





### May 12 - 15, 2022

Renaissance Esmeralda Resort & Spa, Indian Wells, CA











# CODE OF CONDUCT

THE CALIFORNIA CONTRACT CITIES ASSOCIATION STRIVES TO PROVIDE CUTTING EDGE EDUCATIONAL AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL OUR MEMBERS IN A SAFE AND RESPECTABLE ENVIRONMENT AT ALL TIMES.

### THE CALIFORNIA CONTRACT CITIES ASSOCIATION EXPECTS THE FOLLOWING FROM ALL ATTENDEES AND GUESTS AT OUR EVENTS:

TREAT EACH OTHER WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT AT ALL TIMES.

RESPECT THE VARIOUS POLITICAL VIEWS AND OPINIONS OF EVERYONE IN ATTENDANCE.

REFRAIN FROM ENGAGING IN ACTIVITIES OR ACTIONS THAT WOULD REFLECT POORLY ON CCCA.

AVOID DISRUPTING SPEAKERS OR PRESENTERS DURING SESSIONS AND MEETINGS.



We thank you in advance for your cooperation to ensure the success of our conferences, meetings, and other events are enjoyable for all in <u>attendance.</u>



### Thursday, May 12

7:00 am - 4:00 pm 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Annual Golf Tournament Registration Open Welcome Reception

Indian Wells Golf Resort Crystal Ballroom Foyer Cascade Landing

Friday, May 13				
7:00 am - 8:30 am	Welcome Continental Breakfast	Crystal Ballroom Foyer		
7:30 am - 8:30 am	Newly Elected Welcome Breakfast	Cava Restaurant		
8:30 am - 9:00 am	Seminar Welcome/Business Session	Crystal Ballroom		
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Session 1: Breakfast Keynote Speaker Brendan McDonough	Crystal Ballroom		
10:00 am - 10:10 am	Break			
10:10 am - 11:10 am	Session 2: Housing: Building Better Communities Together	Crystal Ballroom		
11:10 am - 10:20 am	Break			
11:20 am - 12:20 pm	Session 3: Strengthening Your Social Media Presence: Tips from the Experts	Crystal Ballroom		
12:20 pm - 12:30 pm	Break			
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	Session 4 (Lunch): Collaborating Across County Lines	Crystal Ballroom		
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Brendan McDonough, Author Book Signing	Crystal Foyer		
2:00 pm - 3:15 pm	President's Reception	Crystal Foyer		
2:15 pm - 4:15 pm	AB 1234 Ethics Training	Valencia I&II		

### Saturday, May 14

9:00 am - 10:00 am	Session 5: Breakfast Session: Strategic Partnerships in Workforce Development and Retention	Crystal Ballroom
10:00 am - 10:10 am	Break	
10:10 am - 11:10 am	Session 6: Water and Infrastructure Now - How We Can All WIN	Crystal Ballroom
11:10 am - 11:20 am	Break	
11:20 am - 12:20 am	Session 7: Building a Solid Foundation: Contract Cities from the Ground Up	Crystal Ballroom
12:20 pm - 12:30 pm	Break	A
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	Session 8: Lunch Session: First Responders Coming Together - Updates from the Top	Crystal Ballroom
2:15 pm - 4:15 pm	AB 1661 Sexual Harassment Training	Valencia I&II
6:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Installation Dinner Reception	Crystal Foyer
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Installation Dinner	Crystal Ballroom
8:150 pm - 9:00 pm	Fireworks Reception	Rose Lawn
9:00 pm - 11:00 pm	Special Entertainment - Woodie and the Longboards	Stir Lounge

### Sunday, May 15

8:00 am - 10:30 am Time to Jam with Jeff - Getaway Brunch

Moutain View Room



## **Associate Members**



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#### Athens Services

Nationwide Environmental Services

Noodoe, Inc

Republic Services

The Technology Depot

Commercial Bank of California

**MNS Engineers** 

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**The Ballon Council** Best, Best & Krieger **Burrtec Waste Industries** California Municipal Finance Authority Central Basin Municipal Water District **Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Climatec LLC** CR&R Inc. Dapeer Rosenblit & Litvak LLP **HDL Companies** Independent Cities Finance Authority Kosmont & Assoc. Lifelong Learning Admin Corp **NHA Advisors Six Heron** Williams Serivces Corporation West Coast Arborists Industry Business Council **Avenu Insights & Analytics Live Stories Mitchell Public Affairs & Advocay Pay by Phone Talon Companies** Tarkett Collaborate-LA **Outfront MEDIA** 

