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CITY OF DOWNEY

# PRESS RELEASE



## Fernando Vasquez Sworn In as Downey's New Mayor

**Downey, CA, December 10, 2013:** On Tuesday, December 10, 2013, Fernando Vasquez was sworn in as the City of Downey's new Mayor during a special Mayoral Transition Ceremony. With hundreds in attendance, including family and friends, Mayor Vasquez took the opportunity to share his vision for the upcoming year by introducing his goals for 2014.

One of Mayor Vasquez's main focus will be the kick-off of his Healthy Downey, *Stay Fit 2014 Campaign*, which will be a continuation of former Mayor Mario A. Guerra's Healthy Downey initiative. Other projects highlighted by Mayor Vasquez include a Bike Sharing Program, Tour de Downey, International Food Festival, FIFA World Cup Viewing, Make Music Downey & Arts Festival, and his Mayor's Healthy Heart Award.

"I am honored and humbled to be the new Mayor of this great City and am excited for what the next year will bring. I look forward to working with my fellow Council colleagues and City staff to develop and implement innovative ideas that will not only benefit our current community, but will continue to make positive impacts for years to come," said Mayor Vasquez.

Fernando Vasquez was first elected to the Downey City Council in November 2010, to serve the citizens of the Fourth District. He was elected Mayor by a unanimous vote in November 2013, becoming one of the youngest Council Members to hold that position.

Mayor Vasquez has championed the causes he promised to address when campaigning. He has led the charge to bring the City into the 21st century by bringing forth new technology and open government initiatives to make government more transparent and accountable. He has supported public safety services, a healthier and active City, enhanced streets, parks and sidewalks, business friendly, and activated downtown with events and support for new businesses.

Mayor Vasquez has served on the board of Southeast Los Angeles Workforce Investment Board, I-5 Freeway Consortium Cities Joint Powers Authority, Gateway Council of Governments (Alt.) Southeast Animal Control Center (Alt.), Avanti Hospitals, Los Angeles County Medical Association Latino Advisory Committee, and Downey Kiwanis. He is also a member of the National Association of Latino Elected Appointed Officials (NALEO) and Catholic Association of Latino Leaders (CALL).

In 2011, Mayor Vasquez founded and launched Primawaste, a medical waste management company. Today, Primawaste offers a variety of medical services throughout the western United States and is one of the fastest growing minority owned businesses in its industry.

Mayor Vasquez holds a Master's Degree in City Planning from San Diego State University and a Bachelor's Degree from UC Riverside. He is engaged to his fiancé, Donna B. Noushkam, who is a partner with the Law Offices of Musick Peeler.

Mayor Vasquez was raised in the City of Downey and is fluent in English and Spanish. He is the son of immigrant parents who came from a small town near Tepatitlan, Jalisco, Mexico.

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