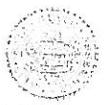


Tab 46

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 942849  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0051  
(916) 319-2051  
FAX (916) 319-2151

DISTRICT OFFICE  
1 WEST MANCHESTER BLVD., SUITE 601  
INGLEWOOD, CA 90301  
(310) 412-6400  
FAX (310) 412-6354

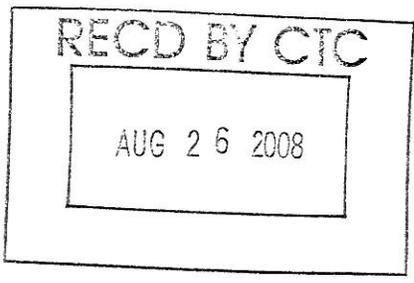
# Assembly California Legislature



**CURREN D. PRICE, JR.**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIFTY-FIRST DISTRICT

COMMITTEES  
ELECTIONS & REDISTRICTING, CHAIR  
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION  
JOBS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND  
THE ECONOMY

August 21, 2008



Mr. John Chalker, Chairman  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N Street  
Room 2221 (MS-52)  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairman Chalker,

I am writing to request an additional 60-day extension on Agenda item 46, dealing with the Right of Way property the non-profit group, **"From Lot to Spot (FLTS)"** has been working on to convert the property into a pocket park. FLTS has worked diligently to garner funds to acquire the property to create a much needed park adjacent to the 105 Freeway in the City of Hawthorne, in my 51<sup>st</sup> Assembly District. It is my understanding that this property has not been utilized by the California Department of Transportation for more than 20 years. The community took collective action by taking care of the property and seeking resources to create a much needed park space.

As stated above, FLTS has been working tirelessly to obtain funds to acquire to the property; however due to unforeseen economic consequences FLTS has yet to garner the necessary funding for the purchase of the property. I am hopeful that FLTS will obtain the funds to acquire this property in the next 60 days. As you are aware, this purchase would allow for the creation of a vibrant park space for our community.

Since FLTS came before the California Transportation Commission in May, it has made progress in obtaining support for the proposed park. FLTS has obtained the support and maintenance services of the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC). Once the park is constructed, the LACC has committed to interim maintenance services and it also intends to use this park project as a platform to bring much needed job opportunities and job-skills training to at-risk youth living in the area.

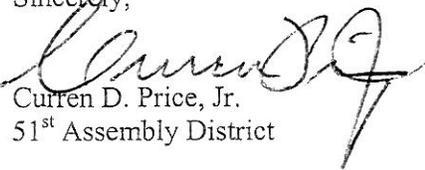
FLTS has been in talks with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, the San Gabriel and the Lower Los Angeles River and Mountains Conservancy, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and the Coastal Conservancy encouraging these organizations undertake a collaborative approach in acquiring the property at issue. These agencies have a long history of taking affirmative action to reverse the well-documented park inequities experienced in poor communities of color such as Hawthorne. FTLTS is also exploring local government agency funding opportunities for the proposed storm water improvements to the property; additionally, private foundation funding is being sought for the development of park amenities.

This space could eventually provide much needed and accessible park space to the public and in its preliminary conceptual phase, the park is set to provide an environmental education component. In addition, there is a planned youth education element within this project's scope. This fall, students from Environmental Charter High School will be taking FLTS's *Spaces of Blight* course and conducting service learning projects that involve watershed restoration, urban runoff awareness and the role of greenspaces in community economic development. The transformed vacant lot will be an excellent setting for this type of experiential learning.

I believe that the additional 60-day extension is a reasonable request under the given circumstances. I am hopeful that the funds will be obtained to acquire this property and create a vibrant park space in this community.

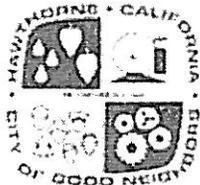
Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,



Curfen D. Price, Jr.  
51<sup>st</sup> Assembly District

Cc: Ms. Viviana Franco  
From Lot to Spot



# CITY OF HAWTHORNE

4455 West 126th Street • Hawthorne, California 90250-4482

August 25, 2008

Commissioner Chair John Chalker  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N Street  
Room 2221 (MS-52)  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Chalker,

I am writing to request a 60-day extension on Agenda item 46, dealing with the Right of Way property a non-profit group, From Lot to Spot (FLTS) has been working on converting into a pocket park. FLTS has worked tirelessly to garner funds to acquire the property to create a much needed park adjacent to the 105 Freeway in the City of Hawthorne, in my District. As you are aware, this property was left neglected for over 20 years and was never maintained by Caltrans. The community took collective action by taking care of the property and seeking resources to create a much needed park space.

