

Ideas and Resources from Los Angeles City Councilmembers

District 1 - Gilbert Cedillo - councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org

District 1 schools: Cortines High School

Website: <http://council.lacity.org/Directory/CouncilDistrict1/index.htm>

Contact: melinda.alatorre@lacity.org (213) 473-7001

- **Mural Projects:** Community mural will be designed by someone within the community as a paint-by-numbers project to be completed by others in the community.
 - **Keep It Clean:** Community clean-up program focused on the Business Improvement District. Public education will be done door-to-door.
 - **Arts Programming:** Would like to use high school students as interns.
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District 2 – Paul Krekorian - councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org

District 2 schools: Grant High School









Website: <http://cd2.lacity.org/index.htm>

Contact: anna.aroutiounian@lacity.org (818) 755-7676

- **Safety** - Students could research emergency preparedness, especially as it affects shut-ins (people with disabilities and seniors). CERT is a place to start.
- **Hunger/Poverty/Mental Health** – After studying these issues, students could design a YouTube video to raise awareness.
- **Environment** - Students could research the impact of trash on rivers and oceans, partner with the Los Angeles Beautification Team and Friends of the Los Angeles River, and create posters to educate the community about the importance of zero waste. Students could contact the Department of Sanitation for free canvas bags to distribute.

- **Graffiti** - Students could research the social conditions underlying graffiti, and partner with New Directions for Youth for graffiti clean up. Connect with the Social and Public Art Resource Center for graffiti as art.
- **Water Conservation and Alternative Energy** - Partner with DWP, create a home/business survey, and make recommendations to homeowners and business owners for low-cost energy savings, e.g. switching to LED lights and solar feed in tariff.
- **Transportation** - Students could research how cities are cutting down on fossil fuel dependence by encouraging bicycle and what the city is doing to support bicycle lanes.

Additional Resources

-  [LA Dept of Water & Power](#)
-  [LA Bike](#)
-  [Community Emergency Response Team](#)
-  [Poverty Matters](#)
-  [LA Beautification Team](#)
-  [Friends of LA River](#)
-  [New Directions for Youth](#)
-  [Social and Public Art](#)

District 3 - Bob Blumenfield - councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org

District 3 schools: Cleveland Charter High School, Thoreau Continuation High School

Website: <http://blumenfield.lacity.org>

Community Resources: http://blumenfield.lacity.org/community_resources

Contact: lyn.Shaw@lacity.org and jenny.M.Portillo@lacity.org (818) 774-4330










This office would support a student-driven leadership group. One issue to consider is teen pregnancy.





- **Bicycle Transportation** – environmental / healthy benefits of bicycling. Student could help the City Council collect bicycle data in order to get funding for bicycle lanes. Partner with Rotary Club, neighborhood councils, and LA Bike.
- **Community Clean Up** – Study the connection between litter and community health/safety. Partner with L.A. Street Services and Housing Department to distribute packets to apartment renters. Partner with the City Department of Sanitation, City Board

of Public Work's Office of Community Beautification, and groups such as the World Church of God that provided over 300 volunteers in the Valley to participate in community clean up. (L.A. County Department of Public Works)

- **Public Service Announcements and Videos to raise awareness about issues** – Cleveland High School's Media Center produces professional quality film projects. (Note: Councilmember Blumenfield is on the California State Film Commission.)
- **Technology** – Councilmember Blumenfield is working toward city-wide free internet access. Another project has to do with city department websites; Councilmember Blumenfield is working to create ways for these independent websites to interface.
- **Clean Energy Jobs and Manufacturing** – What is Los Angeles City doing in this area? What businesses and non-profit organizations have this as a goal, too? Chambers of Commerce? The Valley Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley
- **Alternative Energy** – What is Los Angeles City doing to promote solar, wind, and other sources of non-fossil fuel energy? How are businesses addressing this issue?
- **Water Conservation** – How is Los Angeles addressing the drought? Students can research ways to conserve water, partner with DWP and non-profits such as Tree People to inform the public, and present findings to elected officials.
- **Los Angeles River Project** - What would it mean to restore a riparian ecosystem?
- **Disaster Preparedness** – Note that in a major emergency, the Valley will be cut off from Los Angeles. How will we transport people to shelters? Home-bound people can be registered with the Fire Department. Research what the Los Angeles Mayor's office and the non-profit Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness Foundation are doing to prepare our city.
- **Human Trafficking** – To what extent is the public aware of "modern slavery"? Partner with the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking, the National and the Mary Magdalene Project, and the National Council of Jewish Women (Maya Paley, Director of Legislative and Community Engagement at 323-852-8536 or maya@ncjwla.org) are valuable resources for students to learn about the issue and to become actively involved in solving this complex problem.

