

Nelson Retires

City News Service

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LOS ANGELES (CNS) - Greg Nelson, a longtime city employee, is stepping down from his post as general manager of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, it was announced today.

Nelson was appointed by former Mayor James Hahn in September 2001 to oversee the city's system of neighborhood councils.

Nelson, whose resignation is effective in April, could not be reached for immediate comment.

Nelson's career with the city started in 1971, when he joined the staff of former Councilman Joel Wachs, eventually working his way up to become chief of staff.

During his tenure with Wachs, who represented the Second District in the San Fernando Valley, Nelson composed City Charter amendments that led to the creation of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the citywide system of neighborhood councils.

"He was a person who was a trailblazer who put on the public policy agenda this idea of neighborhood councils," Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said.

"The city of Los Angeles is going to miss him, we thank him for his service and we look forward to identifying somebody who's going to bring with him or her a commitment to neighborhood empowerment."