



**ERIC GARCETTI**  
**MAYOR**

March 24, 2017

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

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have appointed Ms. Aura Vasquez to the Board of Water and Power Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2020. Ms. Vasquez will fill the vacancy created by Michael Fleming, who has resigned.

I certify that in my opinion Ms. Vasquez is qualified for the work that will devolve upon her, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'E. Garcetti', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

ERIC GARCETTI  
Mayor

EG:dlg

Attachment

## COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

**Name:** Aura Vasquez  
**Commission:** Board of Water and Power Commissioners  
**End of Term:** 6/30/2020

### Appointee Information

- 1. Race/ethnicity:** Latina
- 2. Gender:** Female
- 3. Council district and neighborhood of residence:** 13 - East Los Angeles
- 4. Are you a registered voter?** Yes
- 5. Prior commission experience:**
- 6. Highest level of education completed:** B.A., City University of New York
- 7. Occupation/profession:** Director of Climate Justice, Center for Popular Democracy
- 8. Experience(s) that qualifies person for appointment:** See attached resume
- 9. Purpose of this appointment:** Replacement
- 10. Current composition of the commission (excluding appointee):**

Commissioner	APC	CD	Ethnicity	Gender	Appt Date	Term End
Barad, Jill Banks	South Valley	4	Caucasian	F	14-Aug-13	30-Jun-18
Funderburk, Jr., William	Central	4	African American	M	16-Aug-13	30-Jun-17
Levine, Mel	West Los Angeles	11	Caucasian	M	16-Aug-13	30-Jun-19
Noonan, Christina	West Los Angeles	5	Latina	F	07-Jul-10	30-Jun-21



# AURA VASQUEZ

People – Policy – Progress



## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Center for Popular Democracy. DIRECTOR OF CLIMATE JUSTICE. 03/16 – Present. National.**

- Developed and build the first climate justice campaign work with other key CPD staff and 15 grassroots partners in 14 states;
- Fundraised to cover and expand this program area's budget, and to support the aggressive growth of climate organizing in the field;
- Expanded and develop key national, regional, and state-based collaborations with allied organizations on climate justice;
- Guided the overall development and implementation of CPD's climate justice work to partner organizations in the field;
- Supported CPD electoral work and voter development, outreach, and contact for the 2017 elections
- Collaborate closely with CPD's other teams, including the research, organizing, and campaign staff to ensure thoughtful integration with the full array of work of our organization;
- Serve as a main climate representative of the organization in national-level policy and campaign conversations at external meetings, coalition tables, and conferences such as the USCAN.
- Organized and supported the 2017 People's Climate March in Washington D.C.

### **SIERRA CLUB. FIELD ORGANIZING REPRESENTATIVE. 09/11 – 06/15. California.**

- Planned and carried out the successful Beyond Coal activities to stop L.A.'s reliance on coal. Responsible for the planning, coordination and implementation of the Beyond Coal Campaign's strategies and activities with targeted legislators in Los Angeles.
- Developed a strategic campaign plan, goals and objectives, targeting multiple agencies for the campaign priority, and coached partners, supporters, and volunteers to implement local level aspects of a strategic campaign.
- Collaborated with Sierra Club's Chapters, Communications Department, Organizing, and Online Organizing capacities, Sierra Club's programs (including but not limited to Environmental Justice, Labor, Partnerships), and activist leadership to ensure the execution of a municipal and interstate-based campaign to move LA beyond coal to renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- Provided professional expertise, trained, and coached hundreds of activist and supported over fifteen staff, activists, and apprentices.
- Identified and developed hundreds of activist leaders canvass, phone bank, and other skill to assume meaningful roles in the tactics and strategy of the campaign.
- Oversee media outreach activities related to the campaign. Served as Sierra Club spokesperson to media outlets and promoted activist and supporters media exposure.
- Produced, edited, and reviewed educational and advocacy materials to both campaigns.
- Represented the Sierra Club to the general public, businesses, and to strategic allies.
- Responsible for establishing the *Partners for Clean Air Coalition & SoCal Climate Action Coalition 350* to promote the divestment of fossil fuel dependency, clean energy, and civic engagement in California.

