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**WALK THE WALK** — Mayor Lili Bosse (foreground in pink jacket) stretches with a crowd of hundreds on Monday before the first “Walk With The Mayor” of her second term as Mayor. The walk started at City Hall and ended at the new Waldorf Astoria. See the full story on page 4.

## Hundreds Join Bosse For Return Of Walk With The Mayor

By Victoria Talbot

Hundreds joined Mayor Lili Bosse for her mayoral return of Walk with the Mayor Monday, including Beverly Hills City Manager Mahdi Aluzri, newly-elected Councilmember Bob Wunderlich, City Clerk Byron Pope and Police Chief Sandra Spagnoli.

It was quite the spectacle, with a blocks-long length of walkers wearing orange t-shirts and hats with the #BHHHealthyCity logo in full display along the route. Several Beverly Hills motorcycle and bicycle cops performed traffic control.

Beverly Hills Director of Community Development Susan Healy-Keene, Planning Commissioners Andy Licht and Lori Greene Gordon, Human Relations Commissioner

Annette Saleh, Charitable Solicitations Commissioner Joe Safier and Fine Arts Commissioner Zale Richard Rubins also joined the walk.

One special participant was 91-year-old Frances Rhodes, who was ever-present three years ago during Bosse’s first term. This year, she trekked the entire distance, about 3.5 miles, with her walker.

The group stretched out along South Santa Monica Boulevard, down Rodeo Drive to Wilshire, and headed west to the new Waldorf Astoria, where owner Beny Alagem greeted the group with hugs, smiles and a sumptuous breakfast spread.

Walkers were treated to an array of croissants, muffins and pastries, breakfast yogurt parfaits, fresh fruit, bottled water,

### WALK WITH MAYOR

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coffee and tea. Served al fresco at the new Wilshire entry, they also received gift bags with Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills visors, pens and other logo gifts.

Alagem posed with enthusiastic guests for selfies, which are probably searchable under the #bhhealthycity moniker on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

Alagem and Bosse were joined at the new entrance to the hotel at the Wilshire/Santa Monica intersection by Waldorf Astoria Managing Director Luc Delafosse, who has overseen the building for the past two years, and is looking forward to the June 1 opening.

More than 500 workers are preparing the hotel for the big day, which will eventually feature all the palm trees saved



**WELCOME TO THE WALDORF** — Beny Alagem greets Bosse and her walkers outside of the Waldorf Astoria.

from the old structure. “They have a lot of history,” said Alagem, who preserved the trees because of the many guests who have celebrated and photographed key events in their lives beside the palms; they can return and still find these trees at the new Waldorf Astoria.

The walk inspired an estimated 350 walkers to join in, a number certain to grow in the coming weeks.

“It is excellent networking,” said a man named Eric, a first-time walker, who plans to come back next week.

Walk with Mayor is part of Lili Bosse's continued commitment to a Healthy City Initiative and will take place every Monday morning at 8:30 a.m. on the Crescent steps of City Hall. Everyone is encouraged to participate. Next week—Nerano and Ladurée Beverly Hills.