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GARCETTI**

President, Los Angeles City Council
COUNCIL DISTRICT 13



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 14, 2008

**GARCETTI WELCOMES NEW COMMUNITY BLOCK CAPTAINS
AT ANTI-GRAFFITI PROGRAM TRAINING**

UNTAG program has reduced graffiti by more than 60 percent in Council District 13

LOS ANGELES- Los Angeles Council President Eric Garcetti welcomed community members at a leadership training session for the Uniting Neighborhoods to Abolish Graffiti (UNTAG) program today. Launched in 2004, UNTAG has reduced graffiti by more than 60 percent in Garcetti's council district with the help of community block captains who are trained to report graffiti for paint out.

"Cleaning up our neighborhoods makes them stronger and safer," said Council President Garcetti. "UNTAG's success relies on the willingness of community members to step up to the plate to improve their own neighborhoods. I'm grateful to everyone who has volunteered their time to be part of our anti-graffiti program."

UNTAG trains local residents to serve as Block Captains, who agree to monitor one block or hot spot and report graffiti for paint out. The City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works oversees the city's graffiti removal program, which paints out graffiti within two days after it has been reported.

More information about the UNTAG program is available at <http://www.untagla.com/>.

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