



*"Providing thread to help stitch together the fabric of the City Management Community."*

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Jack A. and Susan Simpson, 16707 Gerritt Avenue, Cerritos, California 90703-1442

Office No. 562/926-0800; Cell Nos. 562/896-5424 & 310/418-1035

[jack@trackdownmanagement.net](mailto:jack@trackdownmanagement.net); and [jsimpson@trackdownmanagement.net](mailto:jsimpson@trackdownmanagement.net)

## City Managers Who Are Santa Barbara Veterans

So, before we get started with our latest listing, we ask the question: Why tell the story of California's City Managers? Here is our stab at an appropriate answer.

There is a genuine scholarly need to explore the studies, toils and tribulations of city managers. Each has a separate career journey. Though there are similarities, there is a uniqueness to each manager's career path. Struggles and hardship along with the achievements and accomplishments provide snapshots of experiences that can instruct, inspire and assist future professionals. Another reason to tell the stories is simply to leave an historical mark...a legacy. Trackdown has devised various ways to highlight and group

California's city managers in order to include a broad sampling of those who practice in the city management community. We realize that the stories we tell are abbreviated and largely aimed at professional comings and goings. We can only write our stories with the information at hand, though we try to expand with broader and personal information when we can. We hope you find value in our efforts.



Sailboats ride easily at anchor near the Santa Barbara Pier with Santa Cruz Island 25-miles off the coast. Santa Cruz is the largest of California's eight Channel Islands.

**Trackdown Posse Roster:**Gregory Korduner, Retired, Huntington ParkHoward Chambers, LakewoodMike Egan, NorwalkLyle Defenbaugh, CalTrustErnie Garcia, Retired Norwalk

Joe Tanner, Retired City Manager

Bob Adams, Retired City Manager

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Greg Nordbak, Republic Services, Inc.

Carlos Urrutia, Retired Rocklin City Manager

Michael P. Busch, President, Urban Futures, Inc.

Wade McKinney, Atascadero

Andy Lazzaretto, A.C. Lazzaretto &amp; Associates

Doug LaBelle (Maui Doug), Chino Hills (Retired)John Keisler, Long Beach

Sheryl Lindsey-Boell, CH2MHILL OMI

Sam Olivito, California Contract Cities Association

Jack Lam, Rancho CucamongaLarry F. Pennell, Wasco (Retired)

Gary Chicots, Retired City Manager

Rod B. Butler, Patterson

Debbie Smith, Independent Cities Association

Fred Latham, Retired Santa Fe Springs

Anthony Lopez, Retired City Manager

Marshall Linn, Urban Futures, Inc.

Dr. Bill Mathis, Mathis Group

Fred Diaz, FremontLinda Lowry, PomonaMike & Judie Sedell, Simi ValleyCity of Cerritos

Roy Pederson, ICMA Past-President

Bruce Williams, Retired City Manager

Michael A. Sakamoto, Retired City Manager

Bill Holt, Retired City Manager &amp; Executive Director of CJPIA

Oliver Chi, Barstow Assistant City Manager

Mark H. Persico, AICP, Seal BeachTroy Butzlaff, Placentia

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Santa Barbara Veterans**

Sometimes there are good reasons why we choose certain subject matter to devise the for listings for the various City Manager Newsletters by Trackdown. Granted some of those reasons are very "thin" and hopefully bring a smile or two here and there. In this Special November, 2011 issue we present some City of Santa Barbara veterans. The reason, though "thin," is as good as any. Our personal entertainment fiction reading led to this grouping. We wish to explain this "thin" motive.

Author **Sue Grafton** has crafted a fiction book series about a private investigator who is based in "Santa Teresa," a thinly veiled replacement name for beautiful Santa Barbara on California's Central Coast. The main character in these books is **Kinsey Millhone**, who grew up in Santa Teresa and once worked for the Santa Teresa Police Department, before she became a private investigator. Each of the **Kinsey Millhone** books has a title that contains a letter of the alphabet. The books started with "A" and currently stretch to "V is for Vengeance," which will be release this month...November, 2011.