### **PICO NATIONAL NETWORK. ORGANIZER & IMMIGRATION POLICY LEAD STRATEGIST. 01/10 – 08/11. California.**

- Designed campaign strategies and win policy changes in various issues such as immigration, public safety, and education that improve local neighborhoods and the quality of life for residents in California.
- Implemented PICO relational-based model of community organizing and incorporating its principles into day-to-day work activities.
- Worked with over 500 members in at least 6 Local Organizing Committees in congregations and/or schools, and community base organizations, through developing relationships and leadership development.
- Organized voting registration campaigns, education forums on proposed immigration and education legislation, DREAM Act press conference, and the "Can't Stop won't stop" youth conference among other public actions.
- Trained and developed community leaders from diverse institutions to act in multi issues such as the Education Achievement Gap and improved policies on immigrant integration issues such as Check Points and Impoundments policies in Orange County.
- Build coalitions and collaborated with clergy, neighborhood leaders, and government officials to support their institutions to act publicly on Education and Immigration issues.
- Worked with other staff to provide leadership for OCCCO and PICO citywide and regional campaigns for Immigration, Education policy, and the current budget crisis.
- Participated in OCCCO and PICO National Network Immigration and Education initiatives and campaigns to move policy at the state and national levels.

### **UNITED WAY OF NYC. PROGRAM MANAGER, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. 11/07 – 12/09. New York.**

- Coordinated the procurement and delivery of Technical Assistance services to over 360 Early Childhood Centers by 8 pre-selected consulting firms utilizing writing reports, site visits, and focus groups.

- Developed and monitored the *Project Full Enrollment* grants process. Reviewed and analyzed proposals through a vetting process for over 70 consulting firms under the *PFE Initiative* grant. Planned and developed over 16 Technical Assistance sessions.
- Oversee payments, timelines, deliverables and fulfillment of other responsibilities stipulated in Technical Assistance provider's contracts.
- Managed a portfolio of 36 Community Base Organizations and school partnerships operating under the *Attendance Improvement and Dropout Prevention Initiative/Community Achievement Project* in the Schools (AIDP/CAPS).
- Primary functions included contract compliance, program development, site visits, and monitoring budget and expenses, providing technical assistance to CAPS partnerships, and facilitating communication between collaborative partners.
- Developed the advocacy and lobbying Campaign with New York City Council. Ensured 2 million dollars FY09 for the *Dropout Prevention Initiative* through lobbying, letter writing campaign, and meetings with city officials.
- Managed the *Professional Development Exchange* - PDE program. Coordinated and facilitated program development and contracts with sub-contractors. Advertised the PDE with all CAPS partners. Served as a liaison between United Way, 3 subcontractors and over 100 partnerships.

**OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN ELIOT L. ENGEL. FIELD LEGISLATIVE AIDE, 06/06 - 06/07. New York.**

- Conducted extensive research and analyzed trends on Health Care and Immigration reform at relevant U.S governmental sites through written materials, interviews, and community meetings for different bills in Congress.
- Managed constituent's request with a casework of over 300 constituents on local issues related to immigration, constituents services, open spaces, and community development.
- Assisted with Congressional events, drafted correspondence, data entry, and special projects.
- Served as the Congressman's first point of communications with the public via phone and in person in referring constituents to appropriate services.
- Served as a main point contact with constituents interfacing with City, County, State, and Federal offices.
- Collaborated with the Washington D.C office in the retrieval and input of constituents' electronic registry for demographics statistical purposes using Capital Correspond software.

