



## Los Angeles City Fellows

### Program Description

The Los Angeles Office of Economic and Business Policy is seeking talented candidates for a new fellows program focused on attracting bright and dedicated individuals to city government. The program promotes innovative approaches to a wide range of challenges facing the City of Los Angeles. Fellows work closely with senior staff in the office of the First Deputy Mayor and Chief Executive of Economic and Business Policy on a series of project-based assignments.

Fellows acquire valuable insight into strategy, planning, and policy, as well as hands-on experience in the public sector. The program offers an extraordinary opportunity to work with decision-makers on crucial strategy, from turning around economically impacted communities to sustaining environmentally friendly businesses. By becoming stakeholders in the process, Fellows gain a sense of personal responsibility through civic engagement and make a significant contribution to the future of the City of Los Angeles.

### Opportunities

The Los Angeles City Fellows program offers practical experience as well as the opportunity to make a measurable impact on city government.

- Fellows are assigned concrete projects, related to such areas as green job creation, economic development for disadvantaged communities and new business retention.
- Fellows serve as a liaison between the business community and the Mayor's Office of Economic and Business Policy.
- Fellows work under the guidance of experienced mentors who provide support for each participant's progress and development.

### Funding

Funding for the Los Angeles City Fellows program is made possible through the generous support of a number of leading corporations in Los Angeles. Each company has been responsible for supporting innovative economic development initiatives within the city.

### Qualifications

The Los Angeles Fellows program encourages applications from all interested candidates regardless of age, race, gender, national or ethnic origin, political or religious affiliation, sexual orientation, or physical ability.

Candidates must be prepared to participate full-time, for 12 months, starting March - June 2010. Applications will be considered as they are received, through March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Preference will be given to candidates who have exposure to business concepts and private sector experience as well as the capacity to transfer and apply business practices to public policy issues.

## Los Angeles Office of Economic and Business Policy

The newly created Office of Economic and Business Policy is charged with revamping the city's approach to economic development, business attraction and retention, as well as job creation.

The Office of Economic and Business Policy has authority over key city departments including:

Los Angeles World Airports	Community Redevelopment Agency
Harbor Department	Housing Department
Department of Water and Power	Homeless Services Authority
Department of Building and Safety	Housing Authority
Department of City Planning	Los Angeles Convention Center
Community Development Department	

The following programs are overseen by the Office of Economic and Business Development:

- o Liaison to Film LA
- o Minority Business Opportunity Center
- o LA, Inc.

The Office of Economic and Business Development also leads a number of mayoral initiatives, including:

- Streamlining the city's permitting process for construction and business creation
- Creating and preserving 20,000 units of affordable housing
- Directing city procurement to local firms to create jobs in Los Angeles
- Making Los Angeles into a global capital for production and deployment of clean technologies
- Reducing homelessness by building permanent supportive housing connected to social services

## Guidance

Fellows work under the guidance of senior staff members in the Mayor's office, as well as receive support and mentoring from two highly respected Los Angeles leaders: Steve Soboroff and Charmaine Jefferson.

**Steve Soboroff** has a distinguished career as a public servant and business leader. He is currently Chairman and CEO of Playa Vista, one of the nation's most significant multi-use real estate projects, and chairs the board of the Weingart Foundation. As a senior advisor to former Mayor Richard Riordan, he was instrumental in bringing the Staples Center to downtown Los Angeles and establishing the Alameda Corridor Project.

**Charmaine Jefferson** is the Executive Director of the California African American Museum, one of the city's cultural treasures. Previously, she held positions at Disney Entertainment Productions, de Passe Entertainment, and the Dance Theatre of Harlem. She also served as Acting and Deputy Commissioner for the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

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