



Former City Manager **Donald R. Duckworth** and **Rebecca Schmitt** rode bicycles in Vancouver's Stanley Park recently. It was Becca's birthday. Don held executive positions during the 24-year period between 1971 and 1995. Cities where he held positions include Calabasas, Santa Clarita, Arcadia, Visalia, San Clemente and Simi Valley.

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Two

Contra Costa County is located on the eastern side of the San Francisco Bay. The 2020 estimated population is 1,165,927. The county seat is the City of Martinez where **Eric Figueroa** has served as City Manager since April 2019. **Monica Nino** is the County Administrator and Clerk of the Board.

There are nineteen incorporated cities in Contra Costa County extending alphabetically from Antioch to Walnut Creek. In this issue of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown, the focus is on the cities we are labeling the second six cities or Group Two: Lafayette, Martinez, Moraga, Oakley, Orinda and Pinole. Group Two City Managers include: **Andrew Murray**, **David Biggs**, **Joshua McMurray**, **Cynthis Battenberg**, **Eric Figueroa** and **Niroop Kasthuri Srivatsa**.

			
			
			
			
			
			

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Two



Lafayette is named for the **Marquis de Lafayette**, a French military officer of the American Revolutionary War. **Elam Brown** arrived in the area from St. Joseph, Missouri

in 1846. The settlement he started continued to grow. Elam founded a mill in 1853. The post office was opened in 1854 but closed the next year. In March 1857 the Lafayette post office was established by the U. S. Postal Service. In 1864 the name was changed to Lafayette without the "capital F". Settled in 1848 and founded in 1857, Lafayette incorporated in July 1968. The 2020 population is put at 25,391. The City Manager in **Niroop K. Srivatsa**, and the Administrative Services Director is **Tracy Robinson**. **Joanne Robbins** in the City Clerk.



**Tracy Gonsalves, Taylor Gonsalves and Jason Gonsalves** of the **Joe A. Gonsalves & Son** firm in Sacramento celebrating Taylor's acceptance and start of law school. As they should, Tracy and Jason are most proud of their daughter Taylor.



**USI** has developed sophisticated employee benefit programs for public entities for more than 30-years. **USI** helps agencies design innovative benefit solutions and provide benefit education to bargaining units.

The power of **USI**, and its ability to bring best-in-class solutions and services to clients and communities, is achieved through the collective knowledge and experience of professionals coming together as ONE.



For more information contact  
**Gary Delaney** at (424) 390-0010  
or [gary.delaney@usi.com](mailto:gary.delaney@usi.com)  
**Pam Rodrigues**, GBDS Manager  
[Pamela.rodrigues@usi.com](mailto:Pamela.rodrigues@usi.com)  
**USI Insurance Services**

[www.usi.com](http://www.usi.com)

21250 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 380  
Torrance, CA 90503



Clerk. **Niroop Kasthuri Srivatsa** was appointed to the Lafayette City Manager post in August 2019, after working as the Interim City Manager starting in January 2019. She served as the Chief City Planner in Naperville, Illinois for 7-years prior to being hired in 1992 as the Lafayette Planning Director. She began her local government career as a Planning Intern for DuPage County, Illinois in September 1981. In 1995 Niroop became the Lafayette Community Development Director, and in 2001 she became the Planning & Building Services Director. She is an alternate Commissioner on the California Statewide Communities Development Authority (CSCDA). She has been active with League of California Cities committees, including serving as President of the Planning & Community Development Department (2016-2017). Niroop earned a BA in architecture from Anna University. She completed graduate courses at Washington University, St. Louis. Niroop has been a Dog socializer and trainer for the Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation for more than 17-years starting in June 2005.



## Trackdown Posse Roster

### Executive Level Posse Roster:

**Wade McKinney**, Retired Indian Wells City Manager  
**Mike Sedell**, Retired Simi Valley City Manager  
**Larry F. Pennell**, Retired City Manager, Wasco  
**Kevin O'Rourke**, KOLGS/**PARS**; Retired City Manager  
**Glenn Southard**, Retired CM, Indio & Claremont  
**Joe Tanner**, Retired Vallejo City Manager  
**Guy Huffaker**, Retired Porterville City Manager  
**Vern Lawson**, Retired, Lancaster  
**Gary K. Sloan**, Retired La Mirada City Manager  
**Robert T. "Bob" Dickey**, Retired South Gate DPW  
**Doug Dunlap**, Retired City Manager, Pomona  
**Rita Geldert**, Retired City Manager, Vista  
**Dale Geldert**, Retired CDF Director, State of CA  
**Anthony D. Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son**  
**Jason Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son**  
**Paul Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son**  
**Dr. Richard Rowe**, Retired City Manager  
**Lloyd de Llamas**, Retired City Man./**HdL** Cofounder  
**John Shirey**, Retired City Manager, Sacramento  
**Charles E. "Chuck" Bryant**, Past Hawaiian Gardens  
**John Russo**, Retired City Manager; SynchroniCITY  
**Joe Goeden**, Retired City Manager, W. Sacramento  
**Lee McDougal**, Retired City Manager, Montclair  
**Mark Scott**, Retired City Manager; Interim, Downey  
**Ron Kiedrowski**, Retired San Pablo/La Quinta  
**Doug La Belle**, Retired City Manager, Chino Hills  
**Don Penman**, Retired City Manager, Arcadia

