

MAYOR HAHN GIVES UNPRECEDENTED ROLE TO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS IN HIRING NEW PLANNING DIRECTOR

Los Angeles - Mayor Jim Hahn announced today that he will give Neighborhood Councils an unprecedented role in choosing the next director of the city's Planning Department.

"The people of Los Angeles should have a strong voice in planning the future of our neighborhoods," Mayor Hahn said. "I want to make sure the next planning director is in step with our communities."

The final three candidates for Director of Planning will be interviewed by a seven-member Neighborhood Council advisory group that will make a hiring recommendation directly to Mayor Hahn.

Neighborhood Council representatives from each of the City's Planning Areas will comprise the advisory group.

In addition, Neighborhood Council members and the public will be surveyed by the Mayor's Office to help determine the key selection criteria that will guide Mayor Hahn in hiring the best candidate for the job.

Surveys will be available and public comment will be heard throughout March at the following Area Planning Commission (APC) and Planning Commission meetings:

City Planning Commission	March 10
South Valley APC	March 10
South LA APC	March 15
Harbor APC	March 15
West LA APC	March 16
North Valley APC	March 17
Central APC	March 22
East LA APC	March 23
City Planning Commission	March 31

"I'm looking forward to hearing from the community on what they feel are key qualities for this position," Mayor Hahn said. "I am going to make sure our new Planning Director will promote sensible, balanced and

proactive planning to preserve single-family neighborhoods, manage development in key areas, promote affordable housing, and stimulate mixed-use development and 'green' construction, especially near public transportation.”

The Planning Department provides land use guidance and technical services to achieve safe and healthy residential neighborhoods and a secure business climate that fosters sustained economic growth.