



News Release

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COUNCILWOMAN JANICE HAHN CALLS ON WALMART TO GIVE BACK TO HARBOR GATEWAY COMMUNITY

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New Store to Open June 15, Councilwoman Wants More for Community

Los Angeles City Councilwoman Janice Hahn joined with Harbor Area community members today to call on Wal-Mart to contribute more to the Harbor Gateway community. The new Harbor Gateway Wal-Mart is scheduled to open on June 15.

“This is a huge, multi-billion dollar company and I expect more from them. There is a lot of uncertainty about Wal-Mart right now, and this is the wrong foot to start on in our community,” said Councilwoman Hahn. “Other large companies located in the Harbor Area contribute hundreds of thousands of dollars a year and Wal-Mart told me that they only have a \$40,000 budget to spend here in Harbor Gateway. Valero Refinery gave \$250,000 and 2000 employee volunteer hours this past fiscal year and Kaiser Permanente has given almost \$500,000 since 2003. Where is Wal-Mart?”

The Councilwoman discussed donations of a number of other Harbor Area companies and expressed disappointment at Wal-Mart. At a recent meeting with Wal-Mart, the Councilwoman asked for assistance with a variety of community projects, including program funding for the South Bay Boys & Girls Club and partnering to complete the proposed Dodger Dream Field at Rosecrans Park. Wal-Mart representatives informed her that they were only authorized to spend \$40,000 in the community, and \$10,000 of that has already been given in the City of Torrance.

“This is not enough. This store will depend on residents from our community for \$100 million in sales and revenue and we expect them to be a good neighbor and give back,” said the Councilwoman. “Until Wal-Mart decides to give back to Harbor Gateway, I urge people to stay out of the store. As a community, we deserve better.”

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