



KAREN BASS  
MAYOR

March 21, 2023

Honorable Members of the City Council  
c/o City Clerk  
City Hall, Room 395

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have appointed Mr. John Gonzales to the City Planning Commission for the term ending June 30, 2024. Mr. Gonzales will fill the vacancy created by Dana Perlman, whom I removed effective May 5, 2023 or at the time Mr. Perlman's successor is confirmed by the City Council.

I certify that in my opinion Mr. Gonzales is qualified for the work that will devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Bass".

KAREN BASS  
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment

## COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

**Name:** John Gonzales  
**Commission:** City Planning Commission  
**End of Term:** 6/30/2024

### Appointee Information

1. **Race:** API
2. **Gender:** Male
3. **Council district and neighborhood of residence:** 8 - South LA
4. **Are you a registered voter?** Yes
5. **Prior commission experience:**
6. **Highest level of education completed:** Bachelor of Science Degree, University of California, San Diego
7. **Occupation/profession:** General Contractor and Real Estate Broker
8. **Experience(s) that qualifies person for appointment:** See attached resume/bio
9. **Purpose of this appointment:** Appointment
10. **Current composition of the commission (excluding appointee):**

**John V. Gonzales**

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you in advance for consideration of my application for a position on the Los Angeles City Planning Commission. For background, I am originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I received a Bachelor of Science degree from University of California San Diego. I have lived and worked in Los Angeles for 37 years now. My wife and I are currently 12-year residents of Baldwin Hills Estates, in South Los Angeles/CD8.

Professionally, I have worked in the building and real estate businesses for those 37 years. Formerly as general manager of an acquisitions, property management, and construction company; and self-employed for the past 25 years. I became licensed as a General Contractor in 1990 and licensed as a Real Estate Broker in 1993. Over the years I've become versed in most aspects of the businesses, from laws, practices, to economics. I am currently semi-retired, developing a new endeavor, which affords me the ability to commit to this position.

As to Planning and Land Use policy specifically, I have a keen interest in that arena, and have extensive community-level experience. I have been an appointed member of City Planning's Crenshaw Corridor Design Review board for going on six years now. I have been the Land Use Chair for the Baldwin Hills Estates HOA for approximately five years, am a board member and past vice president. I actively engage with a number of other organizations regarding community Planning; from Empowerment Council West NC, to Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Neighborhood Planning Alliance (co-founded), to other groups and government offices throughout the region. That advocacy revolved around specific projects, as well as both local and state policies.

We face an important and dynamic period in planning and land use. We must account for and balance a wide list of needs, some divergent. From accommodating state law and requirement for additional housing, to solutions for homelessness and poverty, to accounting for climate change and environmental sensitivities in the city, to an intersection with transportation, to economic development, and doing all with the concerns of residents/neighborhoods/cultures in mind. Of special importance to me is stability and an increase in the well-being of those in the city with historically limited opportunity and higher vulnerability. With a keen eye on improving their possibilities through Affordable Housing provisions, Fair Housing, job creation, mobility, public health and safety, adequate amenities; all through smart & equitable city planning.

All told, I believe I have the motivation, professional and procedural expertise, as well as having a pulse on the city's residents, to contribute to successful planning in Los Angeles.

Thank You,

John V Gonzales



KAREN BASS  
MAYOR

March 21, 2023

Dear Mr. Gonzales:

I am pleased to inform you that I hereby appoint you to the City Planning Commission for the term ending June 30, 2024. In order to complete the process as quickly as possible, there are several steps that must be taken, many of which require visiting City Hall. If you require parking during these procedures, please contact my Commissions team by email at [myr-commissions@lacity.org](mailto:myr-commissions@lacity.org), to make arrangements for you.

To begin the appointment process, please review, sign, and return the enclosed Remuneration Form and Undated Separation Letters **within one week** of receiving this letter. These documents are necessary to ensuring the most efficient, open, and accountable City government possible. Further, Mayor's Office policy requires all potential commissioners to be fingerprinted as part of the background check. The Commissions Team will assist in connecting you with the Personnel Background Unit so that you may schedule an appointment to have this done. You must schedule the appointment **within one week** of receiving this letter.

Should this apply to your Commission, you will be receiving a packet from the City Ethics Commission containing information about the City's conflict of interest laws, and a copy of the State Form 700/Statement of Economic Interests. You are required to complete and return this form **within 21 days** of your nomination to the City Ethics Commission at 200 North Spring Street, City Hall, 24th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012. Any inquiries regarding this form should be directed to Nicole Enriquez at the Ethics Commission by email at [nicole.enriquez@lacity.org](mailto:nicole.enriquez@lacity.org).

Mr. John Gonzales  
March 21, 2023  
Page 2

As part of the City Council confirmation process, meetings will be offered to Marqueece Harris-Dawson, your Councilmember, and Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson, the Chair of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee, to answer any questions they may have. You will be hearing from a City Council committee clerk who will let you know when your appointment will be considered by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee. Sometime thereafter, you will be notified by the committee clerk when your appointment will be presented to the full City Council for confirmation. Once you are confirmed, you will be required to take the oath of office in the City Clerk's Office in Room 395 of City Hall.

Commissioners must be residents of the City of Los Angeles. If you move at any point during your term, have any changes in your telephone numbers, or in the future plan to resign (resignation must be put in writing), please contact my office immediately.

Congratulations and thank you for agreeing to serve the people of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Bass". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karen" and the last name "Bass" clearly distinguishable.

KAREN BASS  
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment I  
Mr. John Gonzales  
March 21, 2023

### Nominee Check List

**I. Within 7 days:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Schedule an appointment to get fingerprinted to complete a background check. The Commissions team will assist in connecting you with the Personnel Background Unit.

\_\_\_\_\_ Email the completed forms, found on the last three pages of this letter, to: [myr-commissions@lacity.org](mailto:myr-commissions@lacity.org) OR mail them to: Commissions Team, Office of the Mayor, City Hall – Room 303, 200 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

- Remuneration Form
- Undated Separation Letters

**II. Within 21 days:**

\_\_\_\_\_ File the following forms with the City Ethics Commission. *If you are required to file, you will receive these forms via email from that office.*

- **Statement of Economic Interest (“Form 700”)**  
*IMPORTANT:* The City Council will not consider your nomination until your completed form is reviewed by the Ethics Commission.
- **CEC Form 60**

**III. The Mayor’s Office will notify the below Councilmembers of your nomination, so that they may reach out to schedule a meeting with you should they wish.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Your City Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson

\_\_\_\_\_ Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Chair of the Council Committee considering your nomination