### Posse Roster:

**Gregory Korduner**, Retired City Manager, Huntington Park  
**Sam Olivito**, Retired CCCA Executive Director  
**Roy Pederson**, ICMA Past-President  
**Rod B. Butler**, Jurupa Valley, City Manager  
**Ray Harris**, Ret. County Official, & Hawaiian Gardens CM  
**Rita Geldert**, Retired City Manager, Vista  
**Dale Geldert**, Retired CDF Director, State of CA  
**Dr. Carlos A. Urrutia**, Retired Rocklin City Manager  
**Ray Taylor**, Retired City Manager, Westlake Village  
**Denise Ovrom**, Former CM retired from **HdL Companies**  
**Jim Lewis**, City Manager, City of Pismo Beach  
**Cynthia Kurtz**, Interim City Manager, Pasadena  
**Ron Molendyk**, Retired City Manager Lake Elsinore  
**Kevin Duggan**, Retired City Manager, Mountain View



**City Manager Newsletter by  
Trackdown Management**  
 10 Claret  
 Rancho Mirage, California 92270

[www.trackdownmanagement.net](http://www.trackdownmanagement.net)

Cell Phone Nos. 310-418-1035, or 562-896-5424



MuniEnvironmental's experienced professionals provide **solid waste** and **recycling** expertise that helps cities and other government agencies:

- Review, analyze and optimize rates and expenses
- Audit contract service providers
- Comply with regulatory requirements
- Implement commercial, organics and construction & demolition recycling programs

Jeff Duhamel, CEO/Principal Consultant  
 562-432-3700 [jeff@munienvironmental.com](mailto:jeff@munienvironmental.com)



CALIFORNIA  
J · P · I · A

Providing innovative risk management solutions for its public agency partners for more than 40 years, the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (California JPIA) is one of the largest municipal self-insurance pools in the state, with more than 120 member cities and other governmental agencies. Members actively participate in shaping the organization to provide important coverage for their operations. The California JPIA provides innovative risk management solutions through a comprehensive portfolio of programs and services, including liability, workers' compensation, pollution, property, and earthquake coverage, as well as extensive risk management training and loss control services.



**Jon Shull**  
 Chief  
 Executive  
 Officer

Telephone No. 800-229-2343

[www.cjpi.org](http://www.cjpi.org)

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Two

**Steven Falk** served as the Lafayette City Manager from 1996 to 2019 after serving as Assistant City Manager starting in 1990. He started his public service career as an Administrative Analyst in Long Beach in 1986. Following his 2019 retirement from Lafayette, Steven served as Interim City Manager in Richmond (2019-2020), Interim CAO in Oakland (2020), and Interim City Manager in Hercules (2021). Steven earned a BA from Reed College and a Master's degree from Harvard University. In 2016 he received a 30-year ICMA Service Award.

**Robert F. D. Adams** served as Lafayette City Manager from March 1988 to 1996. Bob served as City Manager in Dinuba ((1981-1988) before joining the Lafayette city staff. He was the Manteca City Manager for 12-years after leave Lafayette. He began his public service career as an Intern in Visalia in May 1974. Before going to Dinuba, Bob worked as an Administrative Assistant in Visalia (1975-1977), and Santa Rosa (1977-1981). Since retiring, Bob was retained as Interim City Manager in Vallejo, Desert Hot Springs and he completed an Interim City Manager stint in the City of Tracy in 2021. Bob earned a BA from the University of California, Berkeley and an MPA from Brigham Young University.

**Tracy Robinson** has been with the City of Lafayette since May 2000 when she was hired as the Administrative Services Director. After working nearly 13-years in the banking industry, Tracy joined the Lafayette city staff in May 2000 as the Administrative Services Director. She earned a BA in molecular biology from the University of California, Berkeley and an MBA from the University of California, Davis.



<https://gonsalvi.com/>

Joe Gonsalves said: "Lobbyist are like parachutes; you don't need them often but when you do, they had better work."

**Anthony Gonsalves** and two of his sons, **Jason Gonsalves** and **Paul Gonsalves**, are expert Local government lobbyists. The firm represents 50-plus cities and is a key player in city legislation. The firm works closely with the League of California Cities.



**Anthony Gonsalves** is a long time Member of the CCMF Board of Trustees  
Telephone No. 916-441-0597  
FAX: 916-441-5061

**Joe A. Gonsalves & Son**  
925 L Street, Suite 250  
Sacramento, CA 95814



<https://www.avenuinsights.com/>

There's never a good time for operational downtime, or a good time to fall short on revenue. For governments to serve their communities, they need solutions they can depend on, run by partners who understand how the public sector works.

That's why thousands of State and local government leaders turn to **Avenu**. Although the name is new, the company roots serving government officials go back nearly 100-years.

**Avenu** has California Offices in El Dorado Hills, Fresno, Pleasanton, Sacramento and Westlake Village.



**Fran Mancia** may be reached at 559-288-7296. Fran is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).



Retired City Managers **Greg Korduner** and **Don Jeffers**. Greg works with the "Proof of Life" lunch venue. The next POL is planned for September 29, 2022, at the La Mirada North Woods Inn Restaurant. RSVP to [jack@trackdownmanagement.net](mailto:jack@trackdownmanagement.net)



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



Founded in 1986 by former City Manager **Larry J. Kosmont**, Chairman and CEO  
**2021 CCMF Corporate Partner of the Year.**

**Kosmont Companies** serves the needs of cities, counties, quasi-government agencies, private companies, developers and non-profit organizations including educational institutions across California. With unmatched expertise in public / private transactions, Kosmont Companies helps communities thrive by creating sustainable projects.

**Kosmont Companies** is on the cutting edge of evolving trends, challenges and solutions. A transactional firm that takes a hands-on approach to economic development focused on successful outcomes.

