

WHEN I FIRST RAN FOR LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL IN 2003,
I, AS WELL AS THE
EIGHTH DISTRICT, WAS GOING THROUGH A PERIOD OF
TRANSITION.

I MADE A DECISION TO ENTER THE
RACE AFTER FIVE YEARS
AS CHIEF OF POLICE. WHILE, OFTEN TIMES, TRANSITION BRINGS
MORE THAN ITS SHARE OF QUESTIONS,
I'M HERE TO TELL YOU THAT DURING MY FOUR YEARS AS
COUNCILMEMBER I'VE BROUGHT MORE THAN MY SHARE OF
ANSWERS TO THE EIGHTH DISTRICT.

WHETHER IT WAS PROVIDING LIGHTS FOR CRENSHAW HIGH
SCHOOL'S FOOTBALL FIELD AFTER 40-PLUS YEARS IN THE DARK
OR EASING RACIAL TENSIONS BETWEEN ITS STUDENTS, MY STAFF
AND I HAD THE ANSWER.

WHEN PEOPLE ALONG THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL ASKED ME IF I COULD
PAVE THEIR DIRT
ALLEYS OR BRING THEM THE FIRST MARKET-RATE HOUSING
DEVELOPMENT THAT THEY'VE SEEN IN DECADES, MY ANSWER
WAS, "YES". AND, FOUR YEARS LATER I'M HAPPY TO SAY THAT I
HAVE DELIVERED ON THOSE PROMISES.

AS I'VE MADE THE CONSTITUENTS IN MY DISTRICT THE TOP
PRIORITY, I'VE ALSO BEEN INTIMATELY INVOLVED IN SEVERAL
CITYWIDE ISSUES. I HAVE USED MY ROLE AS A MEMBER OF THE
L.A. COLISEUM COMMISSION TO BRING OUR CITY CLOSER THAN
ITS EVER BEEN TO REGAINING AN NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
FRANCHISE.

IN LOOKING TO THE FUTURE, I PLAN TO USE THE EXPERTISE OF
MY LAW ENFORCEMENT PAST TO TAKE ON SOME VERY
IMPORTANT PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES. IN 2001, WHILE I WAS CHIEF
OF POLICE, I WENT AGAINST THE POLITICAL MAJORITY TO OPPOSE
THE POLICY THAT ALLOWS OFFICERS TO WORK ONLY THREE
DAYS A WEEK. A RECENT REPORT BY THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER SHOWS THAT THIS POLICY
HAS FAILED! IT HAS LED TO INCREASES IN PART I CRIMES,
PROPERTY CRIMES, OVERTIME HOURS, SICK

TIME AND RESPONSE TIME AND A DECREASE IN ARRESTS AND TRAFFIC CITATIONS. I WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE PUBLIC THESE SHORTCOMINGS UNTIL THERE IS A CHANGE!

I ALSO PLAN TO CONTINUE TO TAKE ISSUE WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S DECISION TO CHANGE THE WAY IT COUNTS CRIME STATISTICS. BY RECLASSIFYING SOME PART I CRIMES, LIKE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, TO LESSER OFFENSES, THE LAPD HAS PUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS THAT RECEIVE FEDERAL FUNDING IN JEOPARDY. JUST AS DISTURBINGLY, THE RECLASSIFICATION PAINTS A ROSIER CRIME PICTURE THAN WHAT ACTUALLY EXISTS IN THE CITY. WE, WHO LIVE IN THE COMMUNITY AND HAVE HEARD SIRENS AND LOST LOVED ONES KNOW THAT WE ARE NO SAFER NOW THAN WE HAVE BEEN IN RECENT YEARS.

IN ADDITION, I WILL DEDICATE A LOT OF ATTENTION TO THE RECENT LAPD POLICE ABUSE ISSUES, INCLUDING THE SEX SCANDAL, VIDEOTAPED BEATINGS, PEPPER SPRAY INCIDENTS AND OTHER INSTANCES OF MIS- USE-OF-FORCE. I BELIEVE THESE INCIDENTS ARE EVIDENCE THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS FAILING TO ADEQUATELY DISCIPLINE ITS PERSONNEL.

LASTLY, I INTEND TO EXTEND THE PUBLIC SAFETY UMBRELLA TO COVER THE VERY CRUCIAL MATTER OF HEALTH. I AM CURRENTLY PREPARING LEGISLATION TO SLOW THE GROWTH OF FAST-FOOD, DRIVE-THRU RESTAURANTS IN THE EIGHTH DISTRICT. THESE TYPES OF RESTAURANTS AND THE FOOD THEY SERVE HAVE BEEN LINKED TO HEALTH PROBLEMS, LIKE CHILDHOOD OBESITY. THIS ISSUE MUST BE ADDRESSED TO ENSURE A HEALTHIER AND MORE PROSPEROUS FUTURE FOR OUR YOUTH.

I LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING ANOTHER TERM. PLEASE VOTE FOR ME ON MARCH 6TH.