At any rate, this issue of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown presents a few individuals who spent career time working for the beautiful City of Santa Barbara. Of course, we start with the current Santa Barbara City Administrator **James L. Armstrong**, and the current President of the City Managers Department of the League of California Cities, **Bruce Channing**, long-time City Manager in Laguna Hills.



<http://www.hdlcompanies.com/>

## City Managers Who Are Santa Barbara Veterans

Santa Barbara is situated along the Pacific Ocean shoreline at the western base of the Santa Ynez Mountains. The 2010 census figures place the Santa Barbara population at 88,410. Santa Barbara is a popular West Coast tourist and resort destination. There are also five institutions of higher learning in the community including: the University of California, Santa Barbara; Santa Barbara City College; Westmont College; Antioch University; and the Brooks Institute of Photography. The city is located about 90 miles from Los Angeles. Mission Santa Barbara is one of missionary Padre **Junipero Serra's** California missions, built in 1782. Modern Santa Barbara is a year-around tourist destination. Tourism brings more than one-billion dollars per year to the local economy. Surfing is a big part of the Santa Barbara culture as are the Arts. Three-time Surfing World Champion **Tom Curren** and 10 World Champion **Kelly Slater**, along with surfing icon/singer-song writer **Jack Johnson** call Santa Barbara home.



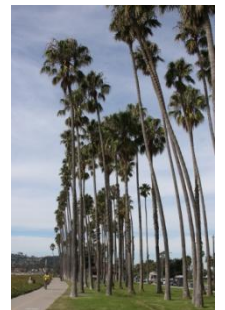
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**James L. Armstrong**, the current Santa Barbara City Administrator, began his city government career in 1977 as a Management Intern in Santa Ana. That same year (1977) Jim was hired as an Administrative Aide in Anaheim, where he was promoted to Administrative Assistant in 1978 and Assistant to the City Manager in 1979. Jim was selected to serve as City Manager of Hanford in 1983, and after about 7-years in that position, he returned to Anaheim in 1990 to be the Assistant City Manager. Jim was appointed Fullerton City Manager in 1992. He served in the Fullerton post until 2001 when he joined the Santa Barbara staff as City Administrator. Jim has a BA from **UCLA** and an MPA from California State University, Long Beach. In 2007 he received a 30-year ICMA Service Award.



Jim's two Assistant City Administrators in Santa Barbara are **Marcelo A. López** and **Paul Casey**.



<http://www.interwestgrp.com/>



<http://www.kndinc.com/index.htm>

"Santa Barbara is my hood. I mean, it's not much of a hood, but it is definitely like my hood. I claim Santa Barbara like I claim my family-I'm going to be married and buried there."

---Katy Perry





## City Managers Who Are Santa Barbara Veterans

**Bruce E. Channing** began his public management career in 1976 as an Administrative Intern in Santa Barbara. Bruce completed the internship that year and moved to another internship in Santa Monica. In 1977 Bruce was hired as an Administrative Analyst in Pasadena, where he worked for the next four years. In 1981 Bruce joined the Yorba Linda staff of City Manager **Art Simonian** as Assistant to the City Manager. In 1982 Bruce was promoted to Assistant City Manager. In 1991 Bruce left Yorba Linda when he was selected to be the City Manager in Laguna Hills where he continues to serve. He earned a BA from the University of California and an MPA from **USC**. In 2001 Bruce was the recipient of the ICMA Award in Memory of Carolyn Keane for Programs for the Disadvantaged, and in 2006 he received the Program Excellence Award for Community Health & Safety. At the present time Bruce serves on the CCMF Board and is the current President of the City Managers Department of the League of California Cities. In 2007 Bruce received a 30-year ICMA Service Award.