**Mailing Address:** 1601 N. Sepulveda Blvd., #382, Manhattan Beach, California 90266

Headquarters – El Segundo: 2301 Rosecrans Avenue  
Suite 4140, El Segundo, California 90245  
Telephone: 424-297-1070 | Fax: 424-286-4632

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Two



Martinez was founded on Rancho El Pinole and named for early California rancher **Ygnacio Martinez**. The community is known for its historic center and its waterfront. Town growth started in or about 1824. Martinez was the home of naturalist **John Muir** from 1880 until his death in 1914. Martinez incorporated in April 1876. The first oil refinery in the Martinez area was built in 1904. The 2020 population has been set at 38,290. The Martinez City Manager is **Eric Figueroa**, and **Richard G. Hernandez** is the elected City Clerk. **Kat Galileo** is the Acting Deputy City Clerk. **David Glasser** is the Finance Director, **Dave Scola** is the Public Works Director, and **Michael Chandler** is the Assistant City Manager. **Lauren Sugayan** is the Deputy City Manager. The Interim Chief of Police is **Dan Pratt**.



**NEWCOMB WILLIAMS**  
**FINANCIAL GROUP**

Securities offered through Stinson Securities, LLC

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

**A Woman-Owned Firm:** affiliate of an investment banking firm providing underwriting and financial advisory services to public agencies, and implementation of special tax methodologies. Experts in mobile home park financings, Certificates of Participation, and general obligation bond financings, tax allocation refunding, revenue and expense projections modeling.



**Beth Fawcett** and the firm's President **Pam Newcomb**. Pam began her investment banking career in 1984.

1254 Hoover Street  
Carlsbad, California 92008

**Call** the firm's professionals at: **858-232-8963**



## Contra Costa County Cities Group Two



**Eric Figueroa** has been the Martinez City Manager since April 2019. In 2001 he began his tenure as the Assistant to the City Manager in San Leandro. In January 2006 Eric joined the staff of the League of California Cities as a Public Affairs Manager. In August 2014, he became the Assistant City Manager in the City of San Ramon. After nearly 5-years he left there to be the City of Martinez City Manager. Eric earned a BA in government and economics from Claremont McKenna College and an MBA from the Hass School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley. Erik attributes his early interest in local government to his mother, who served on the Mountain View City Council. [Note: We are still thankful for Eric picking us up from the Oakland Airport when we flew in for a Board of Trustees' meeting of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).]



Former City Manager **Bob Dickey** and his wife Nadean at Hallgrímskirkja Cathedral Church on a walkabout in cool Reykjavik, Iceland



[www.ekapr.com](http://www.ekapr.com)

**Englander Knabe & Allen (EKA)** is one of the leading strategic communications and public affairs firms in Southern California. It is led by partners **Matt Knabe, Marcus Allen, Eric Rose, Jeff McConnell, Adam Englander** and **Alex Cherin**. We pride ourselves on providing a unique and strategic perspective on a wide variety of issues.

EKA provides services in the areas of government affairs, public relations, political campaigns and crisis management. In addition, EKA offers a wide array of professional litigation communication and expert witness services lead by our team of strategists, lawyers, journalists, and media relations specialists.

Together, EKA has more than 100-years of combined experience and a multitude of relationships within the City & County of Los Angeles, and the 88 cities within Los Angeles County.



To contact **EKA**  
please call (213) 741-1500  
or email [matt@ekapr.com](mailto:matt@ekapr.com)

**Matt Knabe**, Managing Partner



Huntington Beach Surf City USA Marathon and Half Marathon on Sunday, February 5, 2023. Register for this spectacular oceanfront run. Choose from 5K, Half and Marathon distances.

## *Wolf & Company Inc.*

<https://www.wolfhousing.com/>



Former City Administrator  
**Wesley Wolf**, Founder  
Cell No. 949-235-0525  
Telephone: 909-345-849  
FAX: 213-741-0519

**Wolf & Company Inc.**, founded in 1993, provides municipal consulting services, to State and local government, and not for profit corporations.

**Wolf & Company Inc.** has a specialized emphasis on: Mobile Home Park Acquisitions-Program Administration and Oversight Agent Services;  
Mortgage Program Administration Services;  
Mortgage Insurance Product Research/Development.



### **Wolf & Company Inc.**

560 East Commercial Street, Suite 16  
Pomona, California 91767  
Telephone: 909-345-849

## **Contra Costa County Cities Group Two**

**Brad Kilger** has more than 40-years of municipal government experience. He served as the City Manager in the City of Martinez between 2016 and 2019. Brad began his career in 1979 as a Deputy Planning Director in San Bernardino. After working in San Bernardino, Brad held positions in Apple Valley and Murrieta before becoming the Town Manager in Yucca Valley (1996-2002). After working as a department head in Modesto (2002-2006), he became the City Manager in Ceres (2006-2010); Benicia (2010-2016) and Martinez. Following his 2019 retirement he has served as Interim City Manager for a number of cities including South Lake Tahoe (2020), Calistoga (2021) and Los Altos (2021). He currently works as a consultant with Sloan Sakai Young & Wong, LLP, and as a Senior Advisor with ICMA. Brad earned a BS from the University of California, Riverside and an MBA from California State University, San Bernardino. Brad is a past President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities (2012-2013).



MMASC is one of the oldest and largest associations of its kind in the nation.

<https://www.mmasc.org/>



Municipal Management Association  
of Northern California

*Inspiring Local Government Leaders since 1950*

[www.mmanc.org](http://www.mmanc.org)

## *Raw Performance*

Special group sessions for sports teams, police and fire departments or other groups may be arranged.