## 2021-2022 California Contract Cities **Executive Board**

#### Officers



**President** Mark Waronek Lomita



Vice President Ali Sajjad Taj Artesia



Secretary/Treasurer Jeff Wood Lakewood



Immediate Past President Lindsey Horvath West Hollywood

### **Committee Chairs**

Ambassador Chair Ray Hamada, Bellflower Associate Members Co-Chair Mike Davitt, La Cañada Flintridge Associate Members Co-Chair Frank Zerunyan, Rolling Hills Estates Bylaws Co-Chair Yesenia de La Rosa, Avalon Bylaws Co-Chair Dana Reed, Indian Wells Budget & Audit Chair Gustavo Camacho, Pico Rivera City Managers Chair Ryan Smoot, Lomita Director-at-Large Cedric Hicks, Carson Director-at-Large Lori Woods, Signal Hill Director-at-Large Rex Richardson, Long Beach Director-at-Large Margaret Finlay, Duarte Legal & Contracts Chair Blanca Pacheco, Downey Legislative Co-Chair Stacey Armato, Hermosa Beach Legislative Co-Chair Jennifer Perez, Norwalk Marketing Chair Jose Gonzalez, Cudahy Membership Chair Nancy Tragarz, Walnut **Resolutions Chair** Julian Gold, Beverly Hills Special Events Chair James Bozajian, Calabasas Public Safety Chair Brenda Olmos, Paramount Selection Chair Sandra Armenta, Rosemead

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MARCEL RODARTE** 







#### Marcel Rodarte,

Executive Director, California Contract Cities Association

Marcel Rodarte is the Executive Director of the California Contract Cities Association. He became the Association's third executive director on July 1, 2016. The California Contract Cities Association is the second largest local government association in California and serves 74 member cities and more than 7.5 million residents in Los Angeles County and beyond. Marcel previously served as Mayor and City Councilmember for the City of Norwalk from 2011 to 2016 when he voluntarily resigned to accept his current position. Marcel retired from the Air Force in 2011 after serving for a combined 21 years (17 in the Air Force and 4 in the Navy). He previously worked for the U.S. federal government with the Air Force, Department of Defense, and Department of Homeland Security. He holds associate Degrees in Logistics and Electronics, a bachelor's degree in Business Management, and a master's degree in Leadership from the University of Southern California.



### President Mark Waronek,

Councilmember, Lomita

Mark Waronek was elected to serve on the Lomita City Council in 2003, 2013 and 2018. Councilmember Waronek has previously served as the City's Mayor on 3 separate occasions (2006-07, 2016-17 and 2020-21). Mark also served as President of the California Contract Cities Association from 2022-2023.

Councilmember Waronek currently serves on the City's Economic Development Ad Hoc Committee, Legislative Ad Hoc Committee, and the Founder's Day Ad Hoc Committee. He also serves as city liaison to the Lomita Sister City Association.

He also serves as President of the California Contract Cities Association (2021-2022) and continues to serve as a board member of the Joint Powers Insurance Authority

Councilmember Waronek has 25+ years of experience in government and community relations, and public affairs. He also previously worked for Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn as her South Bay Senior Deputy.

Councilmember Waronek is heavily involved in several local service organizations including the Lomita-Harbor City Kiwanis, El Camino College Foundation, and the Salvation Army.

Councilmember Waronek holds a Bachelor of Arts, Communications (with an emphasis in Communications Studies) from Loyola Marymount University and has been a long-time resident of Lomita, with his wife, Kristine, and two adult children, Madeline, and Marky. He enjoys spending time with his family and traveling with family and friends. In his spare time, he is the public address announcer for football and basketball games at his high school alma mater, Bishop Montgomery High School in Torrance.



## **Speaker Bios**



**Joe Woyjeck,** Retired Captain, L.A. County Fire Department

My name is Joe Woyjeck, I retired from the Los Angeles County fire department after 37 years where I worked in some of the busiest fire houses in Los Angeles. I have experience as a wildland firefighter, structure firefighter, firefighter paramedic, fire fighter specialist and was assigned to a Haz-Mat unit and the FEMA task force 2. I also worked in our air operations bureau as a firefighter paramedic and I spent time assigned to the fire prevention bureau as a fire captain. I am a certified fire safety officer for the movie industry and spent the last 17 years of my career as a fire captain.

My education includes, Texas-A&M's oil firefighting school, Long Beach City college, College of the Canyons and, Los Angeles County Paramedic Training institute.

I have volunteered at the Los Angeles County fire museum for over 20 years where I have served as President, Vice President and, currently board member.