<http://www.bobmurrayassoc.com/>

During the time period 1967 to 1970 **David R. Mora** served in the Peace Corp in the Philippines. Following a year or so in the private sector, Dave was appointed to the Community Relations Director post in Santa Barbara in 1973. In 1977 he was elevated to Santa Barbara Assistant to the City Administrator and in 1979 he became the Deputy City Administrator. Dave left Santa Barbara after about eight-years of service when in 1981 he was appointed Town Manager in Los Gatos. In 1985 Dave was appointed City Manager in Oxnard where he served for about 5-years before he was recruited to serve as the Salinas City Manager. Dave served as the Salinas City Manager for some-18-years before he retired in 2008. Following his retirement Dave took the assignment to serve as the Western Regional Director for ICMA in 2009 and he served in that post until earlier this year (2011). Dave has served on many ICMA Committees, and Task Forces. He is the Chair of the ICMA-Retirement Corporation Board. Dave served as the President on the ICMA Executive Board, 2002-2004. He also served as the President of the City Managers Department of the League of California Cities in 1991-1992. Among Dave's professional activities he participated in the ICMA Japan Fellowship Exchange program. He is currently an ICMA Range Rider. Dave earned a BA from California State University and an MPA from the University of Pittsburgh. In 2004 Dave received a 30-year ICMA Service Award.



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## City Managers Who Are Santa Barbara Veterans

**Sandra E. Tipp-Jones**, who was previously Sandra E. Lizarraga, began her public service career as a CETA Program Supervisor in the City of Santa Barbara in 1977. Sandra took a Management Analyst post with Santa Barbara in 1980; became Assistant to the City Administrator in 1981; Deputy City Administrator in 1986 and City Administrator in 1993. For a couple of years, starting in 2001, she worked in the private sector, and in 2003-2004 she took an assignment with ICMA as the Iraq Coordinator. From 2008 to 2009 Sandra served as an ICMA Local Governance Consultant for Iraq, Lebanon and Afghanistan. She became an ICMA Senior Governance Advisor in 2009 in the organization's Washington, D.C. office. Sandra earned a BA from the University of California and an MBA at the University of Kansas. In 1997 she received a 20-year ICMA Service Award.



**Chandra L. Wallar** was appointed Santa Barbara County Administrator in October, 2010. Chandra was hired to take over for the retiring County Administrator **Mike Brown**.

She came to the post with 28-years of local government experience. She served as the Director of Public Works in Decatur, Illinois; Jefferson City, Missouri; and Little Rock, Arkansas. She went to work in San Diego County in 1999 as the Assistant Director of Public Works, and had been serving as the San Diego County Deputy Chief Administrative Officer and General Manager over the Land Use and Environment Group. She earned a BS in civil engineering at the University of Illinois.  
<http://www.countyofsb.org/ceo/default.aspx?id=292>

**Terri Nisich** is an Assistant CEO and **Dennis Bozanich** is the Assistant to the CEO. Terri is also an alumnus of the University of California, Santa Barbara.

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**Jason J. Stilwell** is the current City Administrator of Carmel-By-The-Sea. Jason began his public management career in 1992 as a Management Assistant in Mountain View. In 1994 Jason took a Management Intern position in Thornton, Colorado. In 1995 he took another Management Intern post, this time in Westminster, Colorado, and later that year (1995) he was appointed Assistant Town Manager in Superior, Colorado. Jason moved back to California in 2003 when he was hired as a Project Manager in Santa Barbara County. In 2006 he was promoted to Santa Barbara County Parks Director, and then Assistant County Executive Officer in 2007. Jason was recruited to be the City Administrator of Carmel-By-The-Sea earlier this year (2011). Jason earned an AA at Cuesta College; a BA from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo; an MPA from San Jose State University; and a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado. In 2003 Jason received a 10-year ICMA Service Award.



### California Contract Cities Association

**Sam Olivito**, Executive Director

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## City Managers Who Are Santa Barbara Veterans

Capitola City Manager **Benjamin H. Goldstein**, who goes by the first name "Jamie," began his public service career with a 1995 to 1998 stint as a Special Assistant in the California Tahoe Conservancy. In 2001 Jamie was appointed Deputy Director of the Santa Barbara County Redevelopment Agency, where he served for about 7-years. In 2008 he was hired to be the Capitola Community Development Director, and he was appointed Capitola City Manager in 2010. Jamie has a BS from the University of California, Davis; and an MS from the *University of California, Santa Barbara*.