**Raw Performance** Coach **William Ha**, CSCS, is a certified strength and conditioning coach.

Call: 714-335-4436

10579 Bloomfield Avenue Los Alamitos, CA 90720

[www.rawperformancesc.com](http://www.rawperformancesc.com)

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Two



Located on a 1835 Mexican land grant, Moraga is named for **Joaquin Moraga** grandson to a famous 18<sup>th</sup> century expeditionary of Alta California.

Moraga is the home to Saint Mary's College of California. The areas first post office opened in 1886 and was closed in 1887 only to reopen in 1915. Moraga incorporated in 1974. Its 2020 estimated population is 16,870. **Cynthia Battenberg** is the Town Manager, and **Marty McInturf** is the Town Clerk. **Breyana Brandt** is the Parks and Recreation Director, and Norman Veloso is the Administrative Services Director.



Moraga Town Manager **Cynthia Battenberg** worked for BFI (Allied Waste) as a Recycling Director in San Mateo County (1998-2001) before she joined the San Leandro city staff as Assistant

to the City Manager in 2002. She was selected to be the Deputy Finance Director in San Leandro in 2004. She then worked as Business Development Manager (2007-2013) and Community Development Director (2013-2018). Cynthia was selected Town Manager in Moraga in February 2018. She earned a BA from the University of California, Berkeley and an MBA from the UCLA Anderson School of Management.



"Women belong in all places where decisions are being made. It shouldn't be that women are the exception."  
--**Ruth Bader Ginsburg**



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

**Pat West** served nearly 40-years in city government. He has developed successful strategies and paths to issues facing local government. Pat can help you, whether you are a City Manager looking for ways to turn your city around, or a developer needing assistance navigating the complexities of the political and/or entitlement process.

Pat was honored with the League of California Cities 2019 Wes McClure Award for City Managers of Distinction.



Pat has had numerous successful experiences with public-private partnerships.

**Telephone No. 562-331-9812**



Former City Manager **John Russo** and **Melissa Russo** at the East Side Gallery of the Berlin Wall, Berlin, Germany



Grand Canyon Photographed by retired City Manager **Mark Ochendusko**





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



**HdL** was founded in 1983 by former City Manager **Robert "Bob" Hinderliter**. **HdL** expanded and improved with the help of a partnership with former City Manager **Lloyd de Llamas**, the firm's retired Executive Chairman. **Andy Nickerson** is the President/CEO. Other members of the **HdL** team include **Vikki Beatley**, **Rob Braulik**, **Paula Cone**, **Barry Foster**, **Robert Gray**, **Kimberly Konczak**, **David McPherson**, and **Bobby Young**.

**HdL Companies** provide revenue enhancement, technology and consulting services that enable cities, counties and special districts to better serve their constituents. **HdL's** team of professionals currently serve more than 500 agencies nationwide. **HdL Companies** offers support services and software that includes sales, use and transactions taxes, economic development, property taxes, business license fees, transient occupancy tax, short-term rental compliance, rent control, indirect cost recovery, utility users tax, and cannabis regulation and taxation.

120 South State College Boulevard, Suite 200  
Brea, California  
Telephone 888-861-0220



In-N-Out Burger to open in San Clemente

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Two



Oakley is the newest incorporated city in Contra Costa County. The name is of Old English origin and means "meadow of oak trees". City founder **Randolph Marsh** wanted to name the city Dewey for Admiral Dewey and his success at the Battle of Manila Bay during the Spanish-American War. **J. T. Whightman** preferred the name "Oakley" due to the area's terrain with its meadows and oak trees. The two friends battled it out over a cribbage board. Oakley's first post office was established in 1898. The city incorporated in July 1999. The 2020 estimated population is 43,357. The Oakley City Manager is **Joshua McMurray** and **Diana Kerr** is the City Clerk.



Oakley City Manager **Joshua McMurray** began his public service career in 2004 as a Planner for the City of San Diego. He became an Associate Planner in Santee in January 2006. Josh joined the Oakley city staff in September 2008 as a Senior Planner and began working his way up in the organization. He served as Housing and Economic Development Analyst and Planning Manager; and starting in January 2021 he became the Community and Economic Development Director. After serving as Interim City Manager (May 2021-November 2021) he began his tenure as the Oakley City Manager in November 2021. Josh served as a Trustee on the Board of Trustees of the Byron Union School District in Contra Costa County (2018-2020). He earned a BA and MPA from San Diego State University. In his off-time, Josh enjoys cooking and camping with his family along the coast and at Lake Tahoe.

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Two



The Orinda area was originally rural with ranching and summer cabins. The Moraga Adobe was built in 1841 and is the oldest building in the East Bay. In the late 19th century, the area was named by **Alice Marsh Cameron**, most likely in honor of the poet **Katherine Phillips**, who was also known as the "Matchless Orinda". In the 1880s **Theodore Wagner**, the United States Surveyor General for California, built an estate he named Orinda Park. An Orinda Park post office opened in 1888. The post office's name was changed to Orinda in 1895. The City of Orinda was incorporated in July 1985. The 2020 population is placed at 19,514. **David Biggs** is the City Manager and **Sheri Smith** is the City Clerk. **Douglas Alessio** is the Orinda Administrative Services Director and **Todd Trimble** is the Director of Parks & Recreation. **Drummond Buckley** is the Planning Director and Scott Christie is the Director of Public Works and Engineering. **Ryan Sullivan** is the Orinda Chief of Police.



Two of the Simpson girls, Casey & Samantha, in the late 1980s trying to hang on as their dad tried to dump them in Clear Lake, California.



