of Los Angeles. If you move at any point during your term, have any changes in your telephone numbers, or in the future plan to resign (resignation must be put in writing), please contact my office immediately.

Congratulations and thank you for agreeing to serve the people of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Garcetti". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E" and a stylized "Garcetti".

ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor

EG:dlg

Attachment I
Mr. Gabriel L. Eshaghian
July 17, 2014

Nominee Check List

I. Within seven days:

Mail, fax or email the following forms to: Cary Gross, Office of the Mayor, Office of External Affairs, City Hall, 200 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 or email: cary.gross@lacity.org.

_____ **Remuneration Form**

_____ **Undated Separation Forms**

_____ **Background Check Release**

_____ **Commissioner Information Sheet/Voluntary Statistics**

II. Within 21 days:

File the following forms with the City Ethics Commission. *If you are required to file, you will receive these forms in the mail from that office.*

_____ **Statement of Economic Interest ("Form 700")**

IMPORTANT: The City Council will not consider your nomination until your completed form is reviewed by the Ethics Commission.

_____ **Residence Verification Form**

III. As soon as possible, the Mayor's Office will schedule a meeting with you and:

_____ **Your City Councilmember and Chair of the Council Committee considering your nomination, Tom LaBonge** (contact at (213) 473-7004)

Staff in the Mayor's Office of External Affairs will assist you with these arrangements.