

NORTHEAST LOS ANGELES



THANK YOU FROM COUNCILMEMBER HUIZAR

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I write to you as I approach the end of my term as the Councilmember representing the 14th District of the City of Los Angeles. From my first day in office, I have focused my energies on improving the quality of life for residents of our community.

This booklet captures many of the things that I was able to accomplish during my time in office. It represents the efforts that my staff and I made to improve the quality of life for the constituents of Northeast Los Angeles. Together with your help, we changed things forever - and for the better.

I have been privileged to serve one of the most diverse and thriving areas of the City. Thank you for the support you have shown me. I will always feel humbled and honored that you entrusted me as your representative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "José Huizar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

José Huizar
Councilmember, 14th District

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ARTS

ART DEVELOPMENT FEE

In an effort to free up the millions that developers have contributed toward the arts, Councilmember Huizar piloted the City's Arts Development Fee Ordinance. The measure lifted cumbersome requirements that formed the basis of the previous statute. The goal was to more effectively channel funds into public art capital improvement projects.

Upon the ordinance's passing, \$1.7 million was immediately released to build public art displays throughout the City.



UTILITY ART BOX MURAL PROGRAM

Councilmember Huizar's realization that the City's drab traffic electrical boxes could be transformed into expressions of public art gave birth to the Utility Art Box mural program. The experiment has grown from a pilot effort in Council District 14 to a citywide initiative.

There are now more than 200 painted utility boxes in Council District 14 alone, and more than 600 throughout the rest of the City. Huizar managed the accomplishment by partnering with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation. Together, they created a streamlined process that encouraged access to the boxes.

"We are a city that values its artists. The insight and innovation they lend to Los Angeles cannot be overstated."

- José Huizar



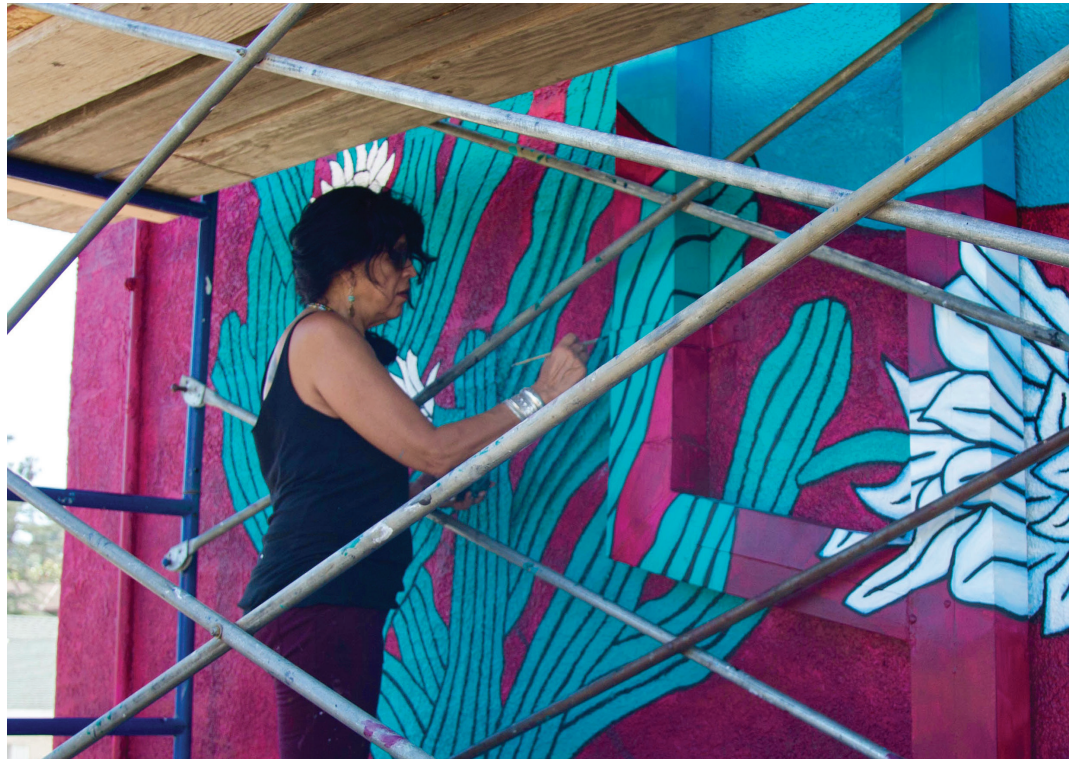
MURAL ORDINANCE

In the Seventies and Eighties, artists, including a large contingent on Los Angeles' Eastside, created thousands of murals that told the story of our City's distinct communities and at one point earned Los Angeles the title of "Mural Capital of the World". More recently, however, artists who wanted to create murals on private property were faced with a ban on their work due to ongoing litigation with sign companies.

In 2013, after an 11-year moratorium and countless legal hurdles barring the creation of new murals on private property in Los Angeles, Councilmember Huizar collaborated with fellow advocates to encourage the City to adopt a new ordinance that would permit muralists to utilize their creative talents once again. As the Chair of the Planning & Land Use Management Committee, Huizar helped enact a law that identified murals as "original works of art," instead of simple sign postings. The result was a removal of the ban on murals.

"Murals define our unique and diverse city. They are a part of what makes Los Angeles one of the world's great metropolitan centers. It's important that we embrace our history and continue to affirm our commitment to supporting the arts."

- José Huizar



HIGHLAND PARK MURAL

Wrapping around a building on Avenue 56, this sprawling Highland Park mural first painted by renowned artists Judy Baca, Joe Bravo, Sonya Fe, Arnold Ramirez, and Sonny Williams more than 40 years ago, represents the history of the surrounding communities.

