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LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

District 13 \_ 200 N. Spring St. Room 470 \_ Los Angeles



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## **COUNCIL TO FORM TASK FORCE ON MACARTHUR PARK CONFRONTATION**

Council President Eric Garcetti announced the formation of the city council's Special Task Force on May 1 Protests. Councilmember Jack Weiss and Councilmember Ed Reyes will chair the task force. It will further comprise Councilmember Wendy Greuel, Councilmember Jan Perry, and Councilmember José Huizar.

"The freedom of the people to assemble is a cornerstone of our democracy. The freedom of the press to operate without encumbrance is a cornerstone of our democracy. And the openness and the accountability of our institutions are cornerstones of our democracy," said Council President Garcetti. "We have allowed those first two freedoms to come to harm. The health of our city depends even more now on our swift action, rigorous investigation, and on our conduct of the people's business in broad daylight."

"This is another step that we, as a Council, are taking to demonstrate to the public that we are adamant about holding those responsible for the actions on May 1 accountable," said Councilmember Ed Reyes, who represents the MacArthur Park area where the confrontation between police, protestors and news media occurred.

"The Task Force will allow the Council and the public to monitor the progress of the investigation and provide an extra layer of oversight," said Councilmember Jack Weiss, who chairs the council's Public Safty Committee.

The task force will hear reports on the investigations pursued concurrently by the Los Angeles Police Department and by the Office of the Investigator General. It will provide a forum where members of the public can express their views and concerns on the confrontation and the investigations, and it will provide policy recommendations for the future encounters between the police, protestors and news media.

The first meeting of the task force will take place this week at City Hall.

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