RICHARDS WATSON GERSHON

<http://rwglaw.com/>

**RWG** is committed to excellence in the legal profession. The lawyers of choice for clients seeking reliable, efficient, and effective legal counsel. **RWG** delivers practical advice and solutions tailored to the unique needs of public entities.



Working seamlessly across offices in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Orange County, Temecula and the Central Coast. The **RWG** team of experts provides the full scope of public law services. Practical advice and well-analyzed solutions come from listening carefully and asking the right questions.

**Roxanne Diaz** served on the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).

Call **RWG** at No. 213-626-8484



<https://www.olsonhomes.com/>

**The Olson Company** is a premier California builder of affordable new home communities.

Since 1988, The Olson Company mission has been to work hand-in-hand with cities to solve the critical shortage of urban housing by promoting and investing in responsible development that improves quality of life for everyone. The company has successfully partnered with more than 100 cities since 1988.

**Todd Olson**

President of Community Development

**Telephone: 562-370-2209**

**The Olson Company**

562-370-2259

562-430-4413 Fax

3010 Old Ranch Parkway, Suite 100  
Seal Beach, CA 90740-2751



[www.brandywinehomes.com](http://www.brandywinehomes.com)



Former Artesia City Manager  
**Jim L. Barisic**  
Founded **Brandywine** in 1994.

Jim also worked for the cities of  
Paramount and Cerritos.

Jim and two of his sons **Brett Whitehead**, and  
**David Barisic** direct **Brandywine Homes**.

Currently under construction and soon to open for  
sales or leasing in the Cities of Whittier, Carson,  
La Verne, Glendora, Riverside, and Murietta with  
sales in El Monte, Long Beach, Huntington Beach,  
Artesia and Santa Ana

**Brandywine Homes** focuses on converting  
underutilized space into needed housing.

Call **Brandywine** at 949-296-2400  
**Brandywine Homes Corporate Office**  
16580 Aston Street, Irvine, California



<https://www.icfaauthority.org/>



**Debbie Smith**, Executive Director

The **Independent Cities Finance Authority** is an unaffiliated Joint Powers Authority (JPA) with the goal of helping communities fund critical projects. ICFA has assisted funding more than \$500 million in critical community projects, from hospitals to charter schools, municipal utilities and housing.

**Independent Cities Finance Authority**

Post Office Box No. 6740  
Lancaster, California 93539-6740  
Telephone No. 877-906-0941  
[info@ICFAAuthority.org](mailto:info@ICFAAuthority.org)

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Two



**David Biggs** has earned his stripes as a highly professional city manager. David joined the Orinda city staff as City Manager in April 2021 after working nearly 7-years as the City Manager in the City of Hercules (2014-2021). David began his public service career

in 1980 as an Administrative Intern in the City of Santa Ana. Santa Ana hired him following the conclusion of his internship as an Assistant Planner (1981) and he was promoted to Economic Development Specialist in 1982. David worked for the City of Long Beach as a Development Project Manager (1984-1988) before working in Australia for a couple of years. In 1990 David joined the Morgan Hill staff as Economic Development Director. In 1992 he became the Morgan Hill City Manager (1992-1995). From 1995 to 2005 David worked for the City of Huntington Beach as the Director of Economic Development, and in 2005 he became the Assistant City Manager in Redondo Beach. He served as the Tustin City Manager starting in 2010, and then served as the Interim Assistant City Administrator in Montebello in 2011. David worked as the City Manager in the City of Carson between 2011 and 2013 before he served as a Senior Management Analyst in Manhattan Beach. David earned a BA from California State University, Fullerton and an MBA from the University of California, Irvine. David is an ICMA Credentialed Manager. In 2020 David received a rare 40-year ICMA Service Award.



"Never allow the circumstances of your life to become an excuse." – **Jim Abbott**



## Contra Costa County Cities Group Two



**Ginger Staton** is the Human Resources Manager for the City of Orinda. Ginger joined the Orinda city staff in May 2018. She served as the Human Resources Officer II for the Zone 7 Water Agency in Livermore. She has worked there for nearly 18-years. From 2002 to 2005, Ginger worked in human resources for Waste Management. She also worked 13-years for Alameda County. She earned a BS from California State University, East Bay.

**Ryan Sullivan** was selected by City Manager **David Biggs** to serve as the Chief of Police in Orinda effective September 20, 2021. He took over from Chief **David Cook**, who retired. Ryan worked for the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department starting in 2005. He was a Sergeant in Internal Affairs and later a Lieutenant in the same command. He is a U. S. Marine Corps veteran.



Former City Manager **Bob Dickey** at Nuuk City Hall. Nuuk is the Capitol city of Gronland (Greenland). 50 degrees with windchill taking it to 44.



Former Hawaiian Gardens City Manager **Ernesto Marquez** with his nephew and fishing buddy Diego ready for a trip on the Tomahawk.



Municipal Law Services  
**Colantuono  
Highsmith Whatley**  
[www.chwlaw.us](http://www.chwlaw.us)

**Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley** is a municipal law firm with offices in Pasadena, Grass Valley, Solana Beach, and Sonoma that represents public and private clients throughout California in municipal law, including public revenues, land use, elections, labor and employment, post-redevelopment, housing, public works contracting, utility services, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act regarding Local Agency Formation Commissions, sex offender and marijuana regulation and related public safety topics, and associated litigation. The core commitment is to provide advice to clients and find helpful, understandable, and fairly priced service.



