



For Immediate Release
Contact: Denisse Rodarte 323-314-0418

Tuesday Feb 1, 2011

BASTA and the League of Women Voters Co-Sponsor Candidate Forums
Wednesday, February 2 and Thursday, February 3

The Community, media, and anyone interested is invited and *encouraged* to attend.
Forums are open to all.
Ground Rules for forums can be found at the end of this email.

BASTA will not be endorsing any candidates between now and election day, BASTA is instead focusing on voter education and engagement.

These forums are not debates, but an opportunity for residents to hear the candidate's speak about their plans for the city and to ask questions about their plans to improve Bell. The forums are not a place for attacks, but a chance for residents to interact with and get to know the candidates.

Wednesday, Feb 2, 2011
General Election Candidates

This forum will focus on the 10 candidates running for City Council General election. There are 3 seats available in the General election, and they are each 4-year term.

Thursday, Feb 3, 2011
Recall Candidates

This second forum is for the Recall election. There are 2 Candidates running to replace Teresa Jacobo if she is recalled. Councilmember Teresa Jacobo has been invited to participate in the forum. There are 5 candidates running to fill Artiga's vacant seat.

(Continued)

The Ground Rules for these forums are as follows:

Bell Candidate Forums: Ground Rules

Wednesday Feb. 2 (Regular Election)

Thursday Feb. 3 (Recall Election)

6:30pm - 8pm

El Hussein Community Center

4313 Gage Ave., Bell, CA 90201

- A. Each candidate will be given two (2) minutes for an opening statement. This should include information about their qualifications and their reasons for running. Endorsements should not be part of opening statements.
- B. The moderator will then ask a question from the questionnaire BASTA sent to all candidates, and each candidate, in the order chosen by the moderator, will have one minute to answer. There will be a total of three such questions and answers.
- C. The moderator will then ask a candidate one of the remaining questions from the questionnaire, and the candidate will have one minute to answer. In this round, each candidate will be asked a different question. There will be a total of two such rounds, with the candidate order varied by the moderator.
- D. The moderator will read questions from the audience, and each candidate will have up to 45 seconds to reply to each question, in an order chosen and varied by the moderator.
- E. Each candidate will have up to three (3) minutes for a closing statement. This may include responding to things other candidates have said or to questions the candidate did not previously get a chance to answer.
 - Please do not display signs or T-shirts with election slogans during the forum. Sometimes even small campaign buttons are banned at LWV forums, but they are allowed here.
 - Campaign materials may be made available on tables, however, those tables must be covered – and no campaign literature may be distributed – during the forum.
 - Only written questions will be accepted from the audience. Cards for questions, and pens or pencils, are available from League and BASTA volunteers.
 - The moderator, with help from other LWV volunteers, will select all questions. Questions must not be rude or nasty.
 - Questions from the audience may be directed to a specific candidate. After the designated candidate has responded, the others will be offered the opportunity to respond as well.
 - Presentations by candidates and questions from the audience must be confined to matters related to city government and policy. Please, no personal attacks. And please, no booing at all, and no cheering from the audience until the end of the forum.

###