My son Kevin was one of the 19 Granite Mountain Hotshots who lost their lives at the Yarnell AZ fire on June 30, 2013. After the death of our son I became involved with the LA County fire department and IAFF peer support teams, helping firefighters get through some incredibly difficult times. I am also an instructor for the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation in Emmitsburg, Maryland assisting fire departments develop plans in the occurrence of a firefighter line of duty death.

My wife and I started the non-profit, "Kevin Woyjeck Explorers for Life Assn". Our organization has donated over \$400,000 in scholarships and fire gear to young men and women across the nation in their pursuit of becoming a first responder. (Explorersforlife.org)

Anna is my incredible wife and I have a son Robert and a daughter Madeline.

Unfortunately I am no longer physically able to be a firefighter but I am always willing to share my story and experience.



Brendan McDonough, Author

Brendan McDonough was on the verge of becoming a hopeless, inveterate heroin addict when he, for the sake of his young daughter, decided to turn his life around. He enlisted in the Granite Mountain Hotshots, a crew of elite hotshot firefighters based in Prescott, Arizona. Their superintendent, Eric Marsh, was in a desperate crunch after four hotshots left the crew, and seeing a glimmer of promise in the skinny would-be recruit, he took a chance on the unlikely McDonough, and the chance paid off. Despite the crew's skepticism, and thanks in large part to Marsh's firm but loving encouragement, McDonough unlocked a latent drive and dedication, going on to successfully battle a number of blazes and eventually win the confidence of the men he came to call his brothers.

Then, on June 30, 2013, while McDonough-"Donut" as he'd been dubbed by his crew-served as lookout, they confronted a freak, 3,000-degree inferno in nearby Yarnell, Arizona. The relentless firestorm ultimately trapped his hotshot brothers, tragically killing all 19 of them within minutes. Nationwide, it was the greatest loss of firefighter lives since the 9/11 attacks.





(Cont.) After the unfathomable loss of that day, McDonough suffered from seemingly insurmountable bouts of depression and Post-Traumatic Stress. But the light of hope that inspired him to keep living in one of his darkest moments—his daughter who needed him—inspired the firefighter to fight on against depression and inspire others to find their best selves, even if that means often looking beyond the self. McDonough is an uplifting speaker, whose courage to find support at his weakest has inspired others to find their own tribes of support. Building a sense of brotherhood within communities gives McDonough great joy – because it helps this fighter honor the legacy of his 19 lost, but not forgotten, brothers.



#### Ali Sahabi, COO, Optimum Seisminc, Inc.

Ali Sahabi, a lifelong advocate for resilient and sustainable communities, has spent his career promoting the safety, economy and quality of life of communities throughout California. His work has been honored with the California Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award for taking a sustainable approach toward community development and environmental restoration in the Dos Lagos mixed-use development in the City of Corona. As Chief Operating Officer of Optimum Seismic, Inc., one of California's leading seismic retrofit companies, he leads an experienced team that has been making cities safer since 1984 by performing earthquake engineering to achieve earthquake resistant buildings. His company performs full-service seismic retrofit engineering and construction services on multifamily, residential, commercial and industrial buildings throughout the state. Sahabi also serves as President of Optimum Group, LLC.



#### **Jennifer Hernandez,** Partner, Holland & Knight

Jennifer Hernandez has practiced land use and environmental law for more than 30 years and leads Holland & Knight's West Coast Land Use and Environmental Group. Ms. Hernandez divides her time between the firm's San Francisco and Los Angeles offices.

Ms. Hernandez is the only California lawyer ranked by her clients and peers in Chambers USA in the top tier of both land use/zoning and environmental lawyers. In addition, she was recognized as the top environmental litigator of the year in the San Francisco Bay Area by Best Lawyers and received a California Lawyer of the Year award from the State Bar of California for her work on California's largest and most innovative land use and conservation agreement between her private landowner client and five major environmental organizations, including the Sierra Club and Natural Resources Defense Council. She also has received numerous civil rights awards for her work on overcoming environmentalist opposition to housing and other projects needed and supported by minority communities.

During his tenure as mayor of San Francisco, Willie Brown named October 9, 2002, as "Jennifer Hernandez Day" in San Francisco in honor of her work as a "warrior on the Brownfields" to restore and redevelop former industrial lands. Ms. Hernandez is the longest-serving minority board member (23 years) of the California League of Conservation voters, was appointed by President Clinton to serve as a trustee for the Presidio National Park in San Francisco and serves on the board of directors for California Forward and Sustainable Conservation.





(Cont.) Ms. Hernandez works for private sector, public agency, and nonprofit clients on a broad range of projects in Bay Area, Southern California, and Central Valley communities, including infill and master-planned mixed-use housing and commercial projects, university and research facilities, transportation and infrastructure projects, renewable and other energy projects, and local agency plan and ordinance updates. She has written three books, and more than 50 articles, on environmental and land use topics, and regularly teaches land use, environmental and climate law in law and business schools, colleges, and seminars. She also serves on the firm's Directors Committee and received the firm's highest honor – the Chesterfield Smith Award – for her community service.