**Michael Colantuono** is the  
Managing Partner

Call 530-432-7357 or 213-542-5700; 916-400-0370;  
858-682-3665; 707-986-8091



<https://www.climatec.com/>

Founded in 1975, **Climatec** has grown from humble beginnings into one of the largest providers of building technology and energy efficiency solutions in the nation – and **Climatec** has been a proud member of the Robert Bosch family since 2015.

Led by a highly credentialed team with more than 300 years of combined industry experience, **Climatec** helps public agencies find general fund relief through renewed infrastructure and funding solutions. The firm has delivered thousands of successful energy efficiency programs to public sector clients, including education, local, county, state and federal governments.



Regional Managers  
**Ashley Cascio** and  
**Tyler Girtman**

Southern California Telephone: **949-474-0955**  
Bay Area Telephone: **925-558-2729**



University of California, Irvine Community Relations Manager **Amanda Walsh** at the OC Forum & Los Angeles Angels gathering in Anaheim. Amanda began her career in local government. Her mother **Lisa Hughes** is retired from the Anaheim City Manager's Office. Amanda is seen here with former Angels' player **Adam Kennedy**, a member of the 2002 World Series Champion Team.

### Contra Costa County Cities Group Two

Pinole began as a community on a land grant property in 1823. The Rancho El Pinole is where **Ygnacio Martinez**, commandant of the Presidio of San Francisco, built a home in the Pinole Valley. The settlement growth was spurred on by the coming of the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1878. Following WW II Pinole and the surrounding area grew rapidly. Today, the town is known locally for its "big box" shopping area along Fitzgerald Drive, and the Pinole Vista Shopping Center. Pinole incorporated in June 1903. Its 2019 estimated population is 19,250. **Andrew Murray** is the City Manager. Former Rio Vista City Manager **Hector De La Rosa** served as the Pinole Assistant City Manager from September 2012 until March 2022 when he retired. **Chris Wynkoop** is the Pinole Fire Chief. **Heather Bell** is the City Clerk, and **Markisha Guillory** is the Finance Director.



**Our Team.  
Your Communications.**

(626) 536-2173

[TriepiSmith.com](https://www.triepi-smith.com)

<https://www.triepi-smith.com/>

"The **Triepi Smith** team stands ready to help with outreach campaigns, video production, content writing, messaging, graphic work, technology infrastructure and websites."

Pinole City Manager **Andrew Murray** was a Project Manager and Senior Research Associate in March 1999 for the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. In February 2001 he became Principal Economist for the Office of the President of the University of California. In October 2004 Andrew started his tenure as Chief Legislative Analyst for the Office of the Legislative Analyst for the City and County of San Francisco. In November 2007 Andrew took the position of City Performance Deputy Director. He left San Francisco in June 2012 to become the Assistant to the City Administrator in the City of Oakland. In September 2013 Andrew started as the Assistant City Manager in Pleasant Hill. After working in that position for 6 and a half years, he was appointed City Manager in Pinole in January 2020. Andrew earned a BS, MS and MBA from the University of California, Davis.



[www.ICFAuthority.org](http://www.ICFAuthority.org)

Independent Cities Finance Authority provides local government, nonprofits and other agencies the clout they need to finance important projects that help address California's housing crisis.

Since its inception in 1988, ICFA has helped fund more than \$500 million in critical community projects. Member cities pay no enrollment fees to join or ongoing dues to participate. All underwriting and operational costs are borne by the beneficiaries of the funds.

The ICFA offers member cities many benefits. Through bond funding, the Authority helps create homebuyer assistance programs, [generates funds for capital improvements](#) and aids communities in economic development. It is important to learn all about **The Authority** and the benefits it offers.

**Independent Cities Financing Authority is an unaffiliated joint powers authority with the ability to help cities achieve their goals.**

With bonding arranged through The Authority, local governments can help finance the purchase of single-family and multi-family residential properties, including manufactured home communities, to provide new, more affordable housing alternatives.

Ownership and operation of these alternative housing solutions can be vested in local nonprofit.

The Authority also helps fund a variety of capital improvements for municipalities, schools, special districts, and Mello-Roos facilities, as well as projects impacting the economic development of a community.

**Manufactured Home Communities:** In today's troubled housing market, the need for more affordable housing solutions is clear. Learn how The Authority has helped member cities and local non-profit organizations acquire and manage manufactured home communities. [More...](#)

**Bond Funding Programs:** The Authority is empowered to purchase multi-family residential projects, including manufactured home communities. Find out how your community can address the need for affordable local housing through ICFA's innovative funding programs.

**Capital Improvement Programs:** Now cities can fund capital projects and equipment acquisition at a lower cost with help from The Authority. Working in cooperation with major banks, ICFA can provide funding at favorable rates. Find out more here.

The Authority can help communities create the infrastructure and acquire the equipment needed to create a better quality of life for their citizens.

Working in partnership with major financial institutions The Authority can provide bond funding and equipment leasing for major projects for municipalities, schools, special districts and local agencies, including Mello-Roos.

For information on how The Authority can tailor a financing package to meet your specific needs, contact us today!

For more information, please contact:

**Independent Cities Finance Authority**  
**Ms. Debbie Smith**

Post Office Box No. 1750  
Palmdale, California 93590  
(877) 906-0941

[info@ICFAuthority.org](mailto:info@ICFAuthority.org)



In partnership with experienced energy solutions providers, ICFA created a Municipal Street Lighting Program to help cities economize by taking control of their lighting utilities.





A sea gull watches a busy post pandemic  
Huntington Beach summer 2022



**Picking Up the Pieces:** With City Manager **Bob Nisbet** leaving the City of Half Moon Bay for the City of Goleta in Santa Barbara County after a 4-year tenure, Assistant City Manager **Matthew Chidester** is the selection to replace him. Matt earned an ABA from the College of

San Mateo, a BSBA from Hawaii Pacific University and an MS from Western Governors University. Before coming to Half Moon Bay Matt worked for the County of San Mateo starting in October 2003.

