



Conservation Voter

January 2005

LALCV Endorses Villaraigosa for LA City Mayor

The Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters endorsed Council Member Antonio Villaraigosa for the office of Mayor of Los Angeles in one of the most widely publicized and highly contentious municipal races in the last 50 years. LALCV evaluated the environmental credentials of Villaraigosa, State Senator Richard Alarcon, incumbent Mayor James Hahn and former Assembly Speaker Robert Hertzberg. The endorsement was based on the candidates' performance at an LALCV-sponsored debate held in December and broadcast on KABC-7 as well as other television and radio stations, and the candidates' responses to a questionnaire that allowed them unlimited time, space and detail to answer their questions and provide details on their plans for a clean Los Angeles.

Commenting on the decision to endorse Villaraigosa for the third time (LALCV also endorsed Villaraigosa in his bid for mayor four years ago, and then

again in his bid for city council representing the city's 14th district two years ago), LALCV President Andi Liebenbaum said, "Antonio Villaraigosa has a substantial track record to support his claims about caring for the environment. In his questionnaire, he provided specific and measurable plans, actions and ideas for improving the environment in Los Angeles. He demonstrated, in the debate and in his written responses to our questionnaire, a deep understanding of the environmental issues facing LA. Finally, we believe he has the ability, the confidence and determination to advance the City's agenda regionally and beyond." To read Villaraigosa's ambitious plan to clean up LA's environment - a plan that was presented at the press conference announcing the LALCV endorsement, please visit www.Antonio2005.com. To read the candidates' responses to the LALCV questionnaire, please visit www.lalcv.org and follow the links.



LA City Councilmember, Antonio Villaraigosa - endorsed by LALCV for Los Angeles City Mayor

LA City Council Endorsements

LALCV ENDORSES STRONG CANDIDATES FOR LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

With more than half of the LA City Council facing elections in March, the LALCV has been busy meeting with and endorsing a field of candidates who have demonstrated their commitment to the environment and to improving the health and quality of life for all Angelinos. Our endorsements follow:



ED REYES, COUNCIL DISTRICT #1

Ed Reyes has quietly but steadfastly made a name for himself as an environmental leader on LA City Council, both for his outstanding work as chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Los Angeles River, as well as for encouraging City departments to

work with their counterparts at LA County in order to develop a regional watershed plan. These efforts could payoff for the City in terms of accessing Proposition 50 funds, which could be used to improve water quality, protect coastal wetlands, and ensure safe drinking water for all Angelinos. Council Member Reyes was endorsed by

(see Endorsements, page 2)

(Endorsements continued from page 1)

LALCV in his first bid for City Council in 2001, and was awarded the LALCV's Environmental Champion Award in 2004.

JACK WEISS, COUNCIL DISTRICT #5



After spending a day as a volunteer on a beach clean up project and discovering the tens of thousands of cigarette butts littering the sand and fouling the water, Jack Weiss wrote the city's ordinance banning smoking on city beaches. He opposed the City's long, drawn-out legal battles (recently settled) to force the City to clean up its trash, saying it was more cost-effective and the right thing to do to comply. In his District he is known for providing city improvements with road and sidewalk repairs, street trees and parks. He has been recognized by a number of environmental groups, including the LALCV as an Environmental Champion in 2003.

JAN PERRY, COUNCIL DISTRICT #9



Council Member Perry is the Chair of the City's Environmental Quality and Waste Management Committee. In that capacity she has proven herself a tireless advocate for increasing green space. During her first term on City Council she successfully "greened" eight parks in her District, and in collaboration with Nike and the US Soccer Foundation, she helped create a state-of-the-art sports fields made of recycled materials. Jan Perry was a co-author of and major advocate for Proposition O, the City's landmark water bond. The proposition will make funds available to keep pollutants and bacteria from flowing into our rivers and onto our beaches. Council Member Perry was endorsed by LALCV in her bid for LA City Council in 2001.

(see Endorsements, page 3)

LALVC Mayoral Debate 2004

Richard Alarcon, James Hahn, Robert Hertzberg, Bernard Parks and Antonio Villaraigosa battled onstage for 90 minutes in a live broadcast debate sponsored by the Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters. The candidates drew a crowd of 400 on Tuesday evening, December 21st. The event, co-sponsored by KABC-7, was the first-ever broadcast mayoral debate to focus on environmental issues. It was held at the LA County Museum of Art's Bing Auditorium. The debate was also seen and heard on KCET, LA36, KPFC and KPCC.

Thanks to input from LA's environmental community, LALCV developed a list of 15 questions that included the Port of LA and LAX, energy generation, transportation, water, parks and open space, environmental justice, solid waste and recycling. KABC's Marc Brown hosted and served as master of ceremonies for the event, and LALCV's Andi Liebenbaum, Leslie Mintz and Ericka Smith were the panelists.

The debate was the first of a two-part endorsement process by the LA League. Following the debate, LALCV President Andi Liebenbaum presented each candidate with a written questionnaire in which they were invited to answer many of the same questions asked during the debate in more detail. Only four of the candidates turned in questionnaires; Council Member Parks withdrew himself from consideration. After thorough consideration of their written responses and a review of their performances at the Debate, LALCV endorsed Council Member Antonio Villaraigosa for LA Mayor.

