

Economic Development

Economic development must be rooted in the belief that all individuals regardless of their station in life should have access to health, wellbeing, justice and opportunity. Fostering the conditions that create the circumstances where these attributes can flourish requires not just a desire to do so, but changing actionable strategy and planning. Seizing on the role development can play in harnessing the economic strength of a community to create jobs and develop a voice to advocate for their own wellbeing, Councilmember Ridley-Thomas will lead the adoption of new City programs and policies designed to expand business and career opportunities for disadvantaged communities.

A focus on high-growth industry sectors, including Bioscience, Film and Digital Media, Health Care Services, Construction and Manufacturing has potential to put the District and the city on an upward trajectory even in the face of economic headwinds. As a result of the introduction of several career pathway programs such as *Careers for a Cause* Job Training Program, LA Emergency Medical Technician program, and Bio-Flex participants and District residents are being prepared to break through barriers to employment in living wage careers.