

Hello, I am Nick Patsouras. I was born in Athens, Greece and I came to the United States as a 17-year-old student. I received an Electrical Engineering degree from California State University, Northridge and started my own consulting firm shortly thereafter. I was able to buy a home early in my married life and give my children a good education, with both of my children getting advanced degrees. However, can we honestly say that young people today will have the same opportunities? I don't believe so.

Los Angeles is in desperate need to fundamentally change its course. The City has one of the highest tax rates in the region, making it extraordinarily difficult to do business here. Congestion, cost of living, and quality of life could all be improved.

Controllers, whether public or private, are responsible for ensuring that the institution they oversee lives within its means. Proper performance of this charge could lead to dramatic change in the way the City operates. The key to change is not to cut back on the vision of the City and what needs to be accomplished, but rather to carry out that vision and mission more efficiently, with more productivity and with fewer revenues.

The Controller must have the experience and track record to carry out this charge.

- a.. Getting the most out of the tax dollars and
- b.. Creating a cost structure where the City can afford to live within its means.

We can create a City that accomplishes this without cutting back on our vision by:

- a.. Doing things right
- b.. Doing things on time

- c.. Being creative and innovative
- d.. Listening to you and being responsive

The greatest challenge facing Los Angeles and the Nation is an economic recovery. The Federal government plans to revitalize the economy through Federal grants to rebuild our cities, upgrade our infrastructure and invest in Green Technologies. This investment in the City of Los Angeles will be wasted if not properly controlled.

My entire public career has been dedicated to control costs and ensure projects are built on time and without waste. Through my 30 years of public service as a City and County Commissioner, I have dealt with multi billion dollar budgets and have been successful in ensuring projects are completed within or below budget and on time. In these difficult economic times, the City needs skills and experience to control costs so the City can benefit the most from the Federal economic stimulus and also ensure Los Angeles is again an affordable city in which to live and work. That is why I am running for the Office of Controller of Los Angeles. I would appreciate your vote on March 3rd
Thank you and God bless