Additional Resources

-  [LA Dept of Water & Power](#)
-  [Tree People](#)
-  [Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking](#)
-  [Mary Magdalene Project](#)
-  [LA River Revitalization](#)
-  [Teen Pregnancy](#)
-  [LA City Emergency Preparedness](#)
-  [Emergency Preparedness Foundation](#)
-  [LA Bike](#)

-  [City Department of Sanitation](#)
-  [Office of Community Beautification](#)
-  [County Department of Public Works](#)
-  [Valley Economic Alliance](#)

District 5 – Paul Koretz - councilmember.koretz@lacity.org

District 5 schools: Hamilton High School

Website: <http://cd5.lacity.org/index.htm>

Contact: Jeffrey.ebenstein@lacity.org (213) 473-7005

- **Social Media** – YOUTUBE video about community issues
- A student survey on neighborhood or city issue could benefit the community and empower the students to learn about how local government works.
- **Working with the Neighborhood Council** – there is \$3500 available for student-led projects. Contact dougfitzsimmmons@soronc.org
- **Animal Welfare** - Councilmember Koretz is on this committee. Students may be interested in helping with this and other issues from his other committees.
- **Voter Registration and Get-Out-the-Vote** – Students can research voter apathy in their community, as well as participate in voter registration on campus.

District 6 - Nury Martinez - councilmember.martinez@lacity.org

District 6 schools: Birmingham Charter High School

Website: <http://council.lacity.org/Directory/CouncilDistrict6/index.htm>

Contact: arcelia.arce@lacity.org (213) 473-7006

- **Environmental Justice** – Research and facilitate the expansion of green space, e.g. convert former landfills into protected wetland parks. Participate in community clean ups.

- **Community Development** – Partner with Youth Speak! Collective, where youth identify, document and analyze problems in their community and design/implement community development projects. Also, high school students can partner with Pacoima Beautiful on environmental health and justice projects.
- **Leadership for Women and Girls** - Partner with Hispanas Organized for Political Action and the Los Angeles Women's Dialogue Series to hold meetings in different districts around Los Angeles.
- **Living Wage** – Research this issue and design action to address poverty. LAANE is recognized as a national leader in the effort to address the challenges of working poverty, inadequate health care and polluted communities.
- **Human Trafficking** – Partner with the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking, the National and the Mary Magdalene Project, and the National Council of Jewish Women (Maya Paley, Director of Legislative and Community Engagement at 323-852-8536 or maya@ncjwla.org) are valuable resources for students to learn about the issue and to become actively involved in solving this complex problem.

Additional Resources

-  [Youth Speak Collective](#)
-  [Pacoima Beautiful](#)
-  [Hispanas Organized for Political Action](#)
-  [LAANE](#)
-  [Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking](#)
-  [Mary Magdalene Project](#)

District 8 – Bernard Parks

Not part of the 2013-14 pilot project; however, here is a link to community resources in this district: http://www.bernardparks.com/files/7.21.14_2013ResourceBookFinal2.pdf

District 9 – Curren Price

Not part of the 2013-14 pilot project; however, here is a link to the Youth Empowerment page for this district: http://www.the-new-ninth.com/youth_empowerment