Ms. Hernandez graduated with honors from Harvard University and Stanford Law School and clerked for Region 20 of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) before beginning her land use and environmental law career. Ms. Hernandez is the daughter and granddaughter of steelworkers and was raised in Pittsburg, California. She and her husband live in Berkeley and Los Angeles.



#### **Greg McWilliams,** Chief Policy Officer, FivePoint

In his previous role as President, Newhall Land, McWilliams managed the entitlement, planning and development of Newhall Ranch and the final phases of Valencia. Prior to joining Newhall Land, McWilliams was at Lennar, most recently as Regional President of Lennar Urban Communities in California and as President of Lennar Communities in the Bay Area, where he managed complex development projects involving the transfer of military bases.

McWilliams currently serves as Chairman of the California Business Properties Association in Sacramento and Chairman of the Global Land Use and Economic Council (for Southern California Association of Governments). He also serves on the Executive Board and is former Chairman of the Southern California Leadership Council (SCLC). He sits on the Board of Directors of the California Chamber of Commerce, the Building Industry Association, and the Santa Clarita Valley Economic Development Corporation. He recently joined the Board of Trustees of the California Institute of Arts, Board Member of Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, and Board Member of Coro Southern California.



**Steven Hernandez,** Mayor, City of Coachella







**Jose Gonzalez,** Mayor Pro-Tem, Cudahy

Jose Gonzalez has earned a solid reputation as a growth-focused professional with a proven capacity to lead many large and small organizations to consistent success. Jose brings a talent for spearheading special projects and service management functions and a history of empowering teams to exceed ambitious objectives.

Over the course of his career, he has demonstrated an innate ability to deliver exemplary customer support to our residents and track progress through KPI's, advise city personnel.

Jose has repeatedly refined his skills in critical areas as strategic planning, software development, quality assurance, performance improvement, technology planning, and IT service management. In addition, Jose has acquired consistent success in skillful contract negotiation and vendor management.

Jose was appointed to the Cudahy City Council in 2018, and subsequently won a council seat in the November 2018 election. In 2019, he was appointed as Mayor of the City where he spearheaded the City's two-year strategic plan, which prioritized streamlining government processes, bringing innovation to city hall, and emphasizing a friendly customer service-oriented city staff.



**Ryder Smith,** CEO, Tripepi Smith

Ryder Smith is co-founder and president of Tripepi Smith and has over 20 years of experience in the information technology, marketing, and public affairs fields. He has helped build Tripepi Smith into a statewide public affairs firm with over 200 clients including cities, counties, private companies, and non-profits. Ryder leads his team of 40 professionals to deliver on the communication and outreach needs across a broad array of issues through all mediums of communication.



Adán Chavez, U.S. Politics and Government Outreach, Facebook

Adán Chávez currently serves as the California State and Local Lead for the U.S. Politics and Government Outreach team at Meta, where he liaises with government officials, community stakeholders, government organizations, campaigns, and political organizations at the state and local government level to build out their presences on Facebook, Instagram, and across Meta's family of apps, through best practices and understanding new tools. Prior to Meta, Mr. Chávez served as the Deputy Director of Civic Engagement for the NALEO Educational Fund — the nation's leading non-profit, non-partisan organization that facilitates full Latino participation in the American political process, from citizenship to public service.





Mr. Chávez is an alum of the University of California, San Diego, where he received double-degrees in Political Science and Spanish Literature, and where he currently sits as a part of the Alumni Board of Directors. Originally from the Inland Empire, Mr. Chávez is also an alum of Young People For Fellowship, Equality California's Leadership Academy, the New Leaders Council, and the Public Policy and International Affairs Junior Summer Institute (JSI) at the University of California, Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy.



#### Bill Grady, Director of Communication, Lakewood

Bill Grady has worked in the political and communications world for over 30 years, serving as the PIO for Lakewood for the last 12 years. He is a working supervisor of the city's active communications portfolio that includes a weekly eMagazine to 40,000 residents, 75 social media posts each month to 15,000 followers, a dozen articles in the community's monthly newspaper, and 100 videos a year by the city's award-winning media team.



