



For Immediate Release
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BASTA asks council vote for change, To vote **NO** on extending iCAO's contract

iCAO Pedro Carrillo's contract expires tonight, council should take advantage of the opportunity and not extend his contract. It has been over 3 months since the new council was sworn in and they have not been able to do what the residents voted them to do. It's time for the council to stop stalling and take charge of the city, ¡Ya **BASTA!**

Residents have made it clear to the council that in order for the City of Bell to start a new chapter it was necessary to release Mr. Carrillo of his duties as Bell's interim city manager. At every council meeting there are numerous motions from the public for the council to dismiss Mr. Carrillo.

Mr. Carrillo has never been able to escape the taint of having been hired over a year ago by the disgraced members of the former Council, all of whom have now been replaced. But beyond that, he has failed to provide the leadership needed to the new Council, most obviously by not even proposing a budget for the new fiscal year which began on July 1. He has never before been a City Manager. A new professional team is desperately needed to get Bell moving towards the reforms the citizens so want to see.

Further, we have been informed that the Mayor has now reached out to the League of California Cities and the International City Managers Association (both very reputable organizations) to get their help in recruiting a candidate. In only a week he has gotten reassurances that these organizations will conduct a coordinated effort to find a candidate for interim within 10 days. This will be an independent and qualified individual with no prior connections to the Southeast.

These organizations have also offered to help in other ways as well, including providing a team of volunteer advisers. Mr. Carrillo has proven unable to provide us with a successor. Thanks to the Mayor's initiative, we have a process in place now to quickly do so. We no longer see a need the services of Mr. Carrillo.

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"Now that the mayor has secured some reputable help and there is a clear plan, there is no need for Mr. Carrillo to stick around," said **BASTA** representative Luz Moya. "In addition, extending his contract will go against the will of the residents," concluded Moya.

Finally **BASTA** encourages the council to work with the League of California Cities and other reputable organizations to create a community based commission to help find the permanent CAO once the interim CAO is secured.

All **BASTA** representatives are unpaid volunteers. **BASTA** remains committed to financial transparency and believes it is crucial to leave the ugly, divisive politics of the Rizzo regime behind. That only worked to divide us, not make us a strong, vibrant city capable of local control. We invite anyone who has a difference of opinion with us to sit down with us and discuss it. We remain committed to doing all in our power to **Take Back Bell**.

BASTA welcomes our community and others interested in reviewing our demands for transparency to visit our website at basta4bell.com

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