



ACCESS L.A. CITY HALL



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NOW

ACCESS L.A. City Hall is the L.A. Area Chamber's annual advocacy event aimed at building a stronger partnership between L.A. City Hall and local businesses. **Here are eight things the Los Angeles City Council can do to make it happen now:**

1. Make business growth and job creation the #1 priority at City Hall

We still have nearly 300,000 less jobs in L.A. County than we had at the start of the recession. The City Council must aggressively extend the welcome mat to new and existing businesses that wish to invest in their districts and our great City. We must focus resources on City departments that have the potential to generate new revenue and jobs for the City.

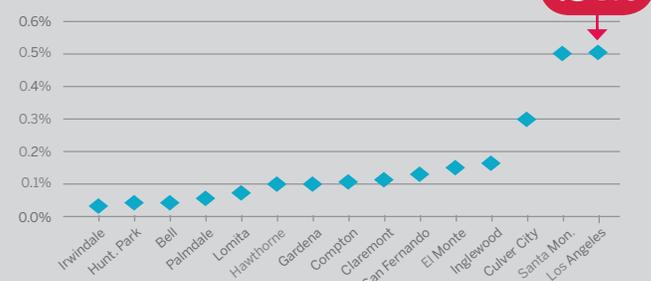
Total Nonfarm Employment in Los Angeles/Long Beach/Glendale Metropolitan Area



2. Phase out the Gross Receipts Tax

The City of Los Angeles has the highest business tax of any City in L.A. County and one of the highest in the nation. The Business Tax Advisory Committee has recommended a 15-year phase out plan. The Jobs and Business Development Committee has approved the first five-year phase of the plan. We urge the full Council to do the same.

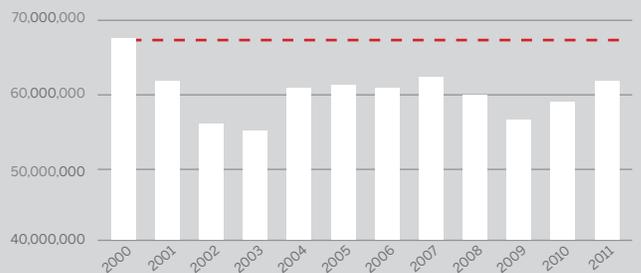
Current Rate of Gross Receipts Tax for Highest Classification



3. Support LAX modernization

LAX impacts, directly and indirectly, 294,000 jobs in the County and generates more than \$39 billion into our economy. But LAX is in dire need of modernization. Essential to modernization is the completion of the Specific Plan Amendment Study process and the realignment of the north airfield to ensure that LAX can safely and efficiently handle the new generation of airliners. The Council must greenlight a 21st century airport and a 21st century transit system to improve access to LAX and reduce congestion.

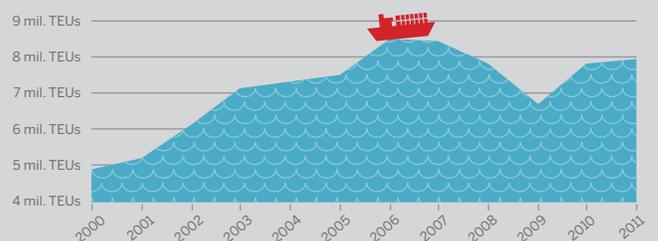
Passenger Count at LAX from 2000 to 2011



4. Ensure the Port of L.A. can compete with a widened Panama Canal

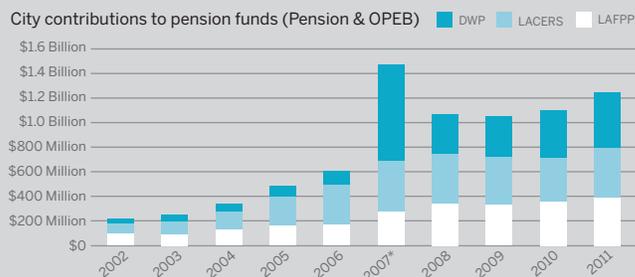
The Port of Los Angeles is responsible for hundreds of thousands of jobs and billions in tax revenue throughout the region. By aggressively supporting projects designed to increase competitiveness, the City Council can ensure the seaport is ready to meet the challenge of an expanded Panama Canal in 2014. We must modernize and green the Port by updating terminals, developing near-dock rail facilities and relieving congestion on our goods movement corridors.

Port of L.A. Container Count from 2000 to 2011



5. Continue to reform the City pension system

The growing liabilities in the City's three pension systems continue to drain resources from City services. It is estimated that 25 percent of the general fund will be required to meet pension obligations in four years. We applaud the Mayor and City Council's efforts to deal with this challenge by increasing employee contributions and creating new employee tiers, but much more needs to be done to truly fix this critical problem and eliminate this threat to our city services and fiscal stability.



*In 2007, the DWP began pre-funding retiree health care for the first time, causing a "spike" and ongoing higher costs.

6. Utilize public-private partnerships to enhance City assets and reduce the budget deficit

Some City assets are best managed through public-private partnerships, as is done in every major U.S. city, including our own. The Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Hollywood Bowl are excellent examples of how community assets are managed in partnership with private or nonprofit entities. Learning from these successes will enable City assets — such as the Los Angeles Zoo and Convention Center — to live up to their full potential.



7. Support continued investments in tomorrow's workforce

Strengthen the region's workforce development system by deepening relationships and shared resources with regional systemic partners, such as LAUSD and LACCD. Prioritize investments in HIRE LA's Youth, school safety and Gang Reduction Zones. Support regional dropout prevention strategies such as Student Recovery Day and the Reconnection Academy.



8. End chronic and veteran homelessness in L.A. by supporting Home For Good

In 2010, the L.A. Area Chamber and United Way of Greater Los Angeles released Home For Good, an action plan to end chronic and veteran homelessness in L.A. by 2016. Since its launch, Home for Good has inspired a cooperative alliance between federal and local officials; a landmark shift of County resources and policies; and the establishment of a Funders Collaborative to leverage public and private funds for permanent supportive housing. We applaud the City for its active partnership in Home For Good.

40% less expensive to place someone in permanent supportive housing than to leave that person on the streets

\$280 million in savings for public systems could be created by providing permanent supportive housing for all chronically homeless individuals

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