District 10 – Herb J. Wesson, Jr. - councilmember.wesson@lacity.org

District 10 high schools: Dorsey High School Law Academy

Website: <http://www.herbwesson.com>

Contact: kimani.black@lacity.org (213) 473-7010

- **Safe Passage** is a program that Wesson's office created in partnership with Community Build in Leimert Park to identify "hot spots", where students are accosted to/from school for drug sales or gang recruitment. Before Safe Passage, high school attendance was **70%. After Safe Passage, attendance has increased to 85%.**
- **Community Gardens** - Students could research the benefits of creating such gardens on high school campuses and community spaces. Some resources: Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust, Master Gardeners (email Yvonne Savio ydsavio@ucanr.edu), California School Garden Network.
- **Homelessness** - Students could research the relationship between mental health and homelessness. On a related issue, students could learn about the issue of food deserts in poor communities. The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) is a non-profit that is a resource for learning about the homeless population.
- **Veterans** – What do U.S. Veterans need? To what extent does local government work with the Federal Veteran's Administration?
- **Parks and Recreation** – Which facilities and programs are successful and which are not? Share this data and make recommendations to the city.
- **Graffiti Clean Up** – What is the impact of graffiti on a community? Students could work with the Los Angeles Conservation Corps and the Koreatown Youth and Community Center.
- **Teen Community Police Advisory Board** (contact Paul Evleth at 213-847-5800).
- **Voter Registration** – Focus on young voters. To avoid having to re-register each time they move (dorm, apartment, etc.), use parents' address. Teach people to register online.

Additional Resources

-  [LA Neighborhood Land Trust](#)
 -  [California School Garden Network](#)
 -  [LA Homeless Services Authority](#)
 -  [LA Conservation Corps](#)
 -  [Koreatown Youth & Community Center](#)
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District 11 – Mike Bonin - councilmember.bonin@lacity.org




District 11 schools – Venice High School

Website: <http://www.11thdistrict.com>

Contact: ceciliacastillo@lacity.org and anna.kozma@lacity.org (213) 473-7011

- **Access 11** - Councilman Bonin's "Access 11" plan uses direct personal outreach and technology to make sure residents and neighborhoods have access to city government, and have multiple ways to make their voices heard. Events include neighborhood walks, service fairs, community clean-ups, and more. For upcoming events, please visit the Councilman's website: www.11thdistrict.com
- **Environment** – Partner with non-profits that work in this district: Friends of Ballona Wetlands and Tree People
- **ShareChange** - mission is to increase experiential learning in high school curricula that empowers students to become active community participants and responsible global citizens. Contact: Eric Kroskrity (erickroskrity@gmail.com)

Additional Resources

-  [Friends of Ballona Wetlands](#)
-  [Tree People](#)
-  [ShareChange](#)

District 12 - Mitch Englander - councilmember.english@lacity.org

District 12 schools: Jane Addams Continuation High School

Website: <http://cd12.lacity.org/index.htm>

Community-based Organizations:

http://cd12.lacity.org/stellent/groups/electedofficials/@cd12_contributor/documents/contributor_web_content/lacityp_020714.pdf

Contact: john.s.lee@lacity.org (213) 473-7012, megan.cottier@lacity.org (818) 882-1212 or ron.rubine@lacity.org (818) 882-1212

- Summer leadership training program for 10-20 of the best & the brightest in the schools in the district, in which they teach kids how the city operates and the role of the councilman. Contact District 12 to apply.
- **Get Out the Vote** - The Korean population in Porter Ranch has the lowest voting turnout of any group in the district. Korean-speaking students could be especially helpful. All students could devise and implement a plan to get out the vote in the upcoming elections.
- Partner with neighborhood councils for community projects, e.g. Aliso Canyon Park Clean Up with Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council

District 13 – Mitch O’Farrell - councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org

District 13 schools: Newmark Continuation High School

Website: <http://www.cd13.com>

Contact: star.parsamyan@lacity.org (213) 473-7013

- **Community Walks:** Councilman and entire staff walk a different neighborhood each month. They knock on the door of each home and business in the area to ask residents about their questions and concerns and to inform them about what is available in their own neighborhood. They are developing and distributing a resource guide for the area. Police, sanitation and other community workers walk with them. Students are welcome to accompany them on these walks. They could have conversations with staff as they walk. Students joining the tour could identify a community need that they might wish to address as a Service Learning project. (Tour might be arranged for students at Newmark.)
- * To improve the district’s environment and infrastructure, O’Farrell has led over 50 clean-up drives and several physical improvement projects. Students could study the positive/negative effects of clean/run-down neighborhood and participate in clean ups.
- * In laying out the future of the LA River, O’Farrell spearheaded the city council’s final authorization of the River Improvement Overlay Ordinance, which supports the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan. Students could study environmental issues and participate in the planning/rehabilitation of the river.
- * O’Farrell’s policy agenda also involves coping with and addressing the adverse effects of gentrification. Students can study the needs of homeless, seniors, veterans, and discover ways they can become productive members of their community.

- **Internships:** Students are eligible to apply for internships at each Field Office in this district.
- **Student Trips to City Hall:** The Legislative Deputy brings students to City Hall.