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## MAYOR HAHN ENGAGES HARBOR AREA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS IN NEW BUDGET PROCESS

Los Angeles – Mayor Jim Hahn, along with City Councilmember Janice Hahn, met today with approximately 25 representatives from seven Harbor Area Neighborhood Councils over breakfast at Fire Station 112 in San Pedro to discuss his budget priorities for the coming fiscal year. This year, Mayor Hahn is meeting with councilmembers, neighborhood councils, business, labor and civic leaders to prioritize the services that will help Los Angeles achieve its goals rather than make cuts across the board.

The new budget process, called priority-based budgeting, will assign a priority level to all city services and will fund only those programs that are a high enough priority.

“For this plan to work, the prioritization process must include input from not only our city council, city attorney and city controller, but from every person who wants to make our city a better place to live and work,” said Mayor Hahn. “I look forward to hearing more about what you think is most important to making every neighborhood a better place to live and work.”

Mayor Hahn also commented on the dramatic 22 percent citywide drop in crime and addressed the difficulties that Los Angeles faces due to increasing cuts in the State budget. “Continuing to make this city safer in the future will be especially difficult because Governor Schwarzenegger’s proposed budget significantly cuts funding that we use to provide essential services like police and fire,” he added.

Neighborhood Councils Harbor Gateway North, Harbor Gateway South, Harbor City, Wilmington, Northwest San Pedro, Central San Pedro and Coastal San Pedro were all represented at the meeting.

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