

It has been one of the great honors of my life to have served as the Los Angeles City Council President for the past eight years. During my time as Council President, it has been important to me to support my colleagues in creating and carrying out a progressive policy agenda that moves our city towards a better future for our children and grandchildren.

We worked to bring over one million Angelenos out of poverty and worked to ensure that all Angelenos have a livable wage by passing the minimum wage to \$15 per hour. We also led the charge to adopt a Hotel Worker Living Wage that set wages higher than \$15/hr. and indexed to inflation, as well as revisions to the Airport Worker Living Wage to set minimum wages permanently at \$2 per hour above the Citywide minimum wage by 2021 to \$17/hr.

We worked together to enact Ban the Box legislation to remove barriers to employment for the formerly arrested, convicted, and incarcerated. We also worked hard to enact one of the most robust sick-leave policies in the State of California and nationally.

Together we solved the City's financial crisis and brought us through the Great Recession, including meeting and exceeding our Reserve Fund and Budget Stabilization Fund policies that will provide the financial stability the City needs during the next economic downturn.

We faced head on the biggest crisis of our time, homelessness. We created the City's first Homelessness and Poverty Committee along with a Comprehensive Homeless Strategy and worked to devise and champion the passage of Measure H and Proposition HHH which has been vital in giving resources to expand homeless services and to build more affordable housing. We stepped up by making an unprecedented pledge to build a minimum of 222 supportive housing units in each of our council districts.

Together we adopted a plan to modernize the Los Angeles International Airport, a multi-billion dollar effort which is the largest public works project in the City of Los Angeles. This ongoing project will improve security and safety, alleviate traffic and passenger congestion, and create thousands of jobs over the course of the project.

We led on pension reform in the City of Los Angeles and the State of California, and provided the leadership necessary to address our City's pension plans with respect to shortfalls and meeting obligations. Each one of these reforms in each of the City's pension systems created new tiers with benefits that are in line with actual costs over a 30-year period and manageable.

Under the leadership of the Mayor and our Budget & Finance Committee, we adopted lower gross receipts tax rates for businesses in the City of Los Angeles over a three-year period.



We collaborated with our Neighborhood Councils to create more interaction between the City Council and our partners by creating opportunities for Neighborhood Councils to get more involved in the legislative process, including allowing more time for public comment for those individual Neighborhood Councils that have submitted Community Impact Statements as well as increasing their annual budgets.

We worked with the Mayor and the Board of Water and Power Commissioners to ensure the City was moving away from and shutting down our coal-powered facilities by 2025, while moving towards the construction and purchasing of solar, wind, and other renewables. We also worked together to ensure passage and implementation of the LADWP's Feed In Tariff program, a large-scale solar construction program for DWP customers.

During our tenure together, we adopted a single-use plastic bag policy and a plastic straws-on-request ordinance to reduce our waste stream and create a more sustainable future for our residents.

As part of the necessary local governmental infrastructure to move the ball forward and coordinate the City's departments on the climate crisis and climate change, we worked to create the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization and the Climate Emergency Commission. We also changed the name of the committee handling these issues from the Energy & Environment Committee to the Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice Committee.

Unlike Washington D.C. we showed what a united government can do. We established a reputation for this Council as a big time body that does big time things. We built the state-of-the-art Banc of California stadium for Major League Soccer's (MLS) expansion team the Los Angeles Football Club (LAFC) that will serve as host to the 2020 MLS all-star game. When the opportunity presented itself to land the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, we stepped up to the challenge worked until we secured the one-of-a-kind \$1 Billion project for South Los Angeles that is set to open its doors in 2021. We came together again, to win the Olympic bid, ensuring that the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games will be held in the City of Los Angeles, further cementing the City of Los Angeles' status as the world capital of sports and entertainment.

We worked to increase voter engagement by consolidating city elections to increase voter turnout. We created the City of Los Angeles Municipal Election Reform Commission to study ways to increase registration and voter turnout in the City and region. This led to Charter Amendments being placed on the ballot to line up City and LAUSD elections with State and National elections in even years. We led the way spurring state and national response, serving as a model for similar policies.