### Brenda Olmos,

Councilmember, Paramount

Brenda Olmos has been a member of the Paramount City Council since July 2019 and has served one term as Mayor. She sat on the City's Public Safety Commission for 14 years and has been involved in a wide variety of community groups, clubs, and committees. She was given the Paramount Elks Club's Distinguished Citizen Award in 2018. Olmos serves as the City's representative to the League of California Cities and the California Contract Cities Association, and is Chair of the CCCA's Public Safety Committee. She is a member of the City's Homelessness Ad Hoc Committee, a Commissioner for the Los Angeles County Commission on local Government Services, a voting delegate for the California Director of Network and Business Development at Optum Healthcare and has a master's degree in Public Policy from USC.



#### Kathryn Barger, L.A. County Supervisor, 5th District

Supervisor Kathryn Barger proudly serves the residents of Los Angeles County's 5th Supervisorial District -the county's largest -- spanning 2800 square miles, which includes 22 cities and 70 unincorporated communities in the San Gabriel, San Fernando, Cresenta, Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys. Dedicated to providing effective, responsive representation to the residents of Los Angeles County, Kathryn began her career in public service as a college student intern in the office of Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich and rose to become his Chief Deputy Supervisor in 2001, where she served until her election to the Board in November 2016.



## **Speaker Bios**



Janice Hahn, L.A. County Supervisor, 4th District

Supervisor Janice Hahn was elected to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on November 8, 2016, representing the Fourth Supervisorial District. She has followed in the footsteps of her father, the legendary LA County Supervisor Kenny Hahn, in every step of her career. She began her public service in 1997, representing the Fifteenth District on the Los Angeles Charter Reform Commission. In 2001, Supervisor Hahn was elected as the Fifteenth District Councilwoman on the Los Angeles City Council where she served for ten years. In 2011, Supervisor Hahn was elected to Congress, serving for five years before her election to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor.



#### Karen Spiegel,

Riverside County Supervisor, 2nd District

Karen Spiegel was elected to represent the Second Supervisorial District on November 6, 2018 and was sworn into office on January 8, 2019. The Second District includes the unincorporated communities of Coronita, El Cerrito, Home Gardens and Highgrove, and the cities of Corona, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Norco, and the western half of the City of Riverside. Karen Spiegel began her political career as the elected City Treasurer for the City of Corona in 1996. After six years as Treasurer, she embraced the City Council elections in 2002 and served the City of Corona as Council Member for 16 years, serving as Mayor four terms. Her actions speak volumes and her unique passion for service truly sets her apart. She encourages community participation with City and County government and has introduced many new programs. Karen has been credited for her leadership in regional transportation issues, collaboration and regional partnerships.



#### Steve Skolnik,

Deputy City Attorney, Lakewood

Steve Skolnik is Of Counsel to the local government law firm of Jones & Mayer. He has practiced municipal law in California since 1979, and he has provided legal representation to dozens of local government agencies throughout his career. Most notably, Steve spent 31 years as the City Attorney in Santa Fe Springs, he represented Huntington Park in several capacities including City Attorney over a period of 24 years, and he was appointed Lakewood's City Attorney in 2004 and has provided legal advice to Lakewood's elected officials and staff for the past 18 years.



## **Speaker Bios**



**Sonny Santa Ines,** Mayor Pro-Tem, Bellflower

Sonny R. Santa Ines currently serves as Council Member of the City of Bellflower, California. He was first elected in March 2011 and was reelected for another four-year term in March 2015 and November 2018. He served as Mayor in 2014-2015 and 2019-2020.

Sonny serves in various organizations such as the Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Policy Board, California Joint Powers Insurance Authority, Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District, and Los Cerritos YMCA. He was State Deputy of the Knights of Columbus in 2016-2017. He is a Lecter and Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist at St. Bernard Parish in Bellflower.

Sonny was Chief Financial & Administrative Officer of the Weingart Center Association, a not-for- profit organization providing services to the homeless community of Skid Row in Los Angeles, Chief Financial Officer of Children's Dental Group, Vice President of Finance and Administration of Child Care Resource Center, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to child care and early childhood education, Controller of the Products Division of Sunkist Growers, Inc., and Senior Auditor of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.



Yolanda Castro, Executive Director, SELACO

Yolanda Castro has worked in public administration and non-profit management since beginning her professional career in 1983. Having joined the Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board (SELACO WIB) in 1994, she has held several positions of increasing responsibility and is currently the Executive Director of the Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board (SELACO WDB). As the Executive Director, Mrs. Castro leads and supports the development of board committees, recruitment, and growth of agency personnel, strategic planning and the evolution of new programs and initiatives.



