

David A. Roberts

610 E. Union Street #358

Pasadena, CA 91101

(213) 359-0715

drobertsassociates@gmail.com

EXPERTISE

Government Relations

Transportation & Public Infrastructure

Community Outreach & Engagement

Workforce Development

Political Campaigns

Strategic Relations

Public Speaking

Real Estate, Land-use & Economic Development

Housing Policy, Financing & Development

Public Policy & Public Financing

WBE/DBE/MBE Contracting and Outreach

Fundraising & Development

Business Improvement Districts

Social Media & Media Relations

EXPERIENCE

Director

Economic Development & Planning

Los Angeles City Councilmember Joe Buscaino

David serves as the Economic Development and Planning Director for City Councilmember Joe Buscaino. He oversees projects and policies for Los Angeles' 15th Council District which includes the communities of Watts, Harbor Gateway, Harbor City, Wilmington and San Pedro as well as the Port of Los Angeles.

<http://www.la15th.com>

- Manages three member Economic Development and Planning team which assists private developers with securing City entitlements and approvals. The team provides input on planning and design issues, financing opportunities, community outreach as well as direction on opportunity sites/areas in the 15th Council District.
- Major project valuation totaling over \$1.5 billion, including Ports O' Call (San Pedro), Harbor Area Waterfront (Wilmington and San Pedro), historic downtown San Pedro, Avalon Boulevard (Wilmington), East Wilmington Industrial Areas, Warner Grand Theater (San Pedro) and Jordan Downs (Watts).
- Manages community and City-wide Planning, Housing, Transportation, Public Infrastructure, Workforce Development and Business Policy initiatives.
- Engages with elected officials and senior department staff on priority policy issues and projects, including the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, Southern California Association of Government (SCAG), Metro, Alameda Corridor Authority, South Bay Association of Government
- Review, evaluate and execute economic development, housing, transportation and public infrastructure projects and proposals from both the public and private sector

President

David A. Roberts & Associates

Government and Strategic Relations

10/2013 - Present

Consulting service and lobbying firm specializing in public policy analysis, government and public affairs, advocacy, land-use, entitlements and economic development. David A. Roberts & Associates have long-standing and extensive relationships with elected and appointed officials, as well as executive management and staff with local municipal departments and public agencies in the City of Los Angeles. The firm has a thorough understanding of how public policy decisions are made, and who makes these decisions. Throughout his career, Roberts has overseen capital projects totaling over \$2.5 billion, and keenly understands the art of balancing political, bureaucratic and community outreach to ensure the successful completion of projects. Clients include business and trade associations, public agencies, elected officials and non-profit organizations.

Candidate

Los Angeles City Council 9th District, 2013 Municipal Elections

7/2012 – 3/2013

Ran for the 9th Council District seat because of a deep commitment to Los Angeles and its vibrant people, institutions and neighborhoods. Having been actively engaged in revitalizing portions of Downtown and South Los Angeles since the 1992 Civil Unrest, I saw the area's great potential and knew that I could capitalize on this progress and continue to bring more development, greater job opportunities, and a renewed sense of neighborhood pride to Downtown and South Los Angeles. Candidacy endorsed by *The Los Angeles Times* on February 24, 2013 stating that "...a new spirit of activism is igniting the 9th District, but residents need support from their City Council member. Roberts is the candidate whose skills, connections and ideas best match the challenges ahead."

[\(Los Angeles Times Endorsement\)](#)

Associate Director, Local Government Relations

University of Southern California

1/2009 – 6/2012

Represented USC in City and County government on matters related to local policy, planning, construction, regulation and legislation. Advanced the expressed priorities of the University President and senior administration with local stakeholders by establishing and maintaining effective relationships. Primary responsibility was to maintain direct connections with City Hall, the County Hall of Administration, local advocacy groups and USC.

Responsibilities

- Monitor and analyze legislative and policy proposals.
- Develop and carry out strategies for effectively representing the University's core interests and concerns to government officials at appropriate levels and times.
- Advance USC as a research and "community" university in the City and County, as well as an economic engine and willing partner.
- Develop a command of University issues in order to respond positively and decisively.
- Advise and consult with the Associate Senior Vice President for Government Relations and Executive Director of Local Government Relations on strategic direction of issues and programs.
- Represent the University's interests in leading local associations (Central City Association, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, Exposition Park Stakeholders, Figueroa Corridor Partnership Business Improvement District) for the purpose of collective action on behalf of the University.
- Testify at legislative hearings when appropriate, or provide assistance and direction to others testifying.
- Draft or seek to amend University-sponsored motions, resolutions and proclamations, when appropriate.
- Conduct appropriate internal outreach designed for Dean's, leading faculty, staff and other University entities to work in close coordination with local government relations to avoid inadvertently misrepresenting University priorities, confusing local policy makers, or not following local protocol.

