



Office of the Mayor  
City of Los Angeles

**ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**November 13, 2006**

**Contact: Elizabeth Kivowitz**  
**213-922-9776**  
**213-219-4637**

**MAYOR VILLARAIGOSA CHALLENGES ANGELENOS TO  
SERVE LOS ANGELES ONE COMMUNITY AT A TIME**

*Mayor Villaraigosa cleans up the area surrounding the famous Watts Towers by pressure washing graffiti off the sidewalk and announces his 12<sup>th</sup> Day of Service, to take place in the community of Watts, challenging Angelenos to serve the City of Los Angeles one community at a time.*

(WATTS) – Challenging Angelenos to serve the City of Los Angeles one community at a time, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa today cleaned up the area surrounding the famous Watts Towers by pressure washing graffiti off the sidewalk and announced his 12<sup>th</sup> Day of Service, to take place in the community of Watts on Saturday, November 18 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

Joining Mayor Villaraigosa today were City Councilmembers Janice Hahn and Dennis Zine, incoming LAUSD Superintendent David Brewer III and business, community, and religious leaders.

“We are inviting people from all over the City of Los Angeles to come together to give a little love to Watts,” said Mayor Villaraigosa. “No matter where you live, we are all responsible for the communities that make up the City of Los Angeles. I want to challenge Angelenos to get involved in my Day of Service campaigns and clean up the City of Los Angeles one community at a time.”

Individuals interested in volunteering are encouraged to sign up in advance by visiting [www.lacity.org](http://www.lacity.org) or by calling (213) 978-0811. Volunteers can also arrive at 109<sup>th</sup> Street Park, located at 1464 East 109<sup>th</sup> Street in Watts, at 7:30am on Saturday to register.

The Day of Service in Watts on Saturday, November 18 will bring together over two dozen community organizations, several government departments and local schools to conduct nearly 70 beautification and improvement projects in the Watts area. Organizers hope to draw 5,000 volunteers from across the City of Los Angeles.

**- MORE -**

The day of service received generous donations and resources from the Clark Construction Co., Home Depot, Fernando Guerra of Guerra and Associates, Westfield Corporation and Councilwoman Janice Hahn.

Projects at the Day of Service in Watts will include: clearing brush, planting trees and gardens, removing trash and bulky items, painting murals, installing benches, removing trash and debris, beautifying local schools and churches, and cleaning up alleys. In addition, volunteers will perform extreme home makeovers, rehabilitating two senior citizens' homes that have fallen into disrepair.

Projects also include empowering people with information. A team of volunteers will be distributing information door-to-door on 3-1-1 and City services and will put the finishing touches on a job portal in the Jordan Downs housing development providing people with job resources and connecting residents to employment using the Internet.

Beautifying schools will also be a priority for the day of service and will include the following schools: David Starr Jordan High School, Locke, Gompers Middle School, Figueroa Street Elementary, Acorn Elementary, 112<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary, Compton Avenue Elementary, and Verbum Dei High School.

A list of organizations involved in the day include:

- 109<sup>th</sup> Street Teen Club and Recreation Center
- WAHS Task Force, Clean and Green
- Los Angeles Conservation Corps
- Stanford Avalon Garden
- Greater Watts Willowbrook Chamber of Commerce
- M.L. Shepard Manor
- Greater Saint Rest Methodist Baptist Church
- Watts/Century Latino Organization
- Bradley/Milken Youth and Family Center
- Grape Street Improvement Taskforce
- Parents of Watts, Watts Garden Club
- Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles
- Roy W. Roberts, II Watts/Willowbrook Boys & Girls Club
- YOM! Watts
- St. John's United Methodist Church
- ACORN/Neighbors United
- Simon Rodia Home
- Togetherness Block Club
- San Miguel Church, Friends Outside
- Youth Opportunity, Community People, and Watts Labor Community Action Committee

The Day of Service in Watts is the 12<sup>th</sup> Day of Service organized by Villaraigosa. Since 2003, when Villaraigosa was a Councilmember, his Days of Service have attracted the participation of over 46,000 volunteers.

###