

Hi, my name is Jose Ugarte and I'm running for City Council, District 9.

I'm a husband, a father, and an immigrant from Oaxaca. Like so many families in the district, mine came here looking for opportunity.

My parents believed in the city. They believed that if they worked hard, their kids would have a chance to build something better. That belief shaped me, and it's what's guided my work every day.

I began my public service in the state legislature, working on efforts to protect our environment and bring clean water access to communities right here in South Central. That experience showed me how government can make a real difference when it's focused on delivering for people.

For more than a decade, I've continued that work here in Council District 9. I started as a field deputy, out in the community every day, listening to residents, helping families navigate city services, and showing up where people needed support.

Over time, I worked my way up to deputy chief of staff, helping lead efforts to bring real resources into our neighborhoods. I sat with families who are doing everything right and still struggling to keep up, worried about rising rent and whether they can afford to stay in the communities they've called home for years.

I've talked to workers who just want a fair wage and some stability. I've heard from parents who want safe streets and a safe place where their kids can grow and feel supported. And I've worked closely with immigrant families who contribute every day while navigating systems that aren't always built for them.

That's what this job is about, making sure our communities aren't left behind, making sure resources are coming into the district and reaching the people who need them most, and making sure we build more affordable housing so families can stay here and not get pushed out.

Equally important, it's about bringing people together.

District 9 has always been strongest when we stand united across Black and Brown communities, across cultures, across neighborhoods, working toward the same future. That's the kind of leadership I believe in: leadership that listens, builds trust, and brings people together to get things done, and leadership that's ready on day one.

I'm proud of the coalition behind this campaign. I'm honored to have the support of Councilman Price, Councilwoman Heather Hutt, leaders in the labor community like Dolores Huerta, the Los Angeles Building and Construction Trades, faith leaders, like the president of the Baptist Minister's Conference Local chambers of commerce and hundreds of organizations, community leaders, and residents across District 9.

That support comes from people who have seen the work up close and know what I stand for. I've been there in difficult moments, through COVID, through times of real uncertainty for our communities. And every moment

the focus has been the same. Protect our neighborhoods and connect people to support.

Right now, District 9 needs steady, experienced leadership that's ready to step in on day one. That's why I'm running, because our families deserve to stay here, to grow here, and to build a future right here in District 9.

Thank you.