However, due to the current financial climate, many organizations throughout the State have suffered unforeseen setbacks in funding. FLTS has been working tirelessly to garner the funds to acquire the property from public agencies however has been unfortunately faced with a slow economy. The current financial climate has made the logistics process slow-moving. With this extension, the continued support from the various organizations and From Lot to Spot's efforts, we are confident we will garner the funds to acquire this property and create a vibrant park space in this park-poor community of color.

Since FLTS came before the CTC in May, they have made tremendous progress in garnering resources and support for this park. FLTS has garnered the support and maintenance services of the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC). Once the park is constructed, the LACC has committed to maintenance services and will use this park project as a platform to bring much needed job opportunities and job-skills training to at-risk youth living in the area.

In addition, FLTS, along with the assistance of my office, has been in talks with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, the San Gabriel and the Lower Los Angeles River and Mountains Conservancy, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and the Coastal Conservancy in order to undertake a collaborative acquisition effort to make this dream a reality. These agencies have a long history of taking affirmative action to reverse the well-documented park inequities experienced in poor communities of color like Hawthorne. FLTS is also exploring local government agency funding opportunities for the proposed storm water improvements and private foundation funding is being sought for the development of park amenities.

Additionally, this project is extremely important not only because it will provide much needed, accessible park space to a wide public but in its preliminary conceptual phase, the park is set to provide environmental education component. A kiosk with environmental awareness features and native vegetation is planned for the park. In addition, there is a youth education element within this project's scope. This Fall semester students from Environmental Charter High School will be taking FLTS's Spaces of Blight course and conducting service learning projects that involve watershed restoration, urban runoff awareness and the role of green spaces in community economic development. The transformed vacant lot will be the perfect setting for this type of experiential learning.

This extension will allow this dream to become a reality. I am confident that the funds will be garnered to acquire this property and create a vibrant park space in this community.

Yours in public service,

Daniel Juarez, MMC  
Councilman  
City of Hawthorne, CA

**MAXINE WATERS**

MEMBER OF CONGRESS  
35TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

COMMITTEES:  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND  
COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY  
CHAIRWOMAN

JUDICIARY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME, TERRORISM  
AND HOMELAND SECURITY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION,  
BORDER SECURITY AND CLAIMS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0535

August 25, 2008

David F. McNeill, Executive Director  
Baldwin Hills Conservancy  
3578-C Eastham Drive  
Culver City, CA 90232

VIA FACSIMILE & EMAIL: (310) 558-5598, david.mcneill@bhc.ca.gov

Dear Mr. McNeill:

On behalf of From Lot to Spot (FLTS), a non-profit organization dedicated to creating parks in blighted neighborhoods, I am writing to respectfully request your assistance in securing the involvement of your organization in the acquisition of the 13,000 sq. ft. vacant property (APN 4048-007-901) in the City of Hawthorne as the first step in the creation of a vibrant space for children to play in this park poor community.

As you are aware, From Lot to Spot has been working to convert the vacant lot located at 118th Street and Doty Avenue into a much needed park space for over five years. On May 29th, the California Transportation Commission, which is the public holding agency, granted FLTS an unprecedented 90-day stay in order to raise the \$300,000 required to acquire the property.

This project will provide much needed accessible park space and has the potential to serve as a site for dynamic, environmental education for local youth. An environmental education kiosk and native vegetation are design features planned for the park. This coming fall, students from Environmental Charter High School will be conducting service learning projects that involve watershed restoration, urban runoff awareness and the important role green space plays in community economic development. The transformed vacant lot will also provide the community with a valuable natural resource that families will be able to enjoy for years to come.

I believe this project is worthy of your support and hope you will be able to assist FLTS acquire the much needed funding before the fast approaching deadline set by the California Transportation Commission.

I appreciate your full consideration of this request and look forward to a positive response.