After years of deteriorating anti-graffiti coating and constant graffiti removal, the mural fell into disrepair. In an effort to revive the piece, Councilmember Huizar worked with the building's owners, AT&T, and the original artists to establish a plan of action for a \$78,000 restoration.

FRANKLIN MURAL PROJECT

With the help of Community Beautification funds secured by Councilmember Huizar, students of Franklin High School, led by two substitute teachers, created a dynamic mural known as the Franklin Mural Project. The piece features original inhabitants of the area surrounded by native flowers and Northeast Los Angeles landscapes.



CULTURE AND EVENTS



SENIOR SNOWBALL

This annual winter formal dance and luncheon honoring local seniors has been hosted by Councilmember Huizar for more than a decade. Uniting nearly 30 senior clubs from across Northeast Los Angeles, DTLA, Boyle Heights, and El Sereno, the Senior Snowball attracts an average of 500 seniors every year.

The celebration includes food and live music. Seniors are transported back to yesteryear with live music, including jazz, swing, pop, cumbia, and salsa favorites.



MEMORIAL DAY

Paying tribute to the City's large veteran community has long been a priority for Councilmember Huizar. Annual observances of the holiday in Northeast Los Angeles has been a hallmark of Huizar's tenure.



4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS

Councilmember Huizar has hosted the Northeast Los Angeles 4th of July Concerts in the Park and Fireworks Show since 2010. The event is held at the Eagle Rock Recreation Center and includes live entertainment, food, children's games, community booths, and a phenomenal fireworks show.

Over the last ten years, participation has grown to the point where it's common to have more than 7,000 community members in attendance.

The event has become the highlight of the summer and a very special tradition for residents of the community.

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

Since 2006, the communities of Northeast Los Angeles have come together on the Sunday before Veterans Day to honor those who have served in our nation's military.

Councilmember Huizar's office has been proud to support and participate in the annual ceremony at Eagle Rock City Hall and Northeast Los Angeles Veterans Day Parade on Eagle Rock Boulevard.

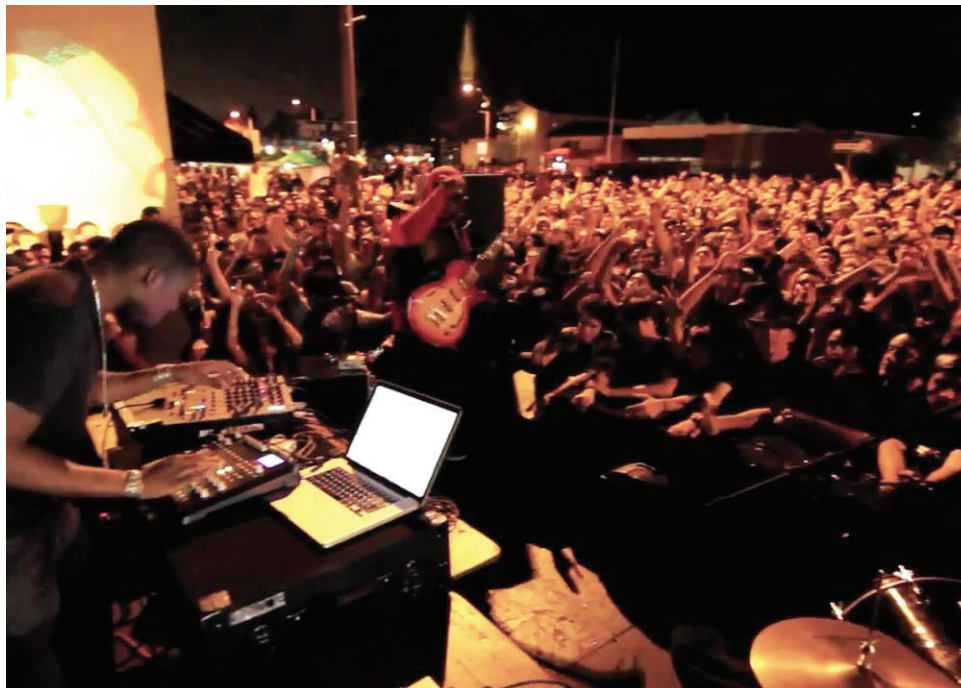




HONORING FILIPINO AMERICANS

Los Angeles is home to more Filipinos than anywhere in the world. Council District 14's Northeast Los Angeles has a particularly high concentration of Filipinos. As a group, they are a driving force behind the growth, prosperity, and civic engagement of the community.

In order to pay tribute to their contributions, Councilmember Huizar joined with the Filipino Consulate and the Los Angeles Filipino Association of City Employees (LAFACE) to create the annual Filipino Independence & History Council Presentation and Resolution Ceremony.



EAGLE ROCK MUSIC FESTIVAL

This six-block free street festival sponsored by the Eagle Rock Center for the Arts and Councilmember Huizar was created "by locals, for locals." During its two decades of operation, the event expanded into a multi-stage party featuring DJs, local artists, and performers who span nearly every genre of entertainment.

Beyond offering great music, arts, and community organizations booths along Colorado Boulevard, the Eagle Rock Music Festival served as the biggest business day of the year for many of the independently-owned restaurants and businesses in the area.



HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTINGS

Councilmember Huizar is the proud sponsor of the annual Eagle Rock Tree Lighting at Eagle Rock City Hall. Partnering with the Eagle Rock Chamber of Commerce, he has helped host an annual holiday event consisting of live musical performances, treats and toys, a visit from Santa Claus, and the lighting of a holiday tree.

The tradition began after Huizar learned about the community's desire to hold a holiday celebration.

In 2014, he was able to arrange the planting of a large evergreen at the Highland Park Senior Center.

The event has grown every year since then with more and more participation from residents, schools, and local organizations.