**Jonathan Borrego** is the next City Manager for the City of Oceanside. He has served as the Interim City Manager since former City Manager **Deanna Lorson** retired. Jon joined the Oceanside city staff in 2017 as the Development Services Director. He was promoted to Assistant City Manager in 2019. Jon worked for the City of Anaheim for nearly 30-years prior to coming to Oceanside. Most recently he worked as the Development Services Manager. He earned a BA and an MPA from California State University, Long Beach. San Clemente City Manager **Erik Sund** is the new City Manager in the City of Big Bear Lake. Erik has been with San Clemente for nearly nine-years, since 2013 when he was hired as Assistant City Manager to City Manager **James Makshanoff**. James left to be the Pomona City Manager in January 2020. After **Bob Dunek** served as Acting City Manager, Erik was appointed City Manager in June 2020. Prior to San Clemente, Erik worked for the City of Long Beach (2007-2013) and the City of Downey (2002-2007). He worked for the

PUBLIC  
AGENCY  
RETIREMENT  
SERVICES

**PARS**

TRUSTED SOLUTIONS. LASTING RESULTS.

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

For more than 35 years, **PARS** has provided retirement plan and trust solutions designed exclusively for public agencies. With programs like the **Pension Rate Stabilization Program (PRSP)** and the **PARS OPEB Trust**, **PARS** has helped over 400 clients address unfunded obligations and lower liabilities. **PARS** is the pioneer of the PRSP, a first-of-its-kind program designed to provide local control over assets and potential for greater return than the general fund. With innovative retirement solutions tailored to the unique needs of each agency, **PARS** is the largest private provider of multiple-employer Section 115 trusts in California. Since 1984 the **PARS** team has **provided retirement services designed** specifically for each public agency's unique needs aiming to provide superior employee benefits while improving management effectiveness, reducing costs, and simplifying administration.

**PARS** can craft customized solutions; provide agencies guiding through the process to achieve bottom-line results; and redefine goals and objectives.

**Mitch Barker, Executive Vice President**

800) 540-6369 ext. 116 or [mbarker@pars.org](mailto:mbarker@pars.org)

**Kevin O'Rourke, Senior Consultant** (707) 249-5356

Or [kevin@kolgs.com](mailto:kevin@kolgs.com)

City of Irvine in 2000-2002. Erik earned a BA from the University of California, Irvine. **Marcus Fuller** is the City Manager in the City of Rialto. Marcus worked as the Palm Springs Assistant City Manager from December 2014 until June 2021. That year, he was appointed to the Rialto City Manager post in June. Fire Chief **Sean Grayson** served as the Acting City Manager following City Manager **Rod Foster's** retirement. Marcus served as the Rialto Public Works Director (2012-2014) prior to his Palm Springs tenure. Marcus earned a BS in civil engineering from Northern Arizona University and an MPA from California State University, San Bernardino.



**More Pieces Picked Up:** **Jesse Duff** will serve as the Interim City Manager in the City of La Verne following the retirement of City Manager **Bob Russi**, who has been city manager since 2010. Jesse has more than 40-years of local government experience. He recently served as the Executive

Director of the Tri-City Mental Health Agency that serves Claremont, Pomona and La Verne. He had a long tenure in the City of Duarte, including serving as the Duarte City Manager. He also was the Interim City Manager in Claremont. **Jaime M. Fontes** was appointed City Manager in Seaside in June 2022. Prior to Seaside, Jaime was the City Manager for East Palo Alto. Jaime also served as the Greenfield City Manager in 2018. Former Seaside City Manager **Craig Malin** left for employment in Wisconsin. Seaside retained Peckham & McKenney for executive recruitment services. Jaime earned a BA from Arizona State University and a Juris Doctorate from the Western State University College of Law in Irvine. Bishop City Administrator **Ron Rhillips** was put on administrative leave and released from his position in the City of Bishop in January 2022. Public Works Director **Deston Dishion** was appointed to serve as the Acting City Administrator. City Attorney **Dean Pucci** confirmed that Ron was placed on paid administrative leave. Dean is the son of former Bishop City Administrator and Inyo County Supervisor **Rick Pucci**. Deston has been serving as City Administrative since April 2022. Those serving as the League of California Cities City Manager Department Officers for 2021-2022 include President **John Gillison**, Rancho Cucamonga City Manager. President-elect is Martinez City Manager **Eric Figureroa** and the Second Vice President is **Justin Hess**, Burbank City Manager. The Department Director is Pismo Beach City Manager **Jim Lewis**, a past President, and the Immediate Past President is Yountville City Manager **Steven Rogers**. At-Large Representatives include **Jennifer Cervantez**, Rancho Santa Margarita City Manager; **Kim Summer Murrieta** City Manager; **Rene Mendez**, Gonzales City Manager and **Kelly McAdoo**, City Manager in Hayward. **Robert Hinderliter** is a founder of **HdL Companies**. He began his public service as an Assistant Planner in the City of Fullerton (February 1965-June 1967). In July 1967 Bob began his City of Commerce tenure as the Assistant to the City Administrator. He was appointed City Administrator in August 1973 and worked in that position until 1983. Bob earned an AA from Fullerton Junior College, a BA and MPA from the University of California.

## Notes and Letters from Readers:

Our niece Lisa with **Vin Scully**. Lisa is a Los Angeles County Assistant District Attorney. Downey High School Graduate 1988...

