



**For Immediate Release**

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## **SEIU 721 Endorses Mayor Jessica Ancona, Recognizing Her Commitment to El Monte's Public Service Workers**

**El Monte, CA** – Mayor Jessica Ancona proudly announced today that she has received the endorsement of SEIU 721, representing the public service employees of El Monte. Mayor Ancona issued the following statement:

"I am incredibly honored to receive the endorsement of SEIU 721, which represents the hardworking public service employees, including members of our police department, who are the backbone of our city. These individuals dedicate themselves to keeping El Monte running smoothly and efficiently every single day. Their dedication to public service is the foundation upon which our community thrives, and I am proud to stand alongside."

"This endorsement is a testament to the strong partnership we have built over the years and reflects my deep commitment to ensuring that our public servants have the resources and support they need. These are the people who ensure our city functions—those who answer the call in emergencies, maintain our infrastructure, and serve the residents of El Monte with unwavering dedication."

"Throughout my time as mayor, I have fought to improve working conditions, secure fair wages, and ensure that all public service employees are valued and respected for their essential contributions. Together, we've achieved important victories, and with SEIU 721's continued support, I'm committed to building on that progress."

"I will always be a champion for our public servants. Their work may often go unseen, but it is never unnoticed. Together, we will continue to create a brighter, safer, and more prosperous future for all of El Monte."

Mayor Ancona looks forward to continuing her campaign which is focused on the future of El Monte and what the community can achieve together.

To join the growing list of supporters visit [bit.ly/EndorseAncona](https://bit.ly/EndorseAncona) or for more information visit [www.jessicaancona.com](http://www.jessicaancona.com)

Bio attached

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Mayor Jessica Ancona is a proud, lifelong resident of the City of El Monte and a daughter of hardworking immigrants from Mexico. She was born and raised in this great city of El Monte, and has dedicated her adult life to public service as an educator and elected official.

Jessica attended public schools in El Monte, and graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles. In addition to obtaining her bachelor's degree from UCLA, she has earned a Teaching Credential and Master's in Education from Azusa Pacific University and an Administrative Services Credential from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

Mayor Ancona, a former high school assistant principal at Lynwood Unified School District has been an educator for over 20 years. Prior to becoming a school administrator she was a high school teacher for 10 years. For over two decades, Jessica has been an advocate for our children, their education, families, and their quality of life.

In 2013, Mayor Ancona was first elected to the El Monte City School District Governing Board, where she served as the President in 2016 and 2017 and Vice President in 2018. Jessica also served as a Delegate Assembly Member for the California School Board Association (CSBA) in 2017 and 2018 with 300 other members from throughout the State of California. She was elected to serve on CSBA by local school boards within Region 23.

As an elected El Monte City School District Governing Board Member for five years, Mayor Ancona supported building state of the art facilities; re-implemented music programs for all students; opened the Jeff Seymour Family Center housing over 30 community service providers for our families; increased wages and improved healthcare benefits for the district's workforce and maintained a fiscally sound budget. While Jessica was President of the school board, she advocated to establish a Project Labor Agreement with the Building Trades for the final project of a series of school and facility improvements scheduled to begin late Winter of 2018.

In 2018, Mayor Ancona was elected to the El Monte City Council as the only independent candidate in the race. Her independence has proven valuable to the community as she has been able to focus on the needs of the residents of El Monte. During the first 2 years on the council, she took on the tobacco and vape industry protecting the youth of this community. Jessica also advocated for a joint use agreement with the school district, opening up more greenspace for recreational and passive uses for her community. She supports smart conscious development and welcomes progress that considers community first.

In 2020, Jessica was elected Mayor to bring about new bold ideas to the City. She garnered over 11,000 votes, the highest for any Mayoral candidate in El Monte's history. She entered into the role as Mayor at the height of the pandemic and worked tirelessly to secure more COVID testing and vaccination resources for the seniors, families and children in the community. With an increase in hate crimes, Mayor Ancona championed to establish a Human Relations Ad Hoc, championed a Walk Against API Hate with her colleagues and brought forth the first Proclamation in El Monte's history that proclaimed June as Pride Month and subsequently held a Pride night at El Monte's weekly Farmers' Market.

Jessica has been a dedicated public servant and an ally to working families and was re-elected in 2022 as Mayor. She has fought tirelessly to bring forth Energy Efficiency Projects, a Sewer replacement and Street repair project, as well as union arborists to maintain her city's trees amongst other projects. Her work with local law enforcement and the fire department during some of the City's most difficult times, has made her a strong advocate for public safety and ensuring El Monte families can live safe and healthy in their beloved city.

Mayor Ancona also previously served as Commissioner for LA County Libraries, Director for the LA County Sanitation District, Director for the Metro San Gabriel Valley Service Council and a Governing Board Member for Foothill Transit.

Jessica is a proud mother of two college graduates who live with her in El Monte. Her parents still live in the City along with many other family members and friends.

***Mayor Jessica Ancona is available for interviews.***

***For more information log onto our website at [www.JessicaAncona.com](http://www.JessicaAncona.com)***