Retired Yucaipa City Manager **John E. Tooker** began his public management career in 1972 as a Personnel Analyst in San Bernardino County. John moved to a similar position in Orange County in 1974. He served as a Program Director for the Intern Governmental Council in California. In 1978 John was appointed Personnel Officer in Santa Barbara and he served in that post until he was appointed Assistant to the City Manager in 1981. John left Santa Barbara in 1986 when he was selected to serve as the Assistant City Manager in Oxnard. He was chosen to serve as the Yucaipa City Manager in 1991. He retired from that position in 2008. Since retiring, John as served in Interim City Manager capacities in Yucca Valley and Twentynine Palms. John earned a BA from California State University. In 2005 John received a 30-year ICMA Service Award.



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Fess Parker died March 18, 2010. In the early 1950's he played Davey Crockett for Disney productions. He later played the part of Daniel Boone. Following his acting days, he moved to Santa Ynez, in Santa Barbara County, and created the Fess Parker winery in Los Olivos.



## City Managers Who Are Santa Barbara Veterans

According to the ICMA Who's Who Directory, **Paul O. Brady Jr.** served as an Administrative Assistant to the City Manager in Monterey Park from 1956 to 1970. In 1970 he took an Assistant Project Director post in the private sector with Macco Corp. In 1971 Paul joined the Santa Barbara city staff as the Personnel Director. In 1972 Paul moved south to Irvine to join the Irvine city staff as the Executive Assistant to the City Manager. In 1973 he was elevated to Community Services Director/Public Safety, and in 1976 he was selected to serve as the Irvine Assistant City Manager. After about 13-years as the ACM and when his boss City Manager **William Woollett Jr.** retired, Paul was appointed to serve as the Irvine City Manager. Paul served for 10-years until as the Irvine City Manager prior to his retirement. Paul earned a BS from Los Angeles State College. In 1998 he received a 40-year ICMA Award.



<http://www.parsinfo.org/>

**John L. Scott** grew his public service career most out-of-state. His first public position was Administrative Assistant to the City Manager in Wayne, Michigan in 1946. In 1947 John took the Assistant Finance Director post in Winnetka, Illinois, and he was promoted to Finance Director in 1948. In 1952 John left Winnetka to become the Village Manager in Park Forest, Illinois, where he served for some ten-years. In 1962 John was appointed Chief Administrative Officer in Greenwich, Connecticut, and he was selected to serve as the Schenectady, New York City Manager in 1968. John moved to California in 1973 when he was selected to serve as the Santa Barbara City Administrator. In 1977 he took an appointment to serve as a Professor of Public Administration at California State University. From 1983 to 1988 he served as a Senior Administrative Analyst for Ventura County. John earned a BA from Princeton University and an MA from the University of Chicago. In 1987 he received a 25-year ICMA Service Awards. John's last listed address is in Santa Barbara.

"In every outthrust headland, in every curving beach, in every grain of sand there is the story of the earth" --**Rachel Carson**



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## City Managers Who Are Santa Barbara Veterans

Santa Barbara's Transportation Manager **Browning Allen III** began his public service career in 1979 when served as a Medical Records Auditor in the County of Los Angeles. In 1981 Browning was hired as an Administrative Assistant in South El Monte, and he served in that post until 1984 when he was appointed Assistant Finance Officer, and in 1985 he was elevated to South El Monte Finance Officer. In May, 1985 Browning took the Director of Personnel position with the Pomona School District, and in 1990 he went to work for the City of Pomona as the Assistant City Administrator. In May, 1993 Browning was selected to serve as the Assistant City Manager in Cathedral City, and he worked in that post until 2000 when he was appointed City Manager in Carpinteria. Browning left the Carpinteria City Manager post after about 18-months. He was appointed Transportation Manager in Santa Barbara in July, 2001. Browning graduated from Claremont High School, and he earned an AA at Citrus Community College, a BA from California State Polytechnic University, and an MPA from California State University, Long Beach.

