

# Fontana City Council

If you ask Local 63 Business Agent Ralph Dominguez why he is running for a seat on the Fontana City Council, his answer is straightforward and one that inspired him to become a union official: "I know I can make a difference."

A business agent for six years, the former UPS (San Bernardino/Ontario) driver began his campaign with an unofficial kick-off fundraising event July 29<sup>th</sup> at his home. With roughly three months until the November election, the passionate activist hopes to gain momentum to unseat one of two incumbents.

"There are a lot of reasons why I am running. Particularly, I want to improve the community. There are a lot of things I don't like that need to be changed," he noted.

High on his list is crime and traffic in the city of 160,000 people. "I'm concerned about our children, and I just don't see the current city council doing much."

Dominguez points out that the City of Fontana also lacks a well-defined infrastructure and says there is an imbalance between development and growth. "Our quality of life has



been affected," he says, adding that he also wants to fight a proposed Super Wal-Mart.

His campaign slogan, 'A Voice for All of Our Community' says it all. "As parents we want to know that our children are safe and can enjoy the city they live in. We want to make sure there is good police and fire protection for our citizens."

Moreover, he says there are not enough after-school programs and the drop-out rate is high, which he believes is contributing to an elevated crime rate in the city. "We need to look at the budget and reroute the money to help our children," the father

of two, who also has two step-children, explained.

In addition to his wife, Myra, a strong contingent of supporters Dominguez is getting tremendous insight from Local 63 Business Agent Meline Juarez. Juarez has served the Covina City Council since 2000. In March, the well-respected council member was overwhelmingly elected by her peers to serve a one-year term as Mayor. She is the first Latina to serve on the council, and the first to be named mayor.

"Meline has helped me tremendously," he noted. "I'm very appreciative of all that she has done."

The Fontana City Council meets twice a week and consists of four council members and the mayor. Dominguez laughs when he describes the position as a "basically thankless job," but that doesn't matter, he knows he can make a difference.

If you would like to help Dominguez, campaign donations can be mailed to: 15218 Summit Ave., #300, Fontana, CA 92336. Dominguez can also be reached at 909-349-9896 or by emailing him at [voteralphdominguez@yahoo.com](mailto:voteralphdominguez@yahoo.com).

