



EMANUEL PLEITEZ  
Los Angeles Mayoral Candidate  
[www.pleitezforla.com](http://www.pleitezforla.com)  
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**HEADQUARTERS:**

1972 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90033  
213.290.2046

**PRESS CONTACT:**

John Hill  
[John\\_hill@pleitezforla.com](mailto:John_hill@pleitezforla.com)  
214.471.9661

**PLEITEZ DISTINGUISHES HIMSELF AS THE ONLY CANDIDATE WITH AN ECONOMIC PLAN**

*Pleitez thrives in BizFed forum showcasing his economic knowledge and innovative pension plan*

LOS ANGELES – This morning, Emanuel Pleitez squared off against the other 4 candidates, all of whom lack true knowledge of the economy according to Pleitez. The forum, which was moderated by former Deputy Mayor and mayoral candidate Austin Beutner, focused heavily on fiscal issues in Los Angeles.

Pleitez came prepared with a PowerPoint explaining the pension buyout plan he released on Tuesday. His specificity attracted a favorable reaction from the large, predominantly pro-business crowd. The buyout plan became the cornerstone of his assault on the other four candidates. “No one has a plan...that’s the sad thing about our City Hall. No one understands the numbers”, Pleitez said regarding the other answers to Beutner’s budget questions.

The other candidates didn’t do themselves any favors by recycling the same economic answers they’ve used throughout the race. Garcetti asked the audience to focus on “not just what [he] will do, but what [he] has done”, Greuel said “we need to look at pension spiking and double dipping”, which Beutner pointed out don’t account for the massive deficit projections, James demanded pension reform without any plan or details, and Perry urged employees to contribute more to their healthcare costs. Pleitez clearly distinguished himself with his proposal as the only candidate with a plan.

In a rare lapse in polished performance, Garcetti publicly struggled with the math behind the deficit, and Jan Perry said she “couldn’t remember how [she] voted” on a decision to take city dollars marked for another purpose and use them to create a museum without consultation or consent of tax payers. Greuel showed a lack of economic understanding which Beuter pressed her on frequently, and James was uncharacteristically silent for the duration of the debate.

“LA needs a Mayor who actually understands the economy”, Pleitez said in his closing remarks. Over the past week, Pleitez has rolled out his policy proposals and continues to perform better while the other candidates have started to either recycle their answers or trip over themselves. “Over the next month, I want to share more about my plans to make L.A. realize its potential” Pleitez promised at a press conference Tuesday afternoon. So far, he has delivered.”

Pleitez is a former technology executive, with public, private, and non-profit sector experience, and was appointed to manage President Obama’s Economic Recovery Advisory Board. Pleitez, an LA native, grew up on the eastside and currently lives in El Sereno with his wife, Rebecca.

For full bio, please visit [www.pleitezforla.com](http://www.pleitezforla.com).

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