**Gary Clifford,** Executive Vice President, Athens Services

From 2009 through 2013 Gary Clifford served as Chief Operating Officer / Executive Vice President for Athens Services. Gary is currently Executive Vice President focusing on Municipal and Strategic Relationships. Athens Services has been providing refuse removal and recycling services in Southern California for over 50 years. We are family-owned and operated, offering a variety of State-of-the-Art services, including automated waste and recycling collection, yard waste recycling programs, special waste transportation, transfer and materials recovery, storage box rentals, and street and parking lot sweeping services in Los Angeles, Riverside, and Orange Counties.



## **Speaker Bios**



**Jan Vogel,** Director, South Bay WIB

For over 39 years, Mr. Jan Vogel has served as the Executive Director of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) which encompasses eleven cities in the Los Angeles South Bay region in California that includes: El Segundo, Gardena, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Lawndale, Torrance, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach, and Carson.

The South Bay Workforce Investment Board has been a leader in workforce innovation and has received national awards for performance of workforce development activities for employment and business services, not only within Los Angeles County, but throughout Southern California. The SBWIB has also been recognized for being one of the highest performing Workforce Investment Boards in the state of California.



#### Stephan Tucker, General Manager, WRD

Stephan Tucker is the General Manager of the Water Replenishment District. Stephan is a successful program management director and mechanical engineer with more than 34 years of experience managing significant projects. For over 20 years, Stephan worked on equity related programs with the Los Angeles Department of Power and Water (LADWP), initially as an employee and then as a consultant. His primary focus has been using data to tell the story of inequities and developing subsequent strategies to address them.



#### **Lisa Rapp,** Director of Public Works (Retired), Lakewood

Lisa Ann Rapp has recently retired from her position as the Director of Public Works for the City of Lakewood. Lisa was responsible for many notable capital projects for the City of Lakewood during her over 31-year tenure, including two major stormwater capture projects totally \$26M. She managed a staff of 38 public works management and operations staff. Lisa holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Southern California.

She currently serves as the Technical Director for Environmental Management on the national board of directors for the American Public Works Association. APWA has over 30,000 members in the US and Canada, including members from government agencies, private consultants, contractors and vendors, who serve the Public Works profession. She has served as the President of the APWA Southern California Chapter and remains the Chair of the California Chapters Advocacy Committee. She was named a national APWA Top Ten Leader in 2014.

In 2021, Lisa served as one of six members of the working group that Accelerate Resilience LA (ARLA) assembled to study the how projects were selected for funding in the Safe Clean Water Program (Measure W) and metrics to determine how those projects would perform. This year-long study resulted in 22 recommendations that have been delivered to the Los Angeles Flood Control District in the document entitled "Using Watershed Science to Build Consensus and Maximize Benefits of LA. County's Safe Clean Water Program."





Lisa is a founding member of the Gateway COG Public Works Officers organization and served as the primary representative of the Gateway COG to the Technical Advisory Committee of LA METRO. She also serves as a Board member representing the City of Lakewood on the Gateway Water Management Authority, where she served as the Chair, and is very active in stormwater and environmental issues.



#### Bruce Reznik, Executive Director, L.A. Waterkeeper

Stephan Tucker is the General Manager of the Water Replenishment District. Stephan is a successful program management director and mechanical engineer with more than 34 years of experience managing significant projects. For over 20 years, Stephan worked on equity related programs with the Los Angeles Department of Power and Water (LADWP), initially as an employee and then as a consultant. His primary focus has been using data to tell the story of inequities and developing subsequent strategies to address them.



#### Mark Pestrella, Director, L.A. County Public Works

Mark Pestrella is the Director of Los Angeles County Public Works. In this capacity, he serves as the County Engineer, the County Road Commissioner, and the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. With an annual budget of more than \$2.7 billion and a workforce of 4,000 employees, Los Angeles County Public Works is the largest municipal public works agency in the United States, providing vital public infrastructure and civic services to more than 10 million people across a 4,000-square-mile service area. Public Works' diverse operations are defined within six core service areas: Water Resources, Transportation, Environmental Services, and Emergency Management, Developmental Services, and Emergency Management

Mr. Pestrella is a licensed civil engineer and a 34-year veteran of Public Works and has held a variety of management positions. He is a native of Southern California and attended California Polytechnic State University. San Luis Obispo, where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in civil engineering with concentrations in structural engineering and water resource management.



Jorge Morales, Exiled Councilmember

Jorge Morales is a Founding Partner of Morales + Morales bringing 20-plus years of government affairs industry experience – including eight (8) years as Mayor and Council Member for the City of South Gate. His public sector career includes legislative work for California Assembly Majority Leader Marco Antonio Firebaugh and Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina, as well as Chief of Staff to Los Angeles Unified School District Board Member Yolie Flores. Jorge also serves as Legislative Consultant for the California Contract Cities Association.