Karen just reminded me that when Vin was televising a playoff game in St. Louis...our plane had a stopover in St. Louis, and we could see Vin sitting up front...

– **Greg Korduner**



Thanks for sharing our photo. The letter **Wade McKinney** wrote was touching. It spoke the truth my friend you and **Frank Tripepi** touched and influenced many of us who had the privilege of managing in city government.

– **Michael Sakamoto**

Loved the photo of **Bob Dickey** in Tahiti. Looks like he could still play racquetball as well as he did when in Rosemead way back when. I got to know him a bit while working on an RDA bond issue. Say hi for me.

– **Alan Miller Santiago**, Chile

P.S. Thanks for publishing my note about **George Aiassa**.



The final stop on the Lewis Family road trip up the Atlantic coast was New York City. Here is Pismo Beach City Manager **Jim Lewis** and his family at the top of the Empire State Building in New York...Jim says it was a family favorite. They went from Florida up the Atlantic coast stopping at many interesting and educational locations along the way.





### Still More Pieces Picked Up: Morris

**B. Vance** started his public service career as an Administrative Assistant for the City of Los Angeles in February 1965. He had earned a BS from Brigham Young

University and he was ready to start his career. In June 1966 Morris joined the city staff in Vernon, and he worked there until June 1969 when he was hired to serve as the Assistant City Administrator for the City of Carson. In August 1975, Morris became the City Administrator for Lomita. He joined the City of Vista staff as City Manager in January 1981. Morris held that position for 17-years and then retired. He was then elected Mayor of Vista in 2002 and served in that post until December 2010. In addition to his BS, Morris earned an MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**). He received a 30-year ICMA Service Award in 1994. After **Franklin D. Aleshire** served as the Assistant City Manager in Ontario (1951-1956), he served as City Manager in La Puente (1956-1958); Pico Rivera (1958-1964); Palm Springs (1964-1973); San Diego County CAO (1973-1975); Scottsdale, Arizona (1975-1979) and Carlsbad (1980-1987). After retiring from Carlsbad, he served as Interim City Manager in Temecula. Frank earned a BA from Stanford University and an MA from Occidental College. He was also a Coro Foundation member. Frank's son **David Aleshire** is a longtime City Attorney. In July 1998 Fortuna City Manager **Dale W. Neiman** was paid a salary of \$68,000 a year (and he had to contribute a portion of that toward his retirement plan). Dale also served some time as the City Manager in Clearlake leaving that position in 2010. He earned a BS from Metro State College, Colorado. Dale is reported to currently live in Miranda, California which was previously known as Jacobsen's. It is an unincorporated area in Humboldt County in the heart of redwood country. The Miranda post office opened in 1905. The town is a short walk from the Eel River among a giant redwood tree forest. Retired Antioch City Manager **Ron Bernal** is offering management consultant service from *Ron Bernal Consulting* in Antioch. Ron worked in Antioch for nearly 24-years, the last nearly 5-years as City Manager. Ron earned a BS in civil engineering from the University of California, Davis. Ron is a Registered Civil Engineer in California.

Rest in Peace **Vince Scully (1927-2022)**. Vince broadcast Dodge baseball for 67-years and he is and was without peer. Vin passed away at the age of 94 and is missed by fans worldwide. "He was the soundtrack of a city, the muse of millions, the voice of home. Vin Scully is gone, but he will never be silenced." ---L.A. Times Writer **Bill Plaschke**



**SHORTS: \*Robert W. Semple** served as the City Manager in Solana Beach (1994-2001) after he had served as the Placerville City Administrator (1988-1994), and Assistant City Manager **Luci Romero Serlet** was Solano Beach Acting City Manager following Robert's dismissal. **\*Daryl Parrish**, retired

Covina City Manager and former City Manager in Colton, is a Budget Committee Member for the Bend Park & Recreation District (a volunteer post) in Bend, Oregon. **\*Recently retired Santa Cruz City Manager Martin Bernal** was one of four authors of an August PM Magazine piece on understanding the importance of the CAO relationship with elected officials before, during and after an election. **\*Gary M. Luebbers**, former officer with the U. S. Air Force and former Redlands and Sunnyvale City Manager, is now a "City Manager at Large" out of Ivins, Utah. **\*Assistant City Manager Teresa Gallavan** will serve as Interim City Manager when Palm Springs City Manager **Justin Clifton** vacates to position in September. **\*Former Emeryville City Manager and Oakland official Sabrina Landreth** is the General Manager of the East Bay Regional Park District. **\*Paul D. Cayler** served as City Manager of Willits (2008-2013) and City Manager of Cloverdale (2013-2018) and received a 25-year ICMA Service Award in 2018. **\*Daniel "Dan" Buffalo** is the Finance Director for the City of Ukiah, and previously served as the Finance Director for the City of Lakeport. **\*San Diego State University alumnus James M. Andersen** retired as the CAO of Mendocino County in 2012. **\*Former NASCAR race driver and current television commentator Jeff Burton** is nicknamed: "The Mayor." **\*Seaside Human Resource Director Roberta Greathouse** earned an AA from the Monterey Peninsula College and a BA from Colorado State University. **\*California Attorney General Rob Bonta** is the scheduled luncheon speaker for the September 7 Los Angeles County Division of the League of California Cities. **\*Wade McKinney** is recovering at home from successful surgery. **\*R.I.P. Ray Harris and Frank G. Tripepi.**



Formerly with the California Contract Cities Association (CCCA), **Sharon Olivito** with the late former City Manager and Willdan executive **Frank G. Tripepi**.