Sincerely,



Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress

MW:bj

PLEASE REPLY TO:

**WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE**  
2344 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
 WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0535  
PHONE: (202) 225-2201  
FAX: (202) 225-7854

DISTRICT OFFICES:

**LOS ANGELES OFFICE**  
10124 SOUTH BROADWAY  
SUITE 1  
 LOS ANGELES, CA 90003  
PHONE: (323) 757-8900  
FAX: (323) 757-9506

**WESTCHESTER OFFICE**  
6033 WEST CENTURY BOULEVARD  
SUITE 807

LOS ANGELES, CA 90045  
PHONE: (310) 642-4610  
FAX: (310) 642-9160

**MAXINE WATERS**

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35TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION,  
BORDER SECURITY AND CLAIMS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0535

August 25, 2008

Belinda Faustinos, Executive Director  
San Gabriel and the Lower Los Angeles River and Mountains Conservancy  
100 N. Old San Gabriel Canyon Road  
Azusa, CA 91702

VIA FACSIMILE & EMAIL: (626) 815-1269, bfaustinos@rmc.ca.gov

Dear Ms. Faustinos:

On behalf of From Lot to Spot (FLTS), a non-profit organization dedicated to creating parks in blighted neighborhoods, I am writing to respectfully request your assistance in securing the involvement of your organization in the acquisition of the 13,000 sq. ft. vacant property (APN 4048-007-901) in the City of Hawthorne as the first step in the creation of a vibrant space for children to play in this park poor community.

As you are aware, From Lot to Spot has been working to convert the vacant lot located at 118th Street and Doty Avenue into a much needed park space for over five years. On May 29th, the California Transportation Commission, which is the public holding agency, granted FLTS an unprecedented 90-day stay in order to raise the \$300,000 required to acquire the property.

This project will provide much needed accessible park space and has the potential to serve as a site for dynamic, environmental education for local youth. An environmental education kiosk and native vegetation are design features planned for the park. This coming fall, students from Environmental Charter High School will be conducting service learning projects that involve watershed restoration, urban runoff awareness and the important role green space plays in community economic development. The transformed vacant lot will also provide the community with a valuable natural resource that families will be able to enjoy for years to come.

I believe this project is worthy of your support and hope you will be able to assist FLTS acquire the much needed funding before the fast approaching deadline set by the California Transportation Commission.

I appreciate your full consideration of this request and look forward to a positive response.

Sincerely,



Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress

MW:bj

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6033 WEST CENTURY BOULEVARD  
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 LOS ANGELES, CA 90045  
PHONE: (310) 642-4610  
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**MAXINE WATERS**

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35TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME, TERRORISM  
AND HOMELAND SECURITY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION,  
BORDER SECURITY AND CLAIMS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0535

August 25, 2008

Joseph T. Edmiston, Executive Director  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
5750 Ramirez Canyon Park  
Malibu, CA 90265

VIA FACSIMILE & EMAIL: 310-589-3207, [edmiston@smmc.ca.gov](mailto:edmiston@smmc.ca.gov)

Dear Mr. Edmiston:

On behalf of From Lot to Spot (FLTS), a non-profit organization dedicated to creating parks in blighted neighborhoods, I am writing to respectfully request your assistance in securing the involvement of your organization in the acquisition of the 13,000 sq. ft. vacant property (APN 4048-007-901) in the City of Hawthorne as the first step in the creation of a vibrant space for children to play in this park poor community.

As you are aware, From Lot to Spot has been working to convert the vacant lot located at 118th Street and Doty Avenue into a much needed park space for over five years. On May 29th, the California Transportation Commission, which is the public holding agency, granted FLTS an unprecedented 90-day stay in order to raise the \$300,000 required to acquire the property.

This project will provide much needed accessible park space and has the potential to serve as a site for dynamic, environmental education for local youth. An environmental education kiosk and native vegetation are design features planned for the park. This coming fall, students from Environmental Charter High School will be conducting service learning projects that involve watershed restoration, urban runoff awareness and the important role green space plays in community economic development. The transformed vacant lot will also provide the community with a valuable natural resource that families will be able to enjoy for years to come.

I believe this project is worthy of your support and hope you will be able to assist FLTS acquire the much needed funding before the fast approaching deadline set by the California Transportation Commission.

I appreciate your full consideration of this request and look forward to a positive response.

Sincerely,



Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress

MW:bj

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MEMBER OF CONGRESS  
35TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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COMMITTEES:  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND  
COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY  
CHAIRWOMAN

JUDICIARY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME, TERRORISM  
AND HOMELAND SECURITY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION,  
BORDER SECURITY AND CLAIMS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0535

August 25, 2008

Shelley Luce, Executive Director  
Santa Monica Bay Restoration  
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

VIA FACSIMILE: (213) 576-6646

Dear Ms. Luce:

On behalf of From Lot to Spot (FLTS), a non-profit organization dedicated to creating parks in blighted neighborhoods, I am writing to respectfully request your assistance in securing the involvement of your organization in the acquisition of the 13,000 sq. ft. vacant property (APN 4048-007-901) in the City of Hawthorne as the first step in the creation of a vibrant space for children to play in this park poor community.