**Aura Vasquez Consulting. INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT. 11/14 – Present. California - New York - Colorado – Washington D.C**

- *Climate Parents*: Developed an elected engagement strategy and community outreach for advocacy visits to California Assembly members concerning climate change and renewable energy legislation. Conducted and prepare parent leaders to meet with their elected officials to advocate for SB 32 & SB350.
- *Presente.org*: Developed a strategic campaign plan, goals and objectives, targeting multiple agencies for the environmental justice campaign. Directed communications plan for social media event. Coordinated the publishing of communications materials among environmental justice organizations and other supporters.
- *Sachamama*: Program director and co-creator of a curriculum of trainings and campaign strategies. Provided professional expertise, trained, and coached Latin Media Leaders in Environmental Issues.
- *Americas Latino Eco Festival*: Media director in charge of coordinating all media aspect of the festival, including press, social media, and outreach.
- *Families for Excellent Schools*: Managing Director of Elected Engagement. In charge of engaging over 98 legislator in New York with a diverse group of partners to advocate for educational issues. Led the planning and execution of actions directed to legislative targets.



**EDUCATION**

**HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL of EXECUTIVE EDUCATION.** 2014. *Leadership, Organizing, and Action*

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES EXTENSION.** 2012 – 2013. *Writing for Advocacy and Business*

**CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK HEBERT H. LEHMAN** 2004 – 2007 New York, N.Y Bachelor of Arts: Political Science & *International Politics and Multicultural Journalism*

**LORENZO D' MEDICI STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM – FLORENCE ITALY.** Summer 2006 *Italian Language, Politics, and Arts*

**CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE** 2002 – 2004 New York, N.Y. *Associate in Applied Science: Human Services* Academic Honors



**ORGANIZATIONS**

**LOS ANGELES LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS.** *Board Member*

**GREENLATINOS.** *A national coalition of Latinos advocates for the protection and conservation of our living environment*



**TRAINING**

- Midwest Academy
- New Organizing Institute
- National Women's Political Caucus Candidate Training
- PICO Network



**LANGUAGES**

- Spanish
- English
- Italian



**ERIC GARCETTI**  
MAYOR

March 24, 2017

Ms. Aura Vasquez

Dear Ms. Vasquez:

I am pleased to inform you that I hereby appoint you to the Board of Water and Power Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2020. 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 Claudia Luna in my office at (213) 978-0621 to make arrangements for you.

To begin the appointment 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. Further, Mayor's Office policy requires you to be fingerprinted as part of the background check that is done on all potential Commissioners. To do so, please bring this letter to the Background Unit of Employment Services Division, Personnel Department Building, 700 East Temple Street, Room 235, Los Angeles, California 90012. The division phone number is (213) 473-9343. Fingerprints must be taken **within three working days** from the **receipt** of this letter.

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 Nicole Enriquez at the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960.

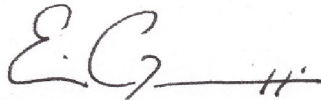
Ms. Aura Vasquez  
March 24, 2017  
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As part of the City Council confirmation process, you will need to meet with Mitch O'Farrell, your Councilmember, and Councilmember Nury Martinez, the Chair of the Energy and Environment Committee, to answer any questions they may have. You will be hearing from a City Council committee clerk who will let you know when your appointment will be considered by the Energy and Environment Committee. Sometime thereafter, you will be notified by the committee clerk when your appointment 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. Claudia Luna 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", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

ERIC GARCETTI  
Mayor

EG:dlg

Attachment I  
Ms. Aura Vasquez  
March 24, 2017

### Nominee Check List

**I. Within three days:**

- Get fingerprinted to complete a background check.**  
No appointment is necessary. Bring the Mayor's letter to:  
Background Unit of Employment Services Division, Personnel  
Department Building, 700 East Temple Street, Room 235, Los Angeles,  
California 90012. Phone: (213) 473-9343.

**II. Within seven days:**

Mail, fax or email the following forms to: Legislative Coordinator, Office of the Mayor, City Hall, 200 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 or email: Claudia.Luna@lacity.org.

- Remuneration Form**
- Undated Separation Forms**
- Background Check Release**
- Commissioner Information Sheet/Voluntary Statistics**

**III. Within 21 days:**

File the following forms with the City Ethics Commission. *If you are required to file, you will receive these forms via email 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.
- CEC Form 60**

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

- Your City Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell**
- Councilmember Nury Martinez, Chair of the Council Committee considering your nomination**

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