## **Speaker Bios**



**DJ Waldie,** Author

D.J. Waldie is a cultural historian, author, and political commentator. In books, essays, and commentary, he has sought to frame the suburban experience in Los Angeles as a search for a sense of place. Often using his hometown of Lakewood as a starting point, Waldie's work ranges widely over the history of suburbanization and its cultural effects. He is a contributing editor for the Los Angeles Times and the Los Angeles Review of Books. In 2017, he was awarded the William R. and June Dale Prize in Urban and Regional Planning by California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. The New Yorker magazine in 2021 named him "one of the most respected contemporary voices on life in Southern California." Waldie began his career in public administration in Lakewood in 1977. He served as the city's Public Information Officer between 1981 and 2009. He retired as Deputy City Manager in 2010.



**Dr. Frank Zerunyan,** Councilmember, Rolling Hills Estates

Mayor Frank Vram Zerunyan, J.D., his wife Jody, adult child Daniel and Nicole are longtime residents of the City of Rolling Hills Estates. Frank is a three term Mayor and still serving Councilmember in the City of Rolling Hills Estates. In his role as a public official, after serving as Chair of the Planning Commission in Rolling Hills Estates, Frank was elected to the City Council in 2003 and re-elected in 2007, 2011 and 2015. He previously served and continues to serve on various regional public boards, including law enforcement, sanitation, technology and transit. He has chaired and continues to chair select city government committees in Rolling Hills Estates. Frank's public service on various local government policy committees extends statewide with the California League of Cities, California Contract Cities Association and Southern California Association of Governments. In 2008, Frank was elected and assumed a leadership role as the 52nd President of California approximately 70 member cities and 7 million residents.

Frank is a Professor of the Practice of Governance at the Sol Price School of Public Policy and Director of Executive Education at USC Price Bedrosian Center on Governance. His key areas of expertise include Local Governments, Public Private Partnerships, Civic Leadership, Land Use, Regulation, Negotiation and Executive Education. He teaches graduate courses on Intersectoral Leadership, Business and Public Policy, International Issues in Public Policy, Negotiation as well as International Laboratory. He also lectures locally and globally to build capacity and foster leadership among public executives worldwide.



Mike Flad, Assistant City Manager, Jurupa Valley

Michael Flad has over 3 decades of local government experience and currently serves as the Assistant City Manager for California's newest City, the City of Jurupa Valley. Prior to that, he served for 8 years as City Manager for the City of South Gate where he played an integral part in making their East Los Angeles Community College campus, METRO rail line stations, Azalea retail development, homeless transitional





(Cont.) housing, the Urban Orchard Park project and the regions Frank Gehry designed performing arts center a reality. The majority of Mr. Flad's professional career has been with the City of Burbank where he served for over 23 years. Starting as a part time work trainee in Burbank's Parks and Recreation Department, he promoted through a variety of positions in the Police, Finance, Risk Management, Community Development, Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PR&CS) Departments, finishing up with four years as Burbank's City Manager.



### Sheriff Villanueva,

Sheriff Alex Villanueva was elected the 33rd Sheriff of Los Angeles County in 2018; the first challenger to unseat an incumbent in more than a century. A 34-year veteran of the Department, Sheriff Villanueva commands the largest Sheriff's Department in the United States, with nearly 18,000 budgeted sworn and professional staff. As Sheriff, he has initiated reform efforts which have significantly improved morale within the organization and community engagement outside the organization. One such effort was solving the problem of recruitment and retention, an issue which the last three office holders failed. Under Sheriff Villanueva's watch, hiring has more than doubled in comparison to previous years. He has dedicated his time

to increased civic trust and engagement by holding town halls to personally address unique issues that affect specific communities within Los Angeles County, and beyond. His committed efforts to achieve complete public transparency by placing all allowable departmental information on-line (LASD.org), were recently commended by the Los Angeles County Civilian Oversight Commission. By removing ICE from the county jail system he has restored public confidence in the Department. As a result, violent and property crimes have fallen drastically. He has redirected resources to tackle the tough problems; Mental Health and Homeless Services teams have expanded to meet the increased need of the people of Los Angeles.



#### Undersheriff Dennis Vrooman,

**Riverside County SD** 

Dennis Vrooman began his career with the Downey Police Department in 1984 first as a non-sworn Police Aide, assigned to the jail, dispatch and the evidence room; then in 1988 as a Police Officer after graduating the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Academy (Class 242). While at Downey Police Department he was assigned to patrol and served as a Field Training Officer (FTO), Explorer Advisor and Chaplain Advisor. Dennis honorably "retired" from the Murrieta Police Department on January 3, 2019. He was sworn in by Sheriff Chad Bianco as an Assistant Sheriff with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department on January 7, 2019, and was assigned to Administration, which oversees the Courts, Coroner, Public Administrator, Academy & Training, and the Accounting & Finance Divisions. On December 19, 2019, he was appointed by Sheriff Bianco to the rank of Undersheriff.