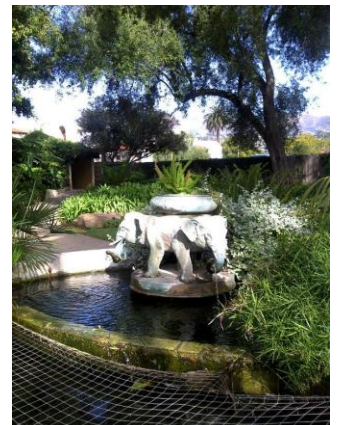
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<http://www.sylc.com/DefaultContent.aspx?PagelId=1>

Veteran City Manager **Richard D. Thomas**, who passed away last year (March 7, 2010) in Billings, Montana, served as the Santa Barbara City Manager between 1977 and 1993. Richard began his public service career in 1957 as an Assistant to the City Manager in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. In 1962 he was appointed City Manager in Slater, Missouri, and he served there until 1962 when he was selected to be the El Dorado, Kansas City Manager. In December, 1966 Richard was appointed City Manager in Arvada, Colorado a suburb of Denver. Richard left Arvada in 1973 to take the City Manager post in Great Falls, Montana. In 1977 he moved to California to be the Santa Barbara City Manager where he retired in 1993. He earned a BA at Ottawa University, Kansas, and an MPA from the University of Kansas. He was a 1972 recipient of the ICMA Management Innovation Award. He served as President of the Colorado State Management Association in 1968-1969.





## City Managers Who Are Santa Barbara Veterans

Among those California local government professional who are forever tied to the lovely Santa Barbara community through their educational efforts at the University of California, Santa Barbara are: **Steve Matarazzo**, City Administrator, Sand City; **Charles Brian Haddix**, City Manager, Sanger; **Sean P. Quinn**, City Manager, Fairfield; **Tim Kawasaki**, Administrative Analyst, Los Gatos; **Jessica Craven**, Analyst, Thousand Oaks; **Chris Ball**, Assistant Analyst, Thousand Oaks; **Christa L. Johnson-Seely**, Assistant City Manager; Laguna Beach; **Laura L. Matteson**, Assistant County Executive Officer, Nevada County; **Darren M. Kettle**, Executive Director, Ventura County Transportation Commission; and **Julie C. T. Hernandez**, Executive Director, International Hispanic Network, and Senior Management Advisor, Management Partners, Inc., a former ACM in Santa Paula.

We recognize that we have missed many Santa Barbara folks who are worthy of mention, but this list is a good representative sampling. We hope our readers enjoy this issue. Please let us know what you think. And, don't forget to pass along any good ideas you may have for a future issue.

### Santa Cruz Island restoration milestones:

In the 1980s feral sheep were removed from the island.

The island has been free of feral pigs since 2006.

Now more than 1,200 foxes, up from fewer than 100 in 2004, live in the wild of Santa Cruz Island.

Bald eagles no reside and nest successfully on the island for the first time in 50-years.

No golden eagles have nested since 2006.

Native plants are flourishing and are re-vegetating formerly barren hillsides.

Now that the pigs are gone, oak seedling are numerous.



## 2011 Legislative Briefings

[http://www.cacities.org/resource\\_files/30139.2011%20Legislative%20Briefings%20Announcement\\_ONLINE.pdf](http://www.cacities.org/resource_files/30139.2011%20Legislative%20Briefings%20Announcement_ONLINE.pdf)

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\$25 per person; member city and League  
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**Kevin O'Rourke** at [kevin@kolgs.com](mailto:kevin@kolgs.com)

