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Montebello City Councilman Frank Gomez won't see re-election

Councilman contends many elected officials are only interested in staying in office

By Peter Fullam, Staff Writer @PeterFullam on Twitter

Posted: 07/25/2013 08:37:34 PM PDT Updated: 07/25/2013 08:39:15 PM PDT

MONTEBELLO - City Councilman Frank Gomez announced Wednesday at the City Council meeting that he will not seek re-election in November.

"I am not and will not be a candidate for election," Gomez said during council members statements at the beginning of the meeting.

In making his exit, Gomez has some critical words for the current and past city councils.

"Current and past councils lack the ability to think creatively and outside of the box," he said.

As a result, they are satisfied with a city that is "living paycheck to paycheck" and just meeting expenses rather than a city that "thrives," he said in a telephone interview Thursday.

With the loss of economic development and the additional pressures the city will face, Gomez said the status quo won't be enough to bring the city financial stability.

In Montebello's case, he said the city needs a large capital infusion. He cited three possibilities for achieving that, building in the Montebello hills, switching to the county fire department and implementing a utility tax.

He said the elected officials he has served with on school boards and City Council seem only concern being re-elected.

"They're putting on the appearance that everything is rosey," he said. "Everything is not rosey in Mont

He said it's important for voters to think about who they vote for and ask why

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people are running. Though they say for p service, he said it's a mix of power, ego a "It's really self-serving," he said.



Frank Gomez (Courtesy

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He also said the city needs a long-term st

Gomez said he will be getting married and area. He also has increasing responsibilitie State LA, where he is a professor of chen

He said he felt he has given enough time in service.

"It's time to move on with the next stage,"

Gomez received his bachelor of science in chemistry with departmental honors in 198 State LA. He received his doctorate from 1991 and was a post-doctoral fellow in ch Harvard University from 1991 to 1994

He is vice chairman of the board for the D Technical Institute.

Gomez was elected in November 2009. H mayor, a post that rotates among the cou members, from November 2011 to Novem

His term ends in November, according to t Clerk's Office.

"I look forward to completing my last few said at the council meeting.

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