

Press Release

January 22, 2010

Fifth Council District representative Gerrie Schipske has received the strong endorsements of several key organizations:

- The Long Beach Police Officers Association
- The International Longshore and Warehouse Union
- The Long Beach Democratic Club

"These endorsements reflect my efforts for the past three plus years on the City Council to stand up for the working men and women in my council district who want increased public safety, economic growth opportunities and a local government that is open and responsive to its residents. Many of the members of these organizations are my constituents and so they have seen first hand my independence, integrity and tenacity in providing quality representation," says Schipske, a native of Long Beach.

"I am also proud that I have kept my promise to oppose increasing property taxes and was the only member of the City council to vote against a parcel tax that would have burdened our homeowners." Schipske was the only councilmember to refuse to vote to declare an emergency which would have enabled a parcel tax to pass with less than 2/3's of the voters. The parcel tax was rejected but would have passed if Schipske had voted to lower the amount of votes needed.

Schipske points out that she has worked tirelessly to open up local government to the public and to ask the tough questions on the issues voted by the City Council.

"I am the first council member to post my council schedule on line so people can see who I meet with. I also communicate on a regular basis with constituents via email, blog, Twitter, Facebook, and hold numerous taskforce and community meetings."

"These organizations and I sometimes don't agree on the issues, but they respect how hard I try to do the right thing for my council district by refusing to be a 'rubber-stamp' for anyone on the City Council."