

## CHANNEL 35 CANDIDATE STATEMENT – JANICE HAHN

Serving the people of Los Angeles for these past eight years has been an honor for me, and I want the chance to continue my work in the 15th Council District for a third term. I believe that the people of my District are better off than they were when I began my service, and I intend to further improve conditions for them, and for the city as a whole.

Prior to my time in office, the Port of Los Angeles was one of the most polluted areas in the LA Basin, due to diesel truck emissions. I have pushed the Port to adopt a variety of clean air initiatives, including the newly-implemented Clean Trucks program that will result in a dramatic decrease in harmful emissions.

I have been a tireless advocate for Port security, and I will continue to fight for funds from the federal government to finally secure this Harbor on the grand scale that it demands.

I have also pushed strongly for a comprehensive plan that would get the Port – and our economy – up and running again in the event of any kind of disaster, whether natural or man-made. (pause)

Right now, we are facing the toughest economic crisis of our lifetime, and unfortunately, no one is being spared – including the City of Los Angeles. But, I do recognize that public safety is a top priority in making this city function. We need to continue to invest our resources in the police department and the security of our Ports and airport, and my commitment to keeping our citizens safe will never waiver, no matter what the economic climate.

I realize that this city could never function without a hard working and dedicated labor force. So I have fought the fight of my life to achieve a living wage for the working men and women employed by the hotels in the LAX area.

I am proud to say that during my tenure in City Council, a new animal shelter, along with new fire and new police stations, have been established in San Pedro. I also worked diligently to institute the new fire station which is now open in Watts, as well as the brand new public library in Harbor City.

In the Watts area, I have secured funding from the Community Redevelopment Agency to aggressively revitalize the neighborhood to add more housing and services, jobs and tax revenue, to the people of Watts. And I recently arranged for almost a thousand new acres to be redeveloped, including a renovation of the Jordan Downs Housing Community.

Gang violence is one of the biggest problems facing our city today, and I have worked tirelessly to put new gang prevention strategies into action. I believe strongly that we need to keep kids from ever joining a gang in the first place.

That's why I've focused on after school programs, tutoring and mentoring services, and job training for our young people.

I have spent the last several years working with the Watts community to employ community policing strategies to improve the relationship between residents and the LAPD, resulting in a 50% reduction in crime in the area. Three years ago, I founded the Watts Gang Task Force, which has grown into a model organization for neighborhood gang prevention and which many other communities have since emulated.

I have also advocated strongly for the forming of Neighborhood Councils, and for their participation in the city's decision making processes.

If given the chance to continue my work in city council, I promise to carry on with all my might the pursuit of a safe, equitable, and prosperous city for all.

JANICE HAHN STATEMENT THE END