

Statement of: Danny Hang
Candidate for: City Councilmember
City of West Hollywood

My name is Danny Hang and I currently serve on the West Hollywood Business License Commission, as well as the State of California Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation (JNE).

I am a Southern California native and am the proud son of Chinese-Vietnamese refugees who fled the Vietnam War in search of hope, freedom, and the American dream. The son of a union worker, I saw firsthand how my father worked long hours as a machinist and became a member of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Local 725. I am a passionate advocate of professional growth and vocational equity. I believe that workers are the backbone of the most powerful economy in the world, and deserve a fair and equitable wage.

I am the son of an immigrant small business owner. I watched my mother's nail salon succeed and slowly serve as an equalizer leading to a pathway to the American middle class for our family. I know firsthand that small businesses are vital to creating local jobs and growing the West Hollywood economy. Immigrant-owned small businesses are centerpieces of their neighborhoods, and they contribute in a meaningful way to the diversity and vibrancy of the West Hollywood community. A great example of this is the economic and community oriented success that West Hollywood's thriving Russian speaking community has continued to achieve throughout the years.

As a first-generation college graduate who attended Loyola Marymount University; I began my career in public service at the Social Security Administration, helping older adults and people with disabilities get Supplemental Security Income benefits. Having fueled my passion for serving others, I returned to school to pursue a double master's in Social Work and Gerontology from USC. I now work in disability retirement services for Los Angeles County, helping permanently disabled fire and police responders, as well as other county employees.

My involvement with the disabled community led to my first appointment as an at-large member of the West Hollywood Disabilities Advisory Board. In that capacity I worked hard to address issues affecting people with disabilities, including ADA compliance, transportation, housing, and access to City government and services for people with disabilities. I was later appointed to the West Hollywood Business License Commission.

My priority is to improve the community through servant leadership and I would be honored to serve as your next West Hollywood City Councilmember.