Planning and Economic Development Deputy

Office of Los Angeles City Councilmember

Mark Ridley-Thomas

1/1998-3/2003

Office of Los Angeles City Councilmember

Bernard C. Parks

3/2003-1/2009

During an 11-year period served Councilmembers Mark Ridley-Thomas and Bernard C. Parks. Worked directly with residents, key stakeholders, elected officials and City staff to problem-solve and develop strategies for economic development and housing projects and community development initiatives. Promoted several times, managed projects totaling over \$3 billion, and was recognized as a leader in efforts to revitalize South Los Angeles, including efforts along the Figueroa Corridor, Vermont Avenue, Crenshaw Boulevard, Leimert Park Village and Exposition Park.

Staff Positions

Deputy, Economic Development	September 2002 – January 2009
Deputy, Revitalization Projects	October 2001 – August 2002
Special Assistant, Revitalization Projects	January 1998 – September 2001

Responsibilities

- Oversaw land-use, design/planning, economic/community development, transportation/ legislative efforts
- Advocated and articulated Council Office positions
- Prepared policy briefings and speeches
- Managed media inquiries related to development projects and policy initiatives
- Lobbied elected offices
- Coordinated and staffed meetings with constituents, City Departments and developers
- Represented Council Office at public hearings for conditional uses and variances.
- Public Speaking and presentations for University classes, business/trade/homeowner groups
- Liaison to Metropolitan Transportation Agency, Los Angeles Department of Transportation and Southern California Association of Governments
- Manage capital improvement grant applications—MTA Call for Projects; City Prop. K; and State Prop. 40.
- Project manager for Exposition Park special projects including providing funding and technical assistance to the following: Coliseum, Exposition Park Intergenerational Community Center, Rose Garden, Exposition Park Master plan, Natural History Museum, California Science Center, California African American Museum.
- Oversaw and tracked the City's Consolidated Plan (CDBG) efforts with the Mayor's Office, City Council Committees and key City Departments including City Administrative Officer, Chief Legislative Analyst and Community Development Department.
- Staff lead for NFL franchise for the Coliseum. Coordinated New Coliseum Partners meetings, drafted correspondence, assisted with media and marketing efforts, facilitated implementation of related infrastructure projects and managed related legislative proposals.
- Tracked economic incentive programs (Enterprise/Empowerment Zones, DWP initiatives) and monitor MBE/WBE contracting and hiring outreach for projects in Council District 8.
- Oversaw sustainability programs, and ensured the incorporation of LEEDs certified standards for public infrastructure, residential and commercial projects.

Associate Appraiser, Grubb & Ellis

6/1996 – 6/1998

Assisted senior appraiser with the research, analysis, interpretation and preparation of appraisals for commercial properties including apartment buildings, condominiums, industrial warehouse and manufacture facilities, retail centers and hi-rise office buildings. Primarily focused on the 5-County geographic area of Southern California and gained a clear understanding of the various economic, geographic, social and governmental factors which impact the value of property

Assistant Property Manager, Charles Dunn Real Estate Services

1/1996 – 6/1996

Assisted senior property managers with the management of residential and commercial properties. Prepared reports, handled service requests, coordinated service activities and drafted correspondence.

BOARD & COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS (partial list)

- **Friends of EXPO Center Board of Directors**
- **2011-2012 Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission**
- **Figueroa Corridor Business Improvement District Executive Committee**
- **PV Jobs Board of Directors**
- **State Senator Curren Price (SD-26) Workforce Training & Development Task Force**
- **CRA/LA Figueroa Corridor Prop. 1C Steering Committee**
- **South LA Community Plan Update Advisory Committee**
- **Prop. K Voluntary Neighborhood Oversight Committee**
- **Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Recycled Water Advisory Group**
- **Los Angeles Trade Tech Citizens Bond Oversight Committee**

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science
University of California at Los Angeles, 1995

Historic Preservation Program
University of Southern California, School of Architecture, 2003

Leadership Los Angeles
Los Angeles Business Council, 1999

HONORS, AWARDS & MEMBERSHIPS

American Marshall Memorial Fellowship

2011

Among 15 emerging, American Leaders selected to meet with government officials, NGO's and policy makers to learn about Europe's cities, regions, countries and multilateral systems during a 24-day trip to five European cities

Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI)

2009 Outstanding Partner Award

Los Angeles City Council

10-year Service Commendation (2008)

African American City Leaders

2004 – 2009

Greater Los Angeles African-American Chamber of Commerce (GLAAC)

Public Policy Committee

2008

Los Angeles Conservancy Scholar Awardee

National Trust for Historic Preservation

2002 Los Angeles Conference