OPERATION GOBBLE GOBBLE

The Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway is a community favorite and a great way to lend a little help to those in need. Every year, Councilmember Huizar distributes well over 500 turkeys to seniors, veterans, schools, homeless organizations, and community groups - ensuring a special holiday for all.



EDUCATION

ADELANTE AWARDS

Councilmember Huizar’s annual Adelante Awards (Onward Awards) recognize academic and community excellence of students from the 63 elementary, middle, and high schools located within Council District 14.

Since its inception 15 years ago when Huizar served on the LAUSD School Board, an estimated 1,700 students have earned Adelante Awards. At the ceremony, students, their families, and school representatives are treated to brunch and entertainment before presentation of a certificate and trophy. The Adelante Awards are intended to encourage students to continue on the path of excellence.

“A quality education is society’s great equalizer. Our students’ success benefits them and their families, Council District 14, and the City of Los Angeles. Without a doubt, these young people are the future leaders of our communities.”

- José Huizar



PARKS

PARK DEVELOPMENT FEES

In one of the most significant parks-related initiatives in recent history, Councilmember Huizar introduced legislation to increase the City's park development fees. Also known as Quimby fees, these charges are imposed on residential projects involving the subdivision of land or air space. The fee is factored on a "per unit" (for condominiums) or "per lot" basis, with the amount of the fee dependent on the zoning of property.

The measures led by Huizar dramatically improved the Department of Recreation and Parks' ability to purchase park land and build new facilities, and they provide tax incentives for developers who install on-site recreational amenities that are open to the public. Huizar's initiative also encouraged construction of affordable housing in Los Angeles by exempting these units from the new fee requirements.

"It's been 31 years since we updated our parks development fees in park-poor Los Angeles. Reform was needed to increase funding for parks by an estimated \$30 million annually citywide, adjust standards so that more green space could get built, and create incentives for developers to build parks on-site."

- José Huizar



YORK BOULEVARD PARK

For years, a weed-laden lot on the corner of York Boulevard and Avenue 50 sat empty. With the help of the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative, and Living Streets, Councilmember Huizar submitted an application for a Proposition 84 grant. Along with allocations secured by the LA Parks Foundation through the Wells Fargo UrbanLIFT Community Grant Program, Huizar was able to bring together \$3 million in funding to transform the space into a park.

The family-friendly green space is dotted with tree-house style children's play equipment and includes an amphitheater, community plaza, picnic area, restrooms, LED security lighting, a public library book drop, and the City's first-ever parklet and bike corral. The overall design reflects the character of the surrounding neighborhood.

For the park's grand opening, Huizar and the Highland Park Chamber of Commerce sponsored the El Mercado York Village Arts and Crafts Fair, which included live music and work from more than 50 local artists.





YOSEMITE RECREATION CENTER

After taking office in late 2005, Councilmember Huizar worked with Recreation and Parks to upgrade Yosemite Recreation Center. Some of the highlights included the resurfacing and repair of tennis courts, enhanced ADA access, retrofitting the park's pool, installing a security-camera system, additional lighting, signage, and a new playground.

Huizar also supervised the planting of a tree in honor of Northeast Trees founder Scott Wilson.

HIGHLAND PARK SENIOR CENTER

After taking responsibility for the area during the 2012 redistricting, Councilmember Huizar made the Senior Center the inaugural sidewalk replacement project under his Clean Communities Initiative. Huizar teamed up with the Bureau of Street Services to repair a large stretch of sidewalk bordering the center.

The Councilmember also secured \$650,000 to improve the Senior Center itself. Some of the highlights include remodeled bathrooms, ADA ramps, new tables and chairs, and a fresh paint job.

Additional improvements were made in the outdoor area as well, making the space more accessible and inviting to the community.



GARVANZA PARK

Councilmember Huizar partnered with the Bureau of Sanitation, Recreation and Parks, and Northeast Trees to install a \$3.8 million water filtration system beneath Garvanza Park.

The filtration system directs stormwater into two underground cisterns, allowing it to be filtered into the ground or used to irrigate the park. This system is the first of its kind in Northeast Los Angeles and is helping the City achieve its water quality goals for the Arroyo Seco and the Los Angeles River. As part of the improvements, a dozen trees were also planted, and Huizar sponsored the installation of outdoor exercise equipment.

Previously, the Councilmember worked with Recreation and Parks to secure over \$1 million to design and construct a skate park at Garvanza. The skate park opened in 2007, along with a new playground.





SAN PASCUAL PARK

Councilmember José Huizar collaborated with Recreation and Parks and community members, including San Pascual Neighborhood Watch and San Pascual Elementary STEAM students, to implement improvements to San Pascual Park.

The upgrades came in two phases and included new restrooms, playground, basketball court, outdoor fitness area, ADA walkways and a refurbished parking lot along Comet Street.

Funding for the work was generated by a \$700,000 Community Development Block Grant. Additionally, Recreation and Parks, City Plants, and Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis contributed 25 new trees to the park.

GLASSELL PARK

Although located outside Council District 14, Councilmember Huizar consistently advocated for funding of Glassell Park Recreation Center. His focus has been on Glassell's groundbreaking Summer Night Lights (SNL) program – a program that has dramatically reduced gang crime in the area – and maintenance funding for the year-round pool at the park.





EAGLE ROCK RECREATION CENTER AND DOG PARK

Councilmember Huizar collaborated with local pet enthusiasts to construct the first dog park in Northeast Los Angeles in more than a decade. The effort started with 2,000 signatures collected by the community-based organization "Dogs of the Rock". Buoyed by the support, Huizar fought to ensure that funding for the park would be included in the City's 2016 budget.

Additionally, Huizar secured \$150,000 to install an outdoor fitness zone, consisting of 10 exercise machines. Other improvements at the park include a new gym floor, basketball hoops, and lighting.

With an eye to the future, Huizar set his focus on repairs to fencing and walkways and the resurfacing of the tennis courts. He also requested that Recreation and Parks study the possibility of creating more ADA access.



ENVIRONMENT

ELIMINATION OF COAL

Councilmember Huizar guided Los Angeles toward a greener tomorrow by implementing numerous strategies that will increase reliance on clean, renewable energy sources in place of coal and natural gas.

In 2013, Huizar collaborated with Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, the Sierra Club, and a coalition of business, labor, community, and environmental groups to implement agreements with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). The agreements made Los Angeles the largest city in the country to dedicate itself to a coal-free future.

Los Angeles' decision to end its reliance on power from Arizona's Navajo Generating Station and Utah's Intermountain Power coal plants includes a commitment to renewable energy sources as well as an expansion of energy efficiency programs. This follows a trend in which municipalities are divesting from out-of-state coal plants due to the mounting financial liabilities.



"This is truly a momentous day for the City of Los Angeles. With this initiative, we are taking the unprecedented step of eliminating our dependence on coal. Now, we need to commit ourselves to a range of renewable energy sources in order to fully maximize the benefits of this groundbreaking decision."

- José Huizar



SOLAR AND RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES

Councilmember Huizar encouraged Los Angeles to approve two of the largest solar projects in the country. Together, they will result in an annual savings of 955,000 metric tons of carbon emissions (the equivalent of removing 184,000 cars from the road).

Huizar also supervised the development of the Clean LA Solar Program, which allows commercial property-owners to use rooftop solar panels to generate energy, and then sell that power to the LADWP. This “feed-in-tariff policy” is the largest urban rooftop solar program of its kind in the country.

Finally, Huizar supported approval of two geothermal projects that will provide power 24 hours a day and a groundbreaking \$120 million energy efficiency budget that increased the amount of spending by tenfold. The initiative includes rebates and direct installation opportunities for businesses considering renewable energy.



ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY

In order to better track a building's overall efficiency, Councilmember Huizar introduced the Existing Building Energy and Water Efficiency Ordinance. Unanimously passed by City Council, the measure requires structures 20,000-square-foot or larger to report their energy and water usage to the Department of Building and Safety on an annual basis.

Every five years, these buildings are required to reduce consumption through an audit, Energy Star certification, or other approved method.

CLEAN AIR COMMUTE OPTIONS

In 2017, Councilmember Huizar secured \$41 million for vehicles and operations that enabled the expansion of DASH bus routes. A year later, Huizar introduced a pair of motions that improved transportation options for commuters seeking additional clean air alternatives. The first expanded options available to City employees by including more opportunities for telecommuting, increased access to bike share services, and larger subsidies for Metro passes and DASH fares.

The second updated the list of commuting programs and traffic-reduction strategies that the City can require when approving private developments that generate significant amounts of traffic.

These initiatives complement the construction of "complete streets". Long championed by Huizar, the strategy provides increased access to bike share, car share, and other transportation alternatives, along with an expansion of pedestrian infrastructure. In another arena, Huizar led the move to require additional electric vehicle infrastructure, including building code improvements to ensure future developments are "EV-ready".



ELECTRIC BUSES

As a result of a motion authored by Councilmember Huizar, Los Angeles made the commitment to convert its fleet of buses to electric by 2030. The initiative will make Los Angeles a regional electric bus hub.



"Given today's political climate, it is critical that the City of Los Angeles continues to lead the way in environmental protections. The rest of the nation will follow."

- José Huizar

CAPTURING AND REUSING WATER

In order to establish more aggressive goals for capturing rainwater, cleaning groundwater, and using recycled water, Councilmember Huizar introduced a motion designed to accelerate LADWP's scheduled shift to local water supplies.

In addition, Huizar helped usher in a policy that saves millions of gallons of water from going to waste. The approach was straightforward - LADWP was mandated to recapture and reuse water that would have previously been discarded into storm drains during system repairs.

Expanding on the policy of reusing water, a motion introduced by Huizar and Councilmember Koretz changed city code to address "de-watering" (the removal of groundwater that interferes with buildings and infrastructure). The measure provides that groundwater must be captured and reused. If the effort proves impossible, the water must be discharged into the sewer where it has the potential of reuse through the City's expanded water recycling system.



WATER SAVING BUILDING CODES

Councilmember Huizar introduced a series of changes to City building and plumbing codes that set higher conservation standards in new buildings. These changes include:

- Requiring pool covers for homes and duplexes
- Mandating the use of City-recycled water for bathrooms, floor drains, and cooling systems when the water is available within 200 feet of the property line
- Tightening standards on faucets and bathroom fixtures to cut down on water waste
- Requiring individual meters for apartments and condos with less than 50 units
- Implementing a system for all new buildings to be greywater ready, which means alternate waste piping must be installed in order to funnel discharge from showers, washing machines, wash basins, etc. in order to be used for greywater irrigation systems
- Requiring all construction projects cut back on overall water use by 20 percent



PLASTIC BAG BAN

After ten years of debate, Councilmember Huizar successfully led the City in adopting a policy that phases out plastic grocery bags. While this shift had been considered for years, Huizar revived the effort in 2012 when he became the Chair of the Energy and the Environment Committee.

By January 1, 2014, the plastic bag ban took effect, making Los Angeles the largest city in the country to pass such a policy. This initiative eliminates about two billion single-use plastic bags annually and further safeguards Los Angeles' waterways from pollution and litter.

"We've seen plastic bags clogging our gutters, polluting our rivers, and piling up on our beaches. The City of Los Angeles took a stand to protect our environment, which also sends a strong and clear message to every big city in the nation that they should follow our lead."

- José Huizar





SCHOLL CANYON

In 2014, Councilmember Huizar joined with the Eagle Rock community to oppose a plan by the City of Glendale to expand the Scholl Canyon dump.

While Los Angeles residents have been banned from using the landfill since 1987, streets leading to and from the site run through the Eagle Rock community. Huizar successfully lobbied Glendale to host a community meeting for Eagle Rock residents.

The Councilmember also pressed Glendale to agree to extend the comment period deadline for the expansion's Draft Environmental Impact Report. During this period, he submitted a letter of opposition, highlighting the proposal's inadequacy.

In 2018, Glendale officially withdrew its plan to expand the Scholl Canyon dump, signaling a great victory for Eagle Rock. Huizar stepped in a second time after Glendale proposed a power plant at Scholl Canyon.

The Councilmember opposed the Mitigated Negative Declaration previously approved for the project and called instead for a full Environmental Impact Report.

Subsequently, Huizar championed a City Council motion requiring the Bureau of Sanitation and the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office to provide feedback and recommendations on the report.



CLEAN UP GREEN UP

Created by Councilmember Huizar in 2010, Clean Up Green Up is a multifaceted initiative that addresses the disproportionate impact of pollution on lower-income neighborhoods. It was passed by the City Council in 2015.

Clean Up Green Up requires effective air filtration systems citywide in new developments built within 1,000 feet of a freeway, encourages smaller businesses in the three most polluted areas of the City to shift to more environmentally efficient operations; and creates development codes to help address conflicts that occur where industrial development is adjacent to residential neighborhoods.



KNOCK TOBACCO OUT OF THE PARK

SMOKELESS TOBACCO BAN

Hoping to set a good example for the youth and looking to protect the health of athletes, Councilmember Huizar led the charge to end the use of smokeless tobacco products at all baseball fields and other athletic venues in Los Angeles. The move came in 2015 when all eyes were on Los Angeles Dodgers as the team made a run for another World Series.

"The time to act on smokeless tobacco is now. We must do what we can to save others, particularly our young people, from an extremely addictive and potentially deadly product"

- José Huizar

RESIDENTIAL BEEKEEPING

Upon hearing the concerns of his constituents, Councilmember Huizar reacted by championing an ordinance that allowed for residential beekeeping. Bees are valuable pollinators in California, and their global decline is a risk to farmers and backyard gardens alike.

By legalizing backyard beekeeping, Huizar offered a way for small-scale agriculture to flourish, while further educating residents about the Los Angeles ecosystem.



"We are working to become a more sustainable City to confront the environmental crises of today. Urban agriculture, bees and beekeepers, and deeper connections to the natural world are all part of the solution."

- José Huizar



FARMERS MARKETS ACCESSIBILITY

Addressing food access limitations from multiple angles, Councilmember Huizar has worked tirelessly to promote the proliferation of farmers markets throughout Los Angeles.

As a result of an ordinance introduced by Huizar, all farmers markets in the City must now accept EBT as payment, which is a food subsidy that allows low-income families to purchase fresh, healthy foods at farmers markets.

In addition to the EBT requirement, the Councilmember has helped usher in multiple ordinances that make it easier for farmers markets to get “up-and-running” without having to go through a lengthy approval processes.



URBAN AGRICULTURE

In an effort to further expand access to green space and locally grown, fresh food, Councilmember Huizar helped develop an Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone program that allows underutilized property to be used for farming within the City.

As Chair of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee, Huizar led the adoption of a system where property owners who agree to provide their land for a minimum of five years for urban agriculture, receive tax cuts in exchange. During this time, the community will be able to plant gardens, which offer income and sustenance to residents in need.

PRESERVATION

HIGHLAND PARK-GARVANZA HPOZ

Working with the Garvanza Improvement Association and the Highland Park Heritage Trust, Councilmember Huizar successfully put forth legislation that combined the two communities into the City's single largest historic building preservation zone.

The resulting Highland Park-Garvanza Historic Preservation Overlay Zone ensures that specific homes in the HPOZ will be protected from demolition and unapproved development.

The area's prime historic value is that it is an example of Southern California's influential Arts and Crafts Movement.





EAGLE ROCK CITY HALL RENOVATIONS

Built in 1922, just one year before Eagle Rock was annexed, Eagle Rock City Hall was designated a Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument in 1969.

Councilmember Huizar, a strong proponent of historic preservation, fought hard to secure more than \$250,000 to renovate and restore this community gem. Interior improvements include remodeled bathrooms, new carpeting and flooring, upgrades to the community space, and a fresh paint job. Exterior improvements include turf removal and the planting of drought-resistant plants.

VERDUGO VILLAGE SIGNS

Councilmember Huizar collaborated with the Glassell Park Improvement Association for more than two years on a project to identify and share the history of the community.

As a result, a series of informational signs were installed along a two-block stretch of Verdugo Road, just north of York Boulevard. Another 250 Verdugo Village window decals were distributed to local businesses and residents.



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

COLORADO SPECIFIC PLAN

Over the years, Colorado Boulevard businesses had labored to build a reputation as a quality entertainment destination, but they were hampered by restrictive hours. Councilmember Huizar responded by authoring legislation that increased operating hours under the Colorado Specific Plan. This was met with widespread community support.

MODIFICATIONS TO VONS DEVELOPMENT

After proposed plans for a development of Vons property on Figueroa Street fell short of community expectations, Councilmember Huizar stepped in and successfully convinced Vons to incorporate a number of community requests. The modifications included the widening of La Loma Road to accommodate auto and bus traffic, a new pedestrian plaza on the corner of La Loma Road and Figueroa Street, and the installation of Eagle Rock monument - a testament to the community and its advocacy.



ILLEGAL BUSINESSES

Councilmember Huizar led efforts to control the proliferation of illegal medical marijuana dispensaries in the City of Los Angeles. Federal authorities responded by shutting down a majority of the operations located in Northeast Los Angeles.

While he respects the wishes of voters who adopted Proposition D (which allows a limited number of previously identified collectives to operate in the City), Huizar believes that enforcement against those operating illegally is key to maintaining community safety.

When California cities lost the right to regulate land-use rights per illicit massage parlors due to a poorly written State law, Councilmember Huizar worked with LAPD to carry out a number of sting operations aimed at rogue parlors throughout Northeast Los Angeles. The Councilmember also hosted a forum with LAPD and the City Attorney's Office to educate property owners on leasing laws and their responsibilities on the matter.

Simultaneously, Huizar worked with the City Attorney and State Assemblymember Jimmy Gomez to craft legislation that would give land-use authority back to cities. As a result, Gomez co-sponsored AB 1147, which created clear guidelines for those seeking legitimate massage licenses. Governor Brown signed AB 1147 into law in 2014.



TRANSPORTATION

MOBILITY PLAN 2035

As Chair of the City's Planning Committee, Councilmember Huizar, along with Transportation Committee Chair Councilmember Mike Bonin and the Planning and Transportation Departments, developed a 193-page roadmap that outlines a new vision for moving around Los Angeles.

The Mobility Plan 2035 is intended to reduce traffic congestion by providing residents with safer, more effective ways to bike, walk, and use public transit in the City. Prioritizing safety and building the vision on a "Complete Streets" model, this mobility plan is the first major overhaul to Los Angeles' transportation policies since the 1990s.





CICLAVIA

Councilmember Huizar has been a champion for CicLAvia since its inception in 2010. The one-day event transforms Los Angeles streets and major auto thoroughfares into pedestrian and biking boulevards and encourages foot traffic for local businesses, as well as interaction and discovery of Los Angeles' unique communities, including Northeast Los Angeles.

"Each and every CicLAvia event draws well over 100,000 participants - people from every corner of our city. This event does more to advance the cause of pedestrian and bicycle use in Los Angeles than any single act of legislation could ever do."

- José Huizar

PEOPLE STREET PROGRAM

The Department of Transportation's People Street program for adding parklets, bike corrals, and plazas was first developed through initiatives developed by Councilmember Huizar.

Council District 14 debuted the City's initial bike corral in 2011 on York Boulevard, which later became the site of the City's first parklet in 2013, followed in quick succession by parklets in El Sereno and two in DTLA on Spring Street.



ROAD DIETS

Councilmember Huizar is a strong supporter of comprehensive road diets that are aimed at making thoroughfares safer, more pedestrian and bicycle-friendly, and destination-oriented in order to support local businesses through community interaction.

Huizar has advocated road diets on El Sereno's Huntington Drive and Alhambra Avenue, Highland Park's York Boulevard, and Eagle Rock's Colorado Boulevard.



AB390

The City of Los Angeles updated its technology to include countdown crosswalk signals in 2008, but state law was never amended to take into account the technology.

Following a series of law-enforcement stings that focused on pedestrians in DTLA, Councilmember Huizar crafted legislation that called upon state officials to change the law to allow for someone to enter a crosswalk while a countdown signal or flashing signal was still active. The State code was updated in 2017, via AB390, with plenty of support from pedestrian advocates.

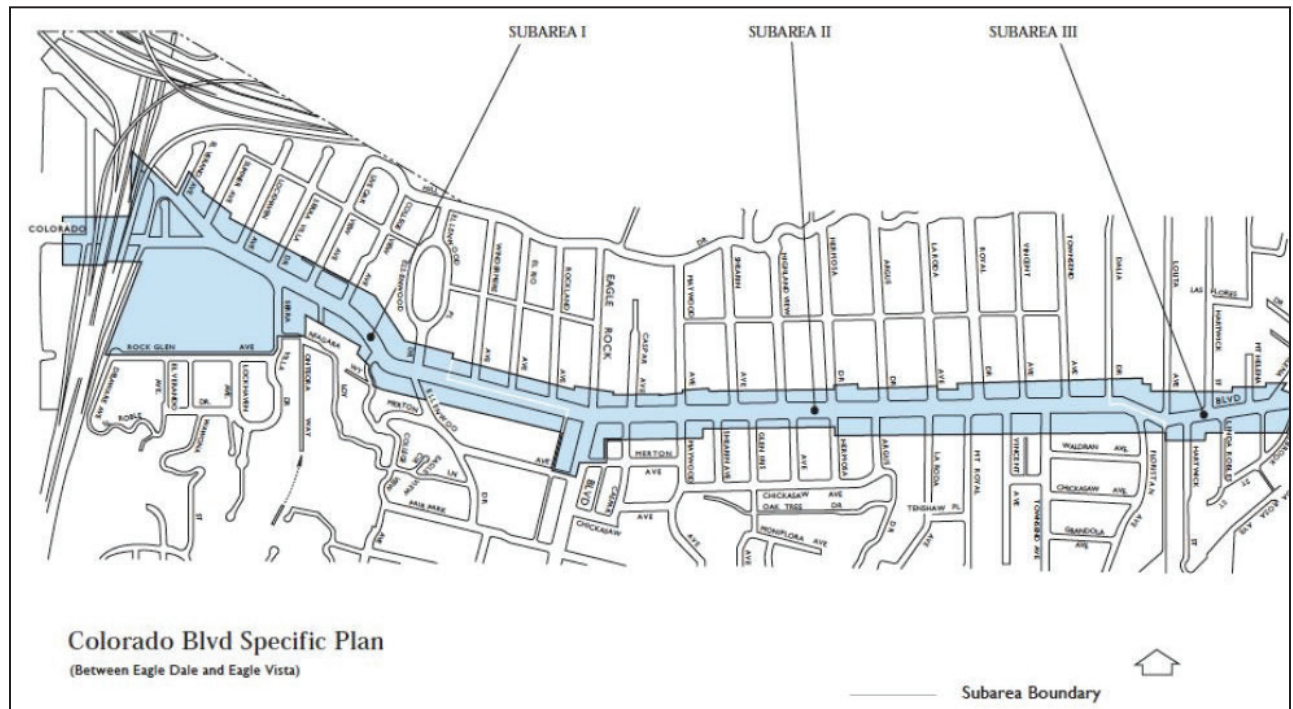


TAKE BACK THE BOULEVARD

In partnership with The Eagle Rock Association, Councilmember Huizar helped bring the Take Back the Boulevard initiative to life. The measure was a focused city-community partnership designed to make Colorado Boulevard safer and more accessible to all modes of transportation.

The plan included a reduction of lanes on Colorado after years of complaints about speeding. The lane reduction allowed for additional upgrades, including protected bike lanes, flashing crosswalks at El Rio, Glen Iris and Hermosa Avenues (the first such crosswalks in the City), as well as modified median striping that allow cars to make safer left-hand turns onto side streets. Additionally, speed feedback signs were placed on Colorado Blvd in both directions approaching Dahlia Heights Elementary School.

The initiative also included 60 bike racks installed at the request of local businesses and 200 trees planted along Colorado, Eagle Rock, and York Boulevards. Huizar also secured allocations for pedestrian lighting, sidewalk repairs, and street furniture along the corridor.





ROCK THE BOULEVARD

With the goal of duplicating the success of Take Back the Boulevard, Councilmember Huizar partnered again with The Eagle Rock Association and other community stakeholders on the Rock the Boulevard initiative - a measure designed to upgrade Eagle Rock Boulevard.

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority responded with a \$16M commitment for street improvements through the SR-710 Mobility Improvement Projects - Round 2 funding.

NEW YORK BOULEVARD VISION PLAN

York Boulevard has become the epicenter of Highland Park. The thoroughfare is teeming with pedestrians, cyclists, local restaurants, and retail centers. In recognition of the street's importance, Councilmember Huizar initiated the New York Vision Plan.

The effort consisted of a series of community workshops, in which stakeholders identified needed improvements. The resulting plan incorporated those upgrades and includes an array of progressive ideas.

For example, Huizar led a campaign to complete the construction of protected bike lanes from the City of South Pasadena to Eagle Rock Boulevard, as well as the City's first bike corral on York and Avenue 50.



HOMELESSNESS

HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY COMMITTEE

In 2015, Councilmember Huizar approached Council President Wesson with an idea: “We need a homelessness committee. We need a place where we can create a real plan to address homelessness.”

From that conversation, the City’s Homelessness and Poverty Committee was born. Huizar was its first chair, a duty he later shared with Councilmember Harris-Dawson. Together, the two worked out details of a Homelessness Strategic Plan that created policy norms and improved citywide coordination to combat homelessness.

“We cannot litigate our way out of homelessness. We cannot arrest our way out of it, and we can no longer continue the failed ‘out of sight, out of mind’ containment policies of the past. Homelessness is an issue that requires a comprehensive, proactive, and humanitarian response.”

- José Huizar



STRATEGIC HOMELESS PLAN

In 2016, after months of in-depth research by the Homelessness and Poverty Committee, Councilmembers Huizar and Harris-Dawson released a report that outlined 64 strategies for combating homelessness in the City. The bulk of the findings stressed the urgent need for rental subsidies and supportive housing options, including a core directive to provide 10,000 units of housing for the homeless. This “Housing First” model included the designation of City funds to supplement those from the County and State.

“I’m proud to say that the City Council is forward thinking on the matter of homelessness. There is a general consensus that we must use every tool at our disposal to tackle the problem.”

- José Huizar

HOMELESS BUDGET

Throughout his tenure in office, Councilmember Huizar has helped construct a City budget that reflected the true state of the homelessness crisis, while allowing for long-term, multifaceted solutions. Prior to 2015, Los Angeles funneled most of its resources toward police and paramedics, relying primarily on first-responders. A CAO report found that the approach costs taxpayers more than \$100 million annually. It was a waste of resources because many of the homeless cycle through the City’s system without getting the assistance and services they required to get off the streets.

Under Huizar’s guidance, the City increased its funding for the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority fivefold - from less than \$10 million in 2014 to \$50 million in 2016. Local government now provides hundreds of millions of dollars in funding for homeless services and housing through Measures H and HHH.

“The misery, despair, and hopelessness that so many suffer is truly heart-wrenching. We need a response that is equal to the tragedy. We need a response that puts an end to homelessness once and for all.”

- José Huizar



LINKAGE FEE

As chair of the Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee, Councilmember Huizar ushered in an ordinance that guarantees that new construction in Los Angeles will be offset by an increased availability of affordable housing. By passing a measure that institutes a “linkage fee” (which requires developers to pay up to \$15 for each square foot of property they build based on the location and type of construction), the City is protecting Angelenos from being priced out of their homes and neighborhoods.

The funds collected from these developers – an estimated \$100 million per year - are used to help construct new affordable housing as well as protect thousands of existing affordable housing units throughout Los Angeles. The plan was initiated by the City’s Homelessness Strategic Plan and backed by Mayor Garcetti.

“Los Angeles has long needed to ensure that residents and families who live here can continue to call the city that they love their home. No Angeleno should ever have to choose between feeding their family and paying their rent.”

- José Huizar



SUPPORTIVE HOUSING AND MOTEL CONVERSION

In 2018, the City Council approved the Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Ordinance and the Motel Conversion Ordinance (MCO). The initiatives, introduced by Councilmembers Huizar and Harris-Dawson, were supported by the United Way as crucial to creating more supportive housing across Los Angeles.

Combined, these ordinances significantly reduce construction timelines and costs — a key element in stretching Measure HHH funds.

For example, the PSH ordinance alone will result in \$1 million savings on a typical 60-unit building.

The ordinances were first recommended as part of the City's Comprehensive Homelessness Strategic Plan, which Huizar and Harris-Dawson helped draft as co-chairs of the Homelessness and Poverty Committee.

MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

While these efforts have moved the dial on homelessness considerably, Councilmember Huizar believes there is much more to be done, especially when it comes to securing assistance for those individuals struggling with mental illness issues, which represent about a third of the homeless population.

"We're calling on the governor to treat homelessness like the crisis it is. With additional funding, we can get more people off of the streets and back to living the life they deserve."

- José Huizar



COUNCILMEMBER HUIZAR CALLED FOR:

- An expansion of crisis-ready response teams to prevent a mental health crises from becoming a crime.
- Dedicated mental health clinicians in City jails to help people who have been arrested break the cycle of homelessness and incarceration.
- Comprehensive discharge plans by hospitals to more effectively connect mentally ill patients with long-term services.
- The establishment of court conservatorships to protect those who are unable to care for themselves.
- Redefinition of California's "gravely disabled" law.
- Encourage the State and County to build more psychiatric beds.

RECYCLED RESOURCES

Councilmember Huizar was an enthusiastic partner with Recycled Resources, a volunteer-based organization that serves the homeless. Recycled Resources was formed in 2008 in order to provide a safety net for people experiencing homelessness in Northeast Los Angeles.

In addition to providing food and clothing, the organization also offers case management services that link people to essential services.



DONATION DRIVES

Councilmember Huizar noticed that during the fall season, sporting goods stores slashed prices on sleeping bags and other outdoor necessities. It was the impetus for the District's annual Sleeping Bag drives, which were held in collaboration with the Northeast LA Homeless Coalition.

Donors were encouraged to pick up an extra bag while replenishing their camping supplies. In addition to sleeping bags, blankets, toiletry kits, and undergarments were gratefully accepted.

Huizar also organized annual women's donations drives during his tenure. Overwhelming community response to the drives had a major impact on the lives of women who were experiencing homelessness.





EXODUS RECOVERY

In order to fulfill a commitment to expand outreach in Northeast Los Angeles, Councilmember Huizar collaborated with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority to deploy additional teams of Exodus outreach workers.

Huizar also teamed up with Exodus Recovery to host the annual Homeless Connect Days event at Eagle Rock Park and the Highland Park Senior Center. The goal was to connect people experiencing homelessness to services running the gamut from housing to employment to counseling - and more.

WINTER SHELTER AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH

From 2015 to 2017, Councilmember Huizar committed discretionary funds to Recycled Resources for the Homeless.

The organization maintains a 36-bed Winter Shelter at All Saints Church in Highland Park.



BIOGRAPHY

Jose Huizar was elected to the Los Angeles City Council's 14th District in 2005 and overwhelmingly re-elected in 2007, 2011 and what will be his final term, 2015. Councilmember Huizar has been fearless in creating policies that are moving the City of Los Angeles forward. He championed successful efforts to address homelessness and the affordable housing crisis, protect the environment, increase park space, advance innovative transportation policies, and revitalize Downtown Los Angeles. He has fought to bring new resources to the communities he represents, including Boyle Heights, El Sereno, Northeast Los Angeles and Downtown Los Angeles.

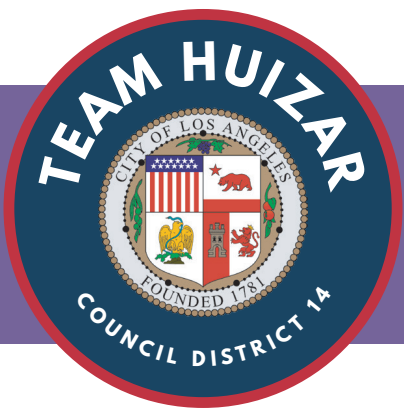
In his zest to assist those in need, Councilmember Huizar helped establish the City's first-ever committee on Homelessness and as chair of the committee co-authored and adopted the City's first-ever Comprehensive Strategic Plan to Combat Homelessness. In implementing the Plan, Councilmember Huizar was one of the architects and leaders in the campaign to adopt the voter-approved Measure HHH, which will provide \$1.2 billion over 10 years to build 10,000 units of permanent supportive housing.

On the environmental front, he led efforts to ban plastic bags, dramatically increase the Department Water and Power's energy efficiency program, significantly increase solar power operations, and commit the City to getting off a coal energy use by 2025. Councilmember Huizar is also one of the City's leading "Complete Streets" proponents. He ushered in groundbreaking pedestrian and bike-friendly policies that are seen as the model for the entire City.

As a strong proponent for economic development and creating cultural destination points, Councilmember Huizar has steadfastly helped revitalize Downtown Los Angeles by increasing and reimagining its public spaces and promoting its economic and residential growth. Through his 10-year Bringing Back Broadway initiative, Councilmember Huizar assisted in the historical preservation of the beautiful corridor, reinvigorated 6 of its 12 historic theaters, and has created a framework to bring the beloved Streetcar back to the City of Los Angeles.

Councilmember Huizar has been awarded numerous awards and distinctions, including profiles by the Los Angeles Business Journal as one of the 25 figures in the Los Angeles Area that "stand out for their potential to shape lives" and by Hispanic Business Magazine as one of the "100 most influential Hispanics" in the United States.

Huizar was born in Zacatecas, Mexico and raised in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles. He currently resides with his wife Richelle and their four children.



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