



Press Release

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CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS NEW GREEN RETROFIT INITIATIVE

LOS ANGELES – Councilmembers Herb J. Wesson, Jr. (CD10), Jack Weiss (CD-5), and Council President Eric Garcetti (CD-13) jointly lauded the Los Angeles City Council’s adoption of a motion by Councilmember Wesson establishing a process for retrofitting existing, deteriorating city-owned buildings and public spaces to meet “green” standards, while creating new jobs.

The City Council had previously adopted “green” standards for the construction of new City-owned buildings. The Wesson motion would apply “green standards to city retrofit projects. Combined, these actions have made the City of Los Angeles a national role model in promoting “green” construction.

“This initiative offers us the chance to both improve our environment and speed the development of a workforce trained to take advantage of these new employment opportunities,” said Wesson. “We are going to promote “green” buildings and “green” jobs, and set an important example for the rest of the country.”

The Wesson motion directs the Department of Water and Power to conduct an audit of City-owned buildings that will include an analysis of possible environmentally friendly upgrades. The motion also creates an Oversight Committee to review the results of the audit, as well as develop a strategy to train City residents for green building retrofit jobs.

Also hailing the passage of the initiative were Councilmember Jack Weiss, who seconded the Wesson motion, and Council President Eric Garcetti, another strong supporter of “green” initiatives.

"To conserve energy and resources, the environmental, construction, and government sectors are collaborating to encourage green building and green retrofitting in our communities," said Councilmember Jack Weiss. "I'm proud that Los Angeles' municipal buildings will be on the forefront of this transformation while creating jobs that provide a living wage."

"Today we are creating good jobs and a healthier city," said Council President Eric Garcetti. "Retrofitting our city buildings will not only reduce our carbon footprint, but will help to spur

private and public investment in the green sector in Los Angeles, to create high-road jobs that can benefit our city for generations."

Councilmember Wesson also acknowledged the Apollo Alliance and the LA County Federation of Labor as his community partners in promoting the initiative.

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