



**Office of the Mayor
City of Los Angeles**

ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA

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MAYOR VILLARAIGOSA ROLLS OUT WELCOME MAT FOR NEW LIVING SPACES FURNITURE STORE IN VAN NUYS

*New Living Spaces Furniture store delivers 300 - 500 jobs to
San Fernando Valley, will generate tax revenue*

LOS ANGELES – Delivering on his pledge to create jobs and attract new sources of retail tax revenue to Los Angeles, Mayor Villaraigosa today cut the ribbon on a brand new Living Spaces Furniture Store in Van Nuys. The 105,000 square foot home furnishings showroom is the company's first store in LA and brings at least 300 jobs to the San Fernando Valley along with the potential for more in the future.

"Living Spaces Furniture has fast become an important fixture in Southern California, and we are proud to welcome this new store to Los Angeles," said Mayor Villaraigosa. "This Van Nuys store will provide job opportunities for the community while providing a convenient retail destination for LA shoppers, who can make sure their tax dollars stay in their city."

The new store was originally slated to be built outside of city limits, but Mayor Villaraigosa and his business team worked hard to attract the company to Van Nuys as part of the Mayor's strategy to strengthen retail business in LA. Historically, retail development in LA has fallen behind the statewide average. Although it is the biggest city in California, LA is ranked #314 for per capita sales tax revenue production.

LA produces \$111 in per capita sales taxes annually while Culver City rakes in \$446 per capita and Burbank pulls \$286 per capita. Since taking office, Mayor Villaraigosa has made it a top priority to channel sales tax revenues into LA by boosting its retail sector.

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“In this tough budget year, the importance of sales tax revenues is especially pronounced,” the Mayor said. “By attracting more retail to LA, we can make it possible for Angelenos to spend their tax dollars in their own city, where these revenues can help fill potholes, maintain parks and protect public safety.”

The new Living Spaces store incorporates many green features, such as energy efficient fixtures and sophisticated motion and energy monitoring systems to reduce overall power usage.

At Friday’s ribbon cutting, Living Spaces announced that it will donate \$10,000 to the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, a gift meant to express the store’s gratitude to the Los Angeles community.

Store managers also said that they are still hiring workers for positions throughout the store and have nearly 50 open positions in the warehouse alone.

Job applicants should call Living Spaces at 1-877-266-7300 for more information.

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