



Here is an archive picture of the late retired City Manager and Willdan executive **Frank G. Tripepi**, and retired City Managers **Gregory Korduner** and **Raul Romero**. Frank retired from Rosemead, Greg from Huntington Park and Raul from the City of Commerce. Raul served as Assistant City Manager in Hawaiian Gardens and as City Manager in Coachella, South El Monte and Commerce. Since retirement he has served as a successful consultant. Greg was City Manager in South El Monte, El Monte and Huntington Park. Raul has served as Interim City Manager in Stanton, La Puente and Huntington Park.

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Three



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 Third six cities or Group Three: Pittsburg, Pleasant Hill, Richmond, San Pablo, San Ramon and Walnut Creek. Group Three City Managers include: **Garrett Evans**, **June Catalano**, **Shasa Curl**, **Matt Rodriguez**, **Joe Gorton** and **Dan Buckshi**.

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Three



**PITTSBURG  
CALIFORNIA**

Pittsburg is located on the southern shore of the Suisun Bay in the East Bay region of the San Francisco Bay Area. Colonel **Jonathan D. Stevenson** laid out the town in 1849 and called it New York of the Pacific. The venture failed by 1850. With the discovery of coal in the nearby town of Nortonville, the place became a port of coaling, and adopted the name Black Diamond for the coal mining firm. The town name was changed to Pittsburg in 1909 because the city shared a common steel and mining industrial heritage. The city incorporated in June 1903 as Nortonville and the name change came in 1909. The Pittsburg City Manager is **Garrett Evans** and the Deputy City Manager is **Maria Aliotti**. **Alice E. Evenson** is the City Clerk.



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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.

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**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**.

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Seal Beach where the City Manager is **Jill R. Ingram**.

Jill was appointed to the City Manager position starting on July 1, 2011. She served as Assistant City Manager and Assistant to the City Manager from October 2008 to July 2011. She is an Adjunct Professor at CSULB.

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**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)



Congratulations to retired City Manager and CCMF Board President **Wade McKinney** on his recent successful cancer surgery. Best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery.

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Three

Pittsburg City Manager **Garrett Evans**, previously served as Assistant City Manager for nearly 8-years. When appointed City Manager Garrett had worked for the city for more than 22-years. He began is Pittsburg tenure as an Administrative Analyst in 1997. He earned a BA in psychology from the University of Arizona and an MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**).

**Maria Aliotti** joined the Pittsburg city staff in April 2002 as an Administrative Analyst. In December 2005 she became a Project Manager and Redevelopment Project Manager. After serving from April 2010 to 2017 as a Development Manager, Maria was promoted to Director of Community Services in July 2017. The city added Deputy City Manager to her duties in July 2021. Maria earned a BA in management from Saint Mary's College of California.



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**Kevin O'Rourke**, KOLGS/**PARS**; Retired City Manager  
**Glenn Southard**, Retired CM, Indio & Claremont  
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**Gary K. Sloan**, Retired La Mirada City Manager  
**Robert T. "Bob" Dickey**, Retired South Gate DPW  
**Doug Dunlap**, Retired City Manager, Pomona  
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**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  
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**Jim Lewis**, City Manager, City of Pismo Beach  
**Cynthia Kurtz**, Interim City Manager, Pasadena  
**Ron Molendyk**, Retired City Manager Lake Elsinore  
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**Fran Mancía** may be reached at 559-288-7296. Fran is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Three



CITY OF PLEASANT HILL

Pleasant Hill is a community that began growth in the 1920s following prohibition when many local vineyards were removed and housing was developed on the property. Southern Pacific rail service started in 1891 with two stops in the area that became Pleasant Hill. The area did not have a post office until 1948 following World War II. The city incorporated in 1961. It has a 2020 population of 34,613. **June Catalano** is the City Manager and **Danielle Habr** is the City Clerk. **Ericka Mitchell** is the Human Resources & Risk Manager. **Erick Cheung** is the Finance Manager, and the Community Development Director is **Ethan Bindernagel**. **Bryan Hill** is the Pleasant Hill Chief of Police.



Pleasant Hill City Manager **June W. Catalano** began her public service career in 1981 working in community development for the City of Laguna Beach. In 1987 she went to work as the Executive Director of Planning and Building in the City of Santa

Ana. In 1991, June took the Development Services Director post in San Leandro. She was hired as the Assistant City Manager in Milpitas in 1998, and she became the Martinez City Manager position in 2001. In September 2006 June began her tenure as the Pleasant Hill City Manager. She is a former CCMF Board Member and President of the California Redevelopment Association. June earned a BA from the University of Tulsa and a Master's from Syracuse University. In 2018 June received a 35-year ICMA Service Award.



Trackdown Management  
meal headquarters  
on visits to  
Pleasant Hill.



Former City Manager **Bill Crowe** and **John Bolin** of Structured Finance of America at a 'Proof of Life' lunch in Southern California at the La Mirada North Woods Inn Restaurant. The next "Proof of Life" lunch will be Thursday, September 29, 2022.



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

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## Contra Costa County Cities Group Three

Richmond, California was named by **Edmund Randolph**, a State Legislator who hailed from Richmond, Virginia. He urged the official surveying party to place the named "Point Richmond" and "Richmond" on their 1854 geodetic coastal map. The first post office opened in 1900 and the City of Richmond incorporated in 1905. The 2019 estimated population is 110,567. **Shasa Curl** is the City Manager and **Pamela Christian** is the City Clerk. **Lina Velasco** is the Director of Community Development, and **LaShonda White** in the Interim Library and Community Services Director. **Sharrone Taylