MAYOR GARCETTI KICKS OFF 2013 HIRE LA YOUTH SUMMER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Program provides over 5,000 young Angelenos with work experience for six weeks during the summer

LOS ANGELES – On Tuesday, July 9, 2013 Mayor Eric Garcetti celebrated the kick-off of the 2013 Hire LA Youth Summer Employment Program at the Dunbar Hotel in South Los Angeles. He was surrounded by young people who will work this summer, CD 9 Councilman Curren Price and newly named head of the Economic and Workforce Development Department Jan Perry. This summer, the Hire LA’s Youth program will provide work experience to over 5,000 young people across Los Angeles. The jobs pay $8/hour and are approximately 120 hours over the course of six weeks.

“Providing summer jobs for our young people is one of the best investments we can make,” Mayor Garcetti said. “Summer jobs help at-risk youth stay on the right path. The lessons learned during a summer job prepare our youth for a lifetime in the workplace, and that makes L.A.’s workforce more attractive to companies.”

Ms. Perry said, “In my new role as Interim General Manager of the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD), coupled with my experience as a City Councilmember in this community, I know firsthand what it means to give a kid a break. We’re looking for businesses right here in the Southland to step up and sponsor a young person this summer,” Perry added.

Last year Mayor Garcetti visited a summer job center in Watts and was disappointed to see them turning kids away. So as one of his last acts as a City Councilmember, he contributed $1 million to the Hire LA Youth Summer Employment Program. He said today that's just a down payment toward his commitment of fully funding the summer youth job program and he challenged the private sector to step up and join him in making a critical investment in our youth and our city’s workforce.

Stepping forward to commit to a public private partnership was JPMorgan Chase which announced a new contribution of $200,000 to the Hire LA Youth program for 2013.

“JPMorgan Chase believes it has a fundamental responsibility to invest in the communities it serves. Providing job training, summer internships and employment opportunities is an important way in which we are helping to build the long-term success of the local economy,” said Robert Lagace, Chase Market Manager for middle market commercial banking in Los Angeles.

Goldman Sachs also announced a contribution of $500,000 to Hire LA Youth.

“Summer jobs programs offer young people the skills and opportunities they need to succeed and, more broadly, to contribute to a growing local economy,” said Lloyd Blankfein, Chairman and CEO of Goldman Sachs. “We have
enjoyed a strong partnership with the City of Los Angeles through our 10,000 Small Businesses program and we are pleased to continue to work together on Hire LA’s Youth to create more jobs across the city.”

"It's tremendous to see Wall Street understand the importance of Main Street," said Mayor Garcetti. "Thank you to JPMorganChase for their commitment to Hire LA Youth and to workforce development across Los Angeles. Thank you to Goldman Sachs for their support of the Hire LA Youth program. None of us can do this on our own. Working together, we can prepare our young people for the future while strengthening LA's workforce and economy."

For businesses interested in offering jobs, internships, mentorships, or sponsorships to Hire LA Youth, please visit www.summerjobsla.com.

###