## **Speaker Bios**



#### **Chief Osby,** L.A. County Dire Department

Daryl L. Osby has the distinct honor of serving as the ninth Fire Chief of the Los Angeles County Fire Department. With an education in business and executive management and a progressive outlook towards the future, Fire Chief Daryl Osby strives to ensure the Department maintains its acclaimed reputation through sharing of best practices with fellow fire agencies and creating an inclusive work environment representative of the diversity of Los Angeles County. Los Angeles County Fire Chief Daryl Osby oversees the delivery of fire suppression and life safety services to more than 4.1 million residents and commercial businesses in 59 cities and all unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, along with the City of La Habra located in Orange County. The Department's service area includes suburban neighborhoods, city centers, commercial districts, sandy beaches, mountain ranges, and more. There are 4,700 personnel working within the Department's emergency and business operations bureaus, including firefighters, dispatchers, lifeguards, nurses, and administrative support.



#### **Chief Bill Weiser,**

**Riverside County Fire Department** 

Riverside County Fire Chief Bill Weiser has more than 39 years of experience in the fire service, including more than 34 years in Riverside County. Weiser has previously worked in various key positions over the years in the CALFIRE/Riverside Unit. He was the training captain at Ben Clark Training Center and battalion chief for the Perris Battalion. Weiser's most recent position was division chief overseeing operations in Bautista Camp, Hemet Ryan Air Base, the San Jacinto and Mountain Battalions as well as the hazardous materials emergency response program. Chief Weiser was appointed to serve as the Riverside County Fire Chief on August 3, 2020.



#### Kelly Trainer Policky,

Employment Practices Manager, California JPIA

Kelly Trainer Policky serves as the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority's Employment Programs Manager. A licensed California attorney, Kelly has worked as an advisor, trainer, investigator, and negotiator for public agencies for almost 20 years. She has a passion for the preventative side of the practice of law, and oversees the Authority's Employment Hotline, providing advice and counsel support to over 120 member agencies on complex, high-risk employment law issues. In this capacity, she works directly with members on issues such as reasonable accommodation and the interactive process, leave management, discrimination, harassment, retaliation, discipline, freedom of speech and association, privacy, and social media. Kelly is also a highly-regarded trainer, and regularly conducts a variety of seminars and workplace trainings for employees on matters such as harassment prevention, disability discrimination, implicit bias, workplace investigations, managing difficult employees, workplace violence, discipline and termination, social media, performance evaluations, creating effective documentation, and leaves of absence.







**Jeff Prang,** Los Angeles County Assessor

Los Angeles County Assessor Jeff Prang was elected in 2014 as the 27th Assessor for the County of Los Angeles and re-elected in 2018.

Raised in Warren, Michigan, Assessor Prang is a graduate of James Madison College at Michigan State University. After graduation, Mr. Prang relocated to California where he served nearly 18 years as a councilmember for the City of West Hollywood, including four terms as Mayor among many other positions in the public sector.

Upon taking office in 2014 as the Los Angeles County Assessor, Mr. Prang implemented sweeping reforms to ensure that the strictest ethical guidelines rooted in fairness, accuracy and integrity would be adhered to in his office.

The Los Angeles County Assessor's Office is the largest office of its kind in the nation with 1,300 employees and provides the foundation for a property tax system that generates \$17 billion annually.

Assessor Prang is a State Board of Equalization licensed appraiser, an Executive Committee member of the California Assessors' Association (CAA), and an active member of the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) and the Society of Auditor-Appraisers (SAA).

Assessor Jeff Prang lives in Baldwin Hills with his husband Ray Vizcarra, who is the instrumental music director at Redondo Union High School.



Lindsey Horvath, Councilmember, West Hollywood



Victor Manalo, CCCA Past President



## **Speaker Bios**



Diane Martinez, CCCA Past President

Diane J. Martinez was elected to the Paramount Unified School District Board of Education in November 2020. Board Member Diane J. Martinez, a lifelong resident of Paramount, was a member of the City Council from 1994 until her recent retirement in June 2019. She served six terms as Mayor. During her 25 years on the City Council, she served at various times as the City's representative to just about every board and committee you can think of. She also served as President of California Contract Cities from 2012-2013 and President of the League of California Cities Latino Caucus. Tirelessly dedicated to advancing the interests of her city and fellow residents, she played an integral role in the great strides made by Paramount over the last two and a half decades.



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