We have been at the forefront of campaign finance reform in the City of Los Angeles and throughout this nation developing the implementation ordinance to Charter Amendment H which restricted contributions by City contractors and banned City Commissioners from being involved in City elected official campaigns; created the most robust matching funds program in the country with a 6:1 match for

candidates; and will soon adopt an ordinance to restrict campaign contributions for developers and other involved in the planning process.

I'm particularly proud that this Council made history by hiring its first ever female Chief Legislative Analyst, Sharon Tso.

We created My VoiceLA, an online system that allows City employees to report instances of harassment or retaliation anonymously.

We took a step towards closing the pay disparity in sports by requiring equal compensation for any competition featuring both male and female divisions taking place in Los Angeles and requiring a permit from the City.

We sought to right the wrongs made by the War on Drugs by creating the Social Equity Program. We worked to reduce the barriers to ownership of commercial cannabis businesses for those who have been convicted of a marijuana-related offense and those who live or have lived in neighborhoods heavily affected by marijuana arrests. We also adopted the ordinances necessary to tax, regulate, and police the cannabis industry, including Measure M which sets the tax rates for commercial cannabis businesses.

We honored the first African American President of the United States by renaming Rodeo Road, Obama Boulevard, so children no matter the color of their skin can be reminded every time they ride down Obama Blvd. that no dream is too far out of reach.

We worked to try to level the playing field among our children by minimizing the digital divide in our communities. We have sought to help under-resourced students by giving them both computers through OurCycle LA and hotspots through our partnership with the 1Million Project.

We fought against the Trump Administration's racist policies by creating a \$10 million fund to provide legal assistance for Los Angeles residents facing deportation and passed a motion that would change our zoning code to eliminate the construction and operation of private detention centers in the City of Los Angeles.

We worked to unify Angelenos and empower communities by challenging our city to have open and honest conversations about race and racism. We worked to improve these racial inequities through the embRACE LA initiative resulting in the potential creation of the Office of Racial Equity which would work to create a Los Angeles where all Angelenos are included, empowered, and fully participate civically.

We worked with community organizations and residents, as well as the Police Commission and the Chief of Police, to enact meaningful policy reform primarily based on the Final Report of President

Obama's Taskforce on 21st Century Policing including, but not limited to: body- worn cameras for all sworn officers; changes to policies like use of force and preventing biased policing; improving data collection and public access; bringing sunshine, community involvement, and diversity to the police discipline process; implementing and funding training for all LAPD officers on mental health issues and using non-violent tactics; reinforcing the need for more community-based policing; and decriminalization of street vendors, the homeless, and cannabis.


We created the first ever full-time policy committee dedicated to working on Immigrant Affairs, possibly this first City standing committee in the nation. Through this committee, the City Council has passed monumental legislation including declaring Los Angeles a City of Sanctuary, increasing protections against the disclosure of tenants' immigration or citizenship status to federal immigration authorities, ensuring that all residents of the City of Los Angeles are protected and respected by their local government.

We recently adopted the first Civil and Human Rights ordinance in the City of Los Angeles' history. This ordinance, adopted earlier this year, prohibits the discrimination, prejudice, intolerance and bigotry that denies equal treatment to any individual because of the individual's race, color, ethnicity, creed, age, national origin, citizenship status or perceived status, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation or perceived orientation, disability, marital status, partnership status, employment status or source of income.




I THEREFORE MOVE that pursuant to the Rules of the Los Angeles City Council, I remove myself from the position of Council President effective January 5, 2020, and call for an election for the position of Council President and President Pro Tempore on December 3rd, 2019; and,

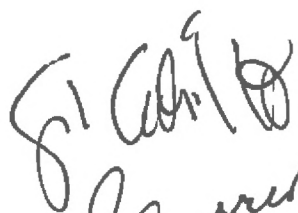
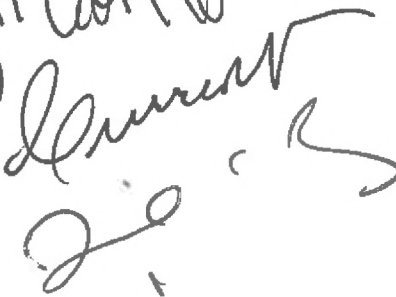
I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council elect Councilwoman Nury Martinez as Council President and Joe Buscaino as President Pro Tempore effective January 5, 2020.

Presented by:


HERB J. WESSON, JR.
Councilmember, 10th District

Seconded by:

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