As you are aware, From Lot to Spot has been working to convert the vacant lot located at 118th Street and Doty Avenue into a much needed park space for over five years. On May 29th, the California Transportation Commission, which is the public holding agency, granted FLTS an unprecedented 90-day stay in order to raise the \$300,000 required to acquire the property.

This project will provide much needed accessible park space and has the potential to serve as a site for dynamic, environmental education for local youth. An environmental education kiosk and native vegetation are design features planned for the park. This coming fall, students from Environmental Charter High School will be conducting service learning projects that involve watershed restoration, urban runoff awareness and the important role green space plays in community economic development. The transformed vacant lot will also provide the community with a valuable natural resource that families will be able to enjoy for years to come.

I believe this project is worthy of your support and hope you will be able to assist FLTS acquire the much needed funding before the fast approaching deadline set by the California Transportation Commission.

I appreciate your full consideration of this request and look forward to a positive response.

Sincerely,



Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress

MW:bj

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 LOS ANGELES, CA 90045  
PHONE: (310) 642-4610  
FAX: (310) 642-9160



LA CONSERVATION CORPS

Administrative Offices  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 15868, Los Angeles, CA 90015

July 2, 2008

Honorable Curren D. Price, Jr.  
51<sup>st</sup> District, California Legislature  
One Manchester Blvd., Ste. 601  
Inglewood, CA 90301

Dear Assemblymember Price:

The mission of the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) is to provide at-risk young adults and school-aged youth with opportunities for success through job skills training, education and work experience with an emphasis on conservation and service projects that benefit the community. Because LACC has a strong commitment to improving the urban park system and providing ample opportunities for youth to acquire new skills in order to move forward in their career paths, we are pleased to support to From Lot to Spot's (FLTS) *Vacant Lot Beautification Project* in the City of Hawthorne.

LACC is committed to providing interim maintenance of the park until a long-term maintenance agreement is reached between local agencies. In addition, the LACC is committed to working with FLTS to provide job skill opportunities using this project as a platform for local South Bay youth.

This multi-agency park effort is the first of its kind in the City of Hawthorne. With enthusiastic support from the City of Hawthorne, Senator Mark Ridley-Thomas, the Verde Coalition, Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Supervisor Yvonne Burke, Northeast Trees, and a ready and willing community, we hope to help bring the community's dreams to fruition by transforming this blighted lot into much needed park space for the community. In addition, there is pledged support from community members and businesses for park construction. All that remains to make this dream a reality is acquisition of the property.

With maintenance of the proposed park covered by LACC, it is now time to secure the involvement of the state conservancies -- including the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and the Coastal Conservancy -- in the acquisition effort. Hawthorne is not covered by any of these state conservancies, but I believe that their executive officers would be receptive to your request for assistance. These agencies have a long history of taking affirmative action to reverse the well-documented park inequities experienced in poor communities of color such as Hawthorne.

We look forward to aiding FLTS in its efforts to create much needed park space in Hawthorne and hope that you will be able to join in the effort by requesting acquisition assistance from the aforementioned state conservancies. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Bruce Saito  
Executive Director



310-780-5461  
F 310-330-3905  
www.fromlottospot.org  
Tax ID - 20-3359738

**Commissioner Chair John Chalker**  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N Street  
Room 2221 (MS-52)  
Sacramento, CA 95814

August 21, 2008

Dear Chair Chalker,

We are writing to you to humbly request a 60-day extension on Agenda item 46, dealing with the Right of Way property we, From Lot to Spot (FLTS) have been tirelessly working on to convert into a vibrant park in this park-poor, community of color in the City of Hawthorne. As you are aware, the property was unmaintained by Caltrans for over 20 years and left this community with blighted conditions that was a catalyst for a deteriorating neighborhood. We are attempting to rebuild this community and reverse these effects through the creation of this community parkspace.

Due to the current financial climate in the State, we have experienced slower than expected progress on garnering funds from a public agency to acquire the property. FLTS has been working tirelessly to garner the funds to acquire the property from public agencies however has been unfortunately faced with a slow economy. Considering the progress we have made thus far, this extension will undoubtedly provide the opportunity to continue to move forward to garner the necessary funds and create a vibrant parkspace in this park-poor community of color.

Since the time FLTS came before the CTC in May, we have made tremendous progress in garnering resources and support for this park. FLTS has garnered the support and maintenance services of the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC). Upon construction of the park, the LACC has committed to maintenance services and will use this park project as a platform to bring much needed job opportunities and job-skills training to at-risk local youth.

