

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) RELEASED FOR BIDS TO IMPLEMENT CERTIFIED GREEN BUSINESS PROGRAM IN LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles, CA – Today, the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Affairs Department ("EnvironmentLA") released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals from qualified bidders to develop and initiate implementation of a Certified Green Business program in the City of Los Angeles.

"With today's release of the RFP, we are one step closer to making the Certified Green Business Program a reality in Los Angeles, and I urge potential bidders to step forward to be part of this opportunity," said Councilmember Alarcón. "During this tough economic time, local businesses are learning that being green can save them some green – and the Los Angeles Certified Green Business program will provide a leg-up for environmentally-friendly businesses while improving the quality of life of all Angelenos."

"Councilmember Alarcón's Green Business Program benefits those companies who join the fold already embracing conservation as an operating practice. These businesses will save water and energy, help minimize impacts to the environment and save money in the process," said David Nahai, Chief Executive Officer and General Manager of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

Detrich Allen, General Manager of the City's Environmental Affairs Department stated, "The Los Angeles Green Business Certification Program will both support and recognize businesses in their efforts to reduce pollution and conserve resources. Especially exciting in this economy is the great amount of cost savings that businesses will be able to achieve by becoming 'green!'"

In March of 2007, Councilmember Alarcón introduced a motion to create a Los Angeles Certified Green Business Program in Los Angeles. Over the past year, Councilmember Alarcón has been working with a coalition that includes the Environmental Affairs Department, the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, GREEN LA and other stakeholders to create a plan for implementation of a green business program. In November of 2008, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power committed to providing the initial funding through a grant of \$150,000 to support the program. Working with the stakeholders, City Departments, the DWP and the City Attorney's office, the RFP was created.

Proposals are due back on April 30th at 3:00 PM and a mandatory Bidders' Conference will be held at 2:00 PM on April 9th at in Room 1060 of City Hall. The services of Green Business Program contractor will be provided under a personal service contract with the City that is expected to begin in June 2009 and complete the scope of work by December 2009. The contract term will be for a minimum of one year. Per the RFP, although a "team" approach through one contract is preferred, the City may award multiple contracts and/or multiple year contracts, and all funds awarded may not be expended, depending on actual work performed. Availability of additional funding may extend the contract up to and additional two years. Interested contractors should contact Karin Christie, Director of EAD's Sustainability Programs Division at (213) 978-0875 for more information. The RFP can be found at <http://www.labavn.org>.