**Mike Garvey** at [garveycgs@yahoo.com](mailto:garveycgs@yahoo.com)

**Frank Benest** at [frank@frankbenest.com](mailto:frank@frankbenest.com)

**Rod Wood** at [rjwood@rjwoodassociates.com](mailto:rjwood@rjwoodassociates.com)

**Mary Strenn** at [mstrenn1@socal.rr.com](mailto:mstrenn1@socal.rr.com)



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**Picking Up The Pieces:** Anaheim City Manager **Thomas J. Wood** has resigned effective next month. Tom has served of the Anaheim city staff for some-20-years, and as City Manager for about 2 and a half-years. He served previously as Assistant City Manager, and took the top spot when former City Manager **David M. Morgan** retired. California Governor-philosopher **Jerry Brown**, known as "Governor Moonbeam" during his first stay in the Governor's office, has unveiled a pension reform plan perhaps based on his "canoe school of politics." The "canoe school of politics" notes that a little paddling to the right and then a little to the left will chart a successful course up the middle. Chula Vista City Manager **Jim Sandoval** has spoken out to point out the inaccuracies of a recent article that appeared in the national publication *Vanity Fair*. The article rudely criticizes and overlooks many of the fine people who live and work in Chula Vista. In an effort to promote efficiency and economy, Atascadero is experimenting with service delivery by closing City Hall to walk-in visitors on Fridays. The staff will continue to work and be available by telephone and email each Friday, but will be freed up to focus on city projects and special tasks. With staff reductions and continued efforts to improve cost-efficiency, this is an experiment to maintain and preserve the city's well-established customer service excellence. Atascadero's City Manager is **Wade McKinney**, the current CCMF President. Montebello Interim City Manager **Larry Kosmont** of the Kosmont Companies plans to step down from the position in December as the city seeks to appointed a permanent city manager. The city has weathered seven separate audits of the past year with Larry's professional management skills. Bellflower Assistant City Manager **Lee Mingle** has been serving as Interim City Manager since City Manager **Mike Egan** was appointed to the City Manager post in Norwalk. Lee has worked in Bellflower since 1995 when his first assignment was Public Safety Coordinator. San Mateo County Manager **David Boesch**, 54, has submitted his resignation, indicating that it is clear that he and the board have "different philosophies" and his resignation is in the best interest of everyone involved. David is a former City Manager in Menlo Park. Monrovia has begun a recruitment to find a replacement for City Manager **Scott Ochoa**, who is leaving the city in January to become the City Manager in Glendale. Scott will be filling in behind long-time veteran City Manager **Jim Starbird**, who is retiring after nearly 14-years with Glendale. Scott is a graduate of Claremont McKenna College and has an MPA from **USC**. Former San Diego City Manager **Jack McGrory** (1991-1997) has pledged a \$1.2 million

gift to San Diego State University, where he has taught part-time for the past 18-years. Jack is currently the CEO of La Jolla MJ Management Inc. Calistoga City Manager **Richard Spittler** has express confidence in his newly appointed Administrative Services Director **Gloria Leon**, who recently resigned from a position with the city of Hercules. Former Bell CAO **Robert Rizzo** has sued Bell claiming he is owed \$1.5 million in wages because he has not been convicted of a felony and has not resigned his post. He has pleaded not guilty of corruption charges: fraud and misappropriation of public funds. Kerman is recruiting a new City Manager. Applications may be obtained from **Toni Jones** in the Kerman Personnel Office for the application deadline of Thursday, December 22, 2011. California State University, Fullerton alumnus **Mindy Jacobs** of IntelliBridge Partners is a former Management Analyst in Carlsbad and a Public Works Assistant in La Cañada Flintridge. Calistoga City Manager **Richard Spittler** has announced the appointment of **Gloria Leon** as the City's new Administrative Services Director. Gloria previously worked as the Finance Director in Hercules. **Linda Barton** announced her retirement in September after serving 10-years as Livermore City Manager. Livermore Community Development Director **Marc Roberts**, who has worked for the city for 24-years, will be the new City Manager.



### Dr. D. James Hart, Ph.D., Adelanto City Manager

We missed a few important folks in our BYU alumni list in the November issue of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown. One of those missed was **Dr. D. James Hart, Ph.D.**, the Adelanto City Manager. Jim started his career as a Manpower Administrator for the Utah Basin Association of Governments in Roosevelt, Utah in 1976. In 1978 he moved to an Administrative Assistant post with the City of Chino and then moved up in that organization: 1980, Director of Personnel and Risk Management; and in 1983, Director of Management Services. In 1986 Jim went to work with then-Ranch Cucamonga City Manager **Lauren Wasserman** as the Administrative Services Director. In 1992 he was appointed City Manager in Twentynine Palms, and in 2002 he took the City Manager post in Rancho Santa Margarita. He was appointed to the Adelanto City Manager position in 2005. Jim earned his Ph.D. in Business Administration at California Coast University in 1999. He has taught in the Community College system for Chaffey College and Copper Mountain College in Joshua Tree.