In addition, our organization along with the support of Congresswoman Maxine Waters and the assistance of Assemblymember Curren Price have been in talks with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, the San Gabriel and the Lower Los Angeles River and Mountains Conservancy, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and the Coastal Conservancy in order to undertake a collaborative acquisition effort to make this dream a reality. These agencies have a long history of taking affirmative action to reverse the well-documented park inequities experienced in poor communities of color like Hawthorne.

This project is extremely important not only because it will provide much needed, accessible parkspace to a wide public but in its preliminary conceptual phase, the park is set to provide environmental education component. This fall, students at Environmental Charter High School in Lawndale, CA will be taking FLTS's *Spaces of Blight* course and conducting service learning projects that involve watershed restoration, urban runoff awareness and the role of greenspaces in community economic development. The transformed vacant lot will be the perfect setting for this type of experiential learning.

The undersigned community and environmental leaders humbly request that you provide FLTS with an extension for the purpose of creating this much needed park in this community. This extension will allow the dream of building a vibrant, community parkspace become reality. We sincerely and most desperately hope that you will hear this request. **Please do not overlook the impact that this parkspace will have on the community; we are confident it will rewrite the course of their future.** We thank you in advance for any and all of your efforts.



310-780-5461  
F 310-330-3905  
www.fromlottospot.org  
Tax ID - 20-3359738

**Individual Signatories - Organizational affiliations provided for identification purposes only:**

1. Mike Blockstein – Principal, Public Matters, LLC
2. Gabriela Brockhoff - Executive Director, Cultivating Sustainable Communities
3. Tsilah Burman – Executive Director, Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust
4. D. Malcolm Carson – Legal Aid Foundation Los Angeles
5. James Cole – City of Hawthorne Planning Commissioner
6. Glen Dake ASLA – Los Angeles Community Garden Council
7. Carlton Davenport – Associate Director, The Blazer Learning Center
8. Dr. David Diaz- Director, Urban Studies Program, CSU Los Angeles
9. Alison Diaz – Founder and Principal Environmental Charter High School
10. Jason Elias, Organizer - SEIU Local 721, Los Angeles/Orange County Cities
11. Nicole Garro, MPH- Associate, UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families & Communities
12. Isela C. Gracian - Director of Community Organizing, East LA Community Corporation
13. Robert Gottlieb - Urban & Environmental Policy Institute at Occidental College
14. Gilda Haas – Executive Director , Strategic Actions for a Just Economy
15. Carlos A. Hernandez - Academic Director, UCLA Migrant Scholar Leadership Program
16. Paul Jimenez - Director of S.O.L. Mentoring, Felton Elementary, Lennox
17. Beth Katz – Environmental Science Teacher, Environmental Charter High School
18. Alex Kenefick - Compton Creek Watershed Coordinator
19. Andy Lipkis – Executive Director, Tree People
20. Miguel Luna – Founder, Urban Semillas
21. Dr. Joseph K. Lyou- Executive Director, California Environmental Rights Alliance
22. Raul Macias – Founder, Anahuak Youth Sports Association
23. Meredith McCarthy - Director of Programs, Heal the Bay
24. Daisy Marks - Executive Secretary, Westside Regional Center
25. Ron Milam – Ron Milam Consulting
26. Alexandre Monteiro - Parks & Recreation Commissioner, City of Hawthorne
27. Frank O'Brien - Executive Director, Harbor Watts Economic Development Corporation
28. Christopher A. Pine AICP – Capstone Pine Inc.
29. John Quigley – Executive Director, Earth Day Los Angeles
30. John Quiter - Chairman of the Board, Cuningham Group
31. Lara Regus - Project Manager, Los Angeles Community Design Center
32. Nona Randois - Senior Attorney, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
33. James Rojas – Co-Founder, Latino Urban Forum
34. Larry Smith - Executive Director, North East Trees
35. Jim Stewart – Executive Director, People for Parks
36. Carrie Sutkin, DPDS - Principal, Urban Assessment Planners
37. Jennifer Snow - Progressive Christians Uniting
38. Stephanie Taylor - Verde Coalition
39. Alejandro Vargas – President, North Hawthorne Community Association
40. Julia I. Vazquez, M.Ed. - La Raza Law Students Association Chair, UCLA School of Law
41. Dr. Ventris Wood - President of the South Bay Universal Child Development Center
42. Becca Wilson - Communications Consultant, Southern California Watershed Alliance
43. Will Wright - Director of Government & Public Affairs, American Institute of Architects, LA
44. John Zavalney - LAUSD Science Advisor
45. Nancy Zuniga – ARTS corps LA