If you wish to see and hear the debate, visit our website www.lalcv.org and click on the debate link.

LALCV Website

Please visit our website at www.lalcv.org for more information about us. We would love to send you future editions of our newsletter by email, but we will need your email address. If you would like to receive The Conservation Voter by email, please send your request to info@lalcv.org.

LALCV at Work in Your Communities

(Endorsements continued from page 2)

BILL ROSENDAHL, COUNCIL DISTRICT #11



A newcomer to local politics in LA, Bill Rosendahl was endorsed by LALCV to replace term-limited Cindy Miscikowski in LA's coastal district. Bill is best known as producer and moderator of critically acclaimed public affairs shows on cable television where he created a forum for public affairs including environmental issues. His in-depth knowledge about and strong pro-environmental views having to do with the proposed expansion plans of LAX made Bill a clear choice for LALCV. Among his positions pertaining to the Airport are a firm commitment to cap passenger traffic to 78 million annually, a willingness to fight for a regional airport network, and enthusiastic support for an extension of the Green Line to the airport.

ERIC GARCETTI, COUNCIL DISTRICT #13



Prop. O co-authoring and electric vehicle driving Eric Garcetti is an environmentalist at home, on the road and on the Council. In addition to his lesser-known work of advocating to save mature oak, walnut, bay and sycamore trees from needless destruction, Council Member Garcetti opened twelve new parks in his District, led the team that created and funded the Neighborhood Land Trust, and has been the lead

Council advocate on behalf of adopting green building standards for city-sponsored construction projects. Eric provided leadership for the Council to adopt a renewable energy portfolio. Always conscious of improvements in technology, Council Member Garcetti authored the City's Electronic Waste Ordinance to encourage action at the State level on E-Waste issues. LALCV endorsed Eric for LA City Council when he ran in 2001.

JANICE HAHN, COUNCIL DISTRICT #15



Janice Hahn has successfully preserved and enhanced open space and recreation facilities in the 15th Council District by encouraging the investment of \$4.5 million in Proposition 40 funds for two projects in the Wilmington-Harbor area, and another \$1.6 million for two projects in Watts. She is known for listening to community residents and empowering

community leaders through the Port Community Advisory Committee that she set up. Her work in the Wilmington and San Pedro areas on behalf of her constituents has largely abated "back lot storage" of cargo containers in residential neighborhoods, as well as resulted in the new Friendship Park and greenbelt, and a plan to restore wetlands in San Pedro. Janice Hahn was endorsed by LALCV in her 2001 bid for City Council.

SAVE THE DATE

May Day - pagan festival celebrating fertility, and which includes dancing around a Maypole;

May Day - celebration of the contributions of organized labor with roots in an early Communist uprising;

May Day - international radiotelephone distress signal used by ships and aircraft;

May Day - LALCV's Smith-Weiss Environmental Champion Awards

Celebration, fundraiser & party at the Hancock Park home of Mary Nichols

Mark your calendars now for 4- 6 pm on May 1st, 2005

Additional details will follow soon.

Board of Directors of the Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters

David Allgood (secretary)	Andi Liebenbaum (president)	Mel Nutter	Mitchell Schwartz	Effie Turbull
Maria Armoudian	Don May	Anthony Rendon	Ericka Smith	Cara Vallier
Bob Blumenfield	Leslie Mintz	Susana Reyes (vice president)	Moe Stavnezer (treasurer)	Lee Wallach
Janine Hamner	Denise Ng	Joan Satt (endorsement committee chair)	Marc Stirdivant	Donna Wells



This is a big year for local politics. The City of Los Angeles alone will have eight council seats, as well as the mayor's seat, the city attorney and the city controller up for election. In addition, dozens of the smaller cities in LA County have important city council races, and all of these, no matter their size, can impact the environment for better or worse. That's why there's the LA League of Conservation Voters. With your support and confidence, you empower us to research, interview and select those candidates who will do the best work increasing parks and open space, cleaning up our air and water, protecting the health and welfare of all people, and generally promoting the environment as a key factor for a strong economy and great quality of life.

Last year, your financial contributions and our hard work resulted in the first ever televised environmental debate among the five top candidates for LA mayor. In 2005, we are exploring ways to expand our services to you by promoting better transparency in local government and getting involved in even more local races than in years past. To accomplish the many goals we set for ourselves, we need your support. As an all volunteer board, we can't do it all, but we are proving that we can do a great deal more than anyone thought possible. Please plan to attend our May Day event, and support us now with a financial contribution. Our hard work results in better local government. Your support makes it possible for us to do even more.

Andi Liebenbaum

Andi Liebenbaum, President

LOS ANGELES LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS LA CITY ENDORSEMENTS

Antonio Villaraigosa for Mayor
Ed Reyes for LA's 1st Council District
Jack Weiss for LA's 5th Council District
Jan Perry for LA's 9th Council District

Bill Rosendahl for LA's 11th Council District
Eric Garcetti for LA's 13th Council District
Janice Hahn for LA's 15th Council District



Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters
PO Box 6218
Altadena, CA 91003

Return Service Requested

