



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 19, 2016

Contact: Al Naipo, 213-974-2222

Email: anaipo@bos.lacounty.gov

Inglewood and Los Angeles County Rejoice – Rams are Back

On Tuesday, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors honored the city of Inglewood and Mayor James T. Butts, Jr. for their successful efforts to bring the NFL Rams back to Southern California after two decades. The Rams' return to Los Angeles County will spur economic development in the city and for the entire region, creating thousands of temporary and permanent jobs.

"We're proud of Inglewood to be the vessel that brings so much work and prosperity back to the region," said Inglewood Mayor James T. Butts, Jr.

NFL owners voted overwhelmingly to let the Rams return to Los Angeles after 21 years in St. Louis, and then gave the Chargers the chance to join the Rams. If the Chargers decide to remain in San Diego, the Oakland Raiders will get the option to join the Rams instead.

The Rams are building a \$2-billion dollar stadium – to be called City of Champions Stadium – near the site of the Hollywood Park racetrack in Inglewood over the next three years. It would be the centerpiece of a massive entertainment, retail and housing development – not to mention the largest stadium of any team in the NFL.

"The \$1.8 billion, state-of-the-art sports and entertainment stadium will have a profound impact on the economy of Inglewood as well as the regional community," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas.

Promising to bring thousands of new construction and permanent jobs to local residents, the new stadium is but the latest example of the New Inglewood. Other notable accomplishments include:

- The complete renovation and reopening of The Forum as an internationally recognized entertainment venue operated by the Madison Square Garden Company.

- The \$2 billion redevelopment of Hollywood Park into a mixed-use development with housing, open space and more than 600,000 square feet of shopping and entertainment.
- Construction of the \$2 billion Crenshaw/LAX Transit line with three stations in Inglewood.
- And recently announced plans for market rate housing developments that will revitalize the City's Market Street area to rival the Third Street Promenade.

"We know why Inglewood is known as the city of champions, because they got it done!" said Supervisor Ridley-Thomas.

The Rams are not expected to play at City of Champions Stadium until the 2019 NFL season. In the interim, they are expected to play at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum in Exposition Park, home of the USC Trojans.

Last week, Rams head coach Jeff Fisher met with Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, who serves as president of the Coliseum Commission, the governmental entity that oversees the Coliseum. Fisher, a former Trojan, told Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, "All I need is a level field and some grass and we're ready to play."

###