



# NEWS

From the First Council District

**ED P. REYES, COUNCILMEMBER**  
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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **REYES HEARS PUBLIC COMMENT ON HIRING NEXT PLANNING DIRECTOR** — *Residents say future director should be a leader and visionary who puts the community's needs first*

Councilmember Ed P. Reyes considered the testimony of more than 50 people, including residents, housing advocates and educators, during a Planning and Land Use Management Committee public hearing at 10 a.m. today at the Board of Public Works Board at Los Angeles City Hall.

“The people of Los Angeles play an important role in developing urban planning’s vision for the 21<sup>st</sup> century,” Reyes said. “I want to make sure we hire the best candidate for the Planning Director position. That’s why it’s important to listen to the concerns of local residents.”

Reyes, who chairs the PLUM Committee, held the more than 2-hour hearing to consider the public’s opinions and views on the future of the City’s Planning Department, the role of the next Planning Department director and the qualifications he or she should possess.

According to public testimony, the new planning department head should be a visionary who puts the community’s needs first, understands smart growth principles and promotes economic vitality. The next director should also boost morale and efficiency within the Planning Department, residents said.

The Planning Department provides land use guidance and services to promote safe and healthy neighborhoods, business growth and economic stimulation.

A search is underway for a department head to replace Con Howe, who announced his retirement in December after more than 12 years of City service.

The deadline for Planning Director applications is May 20.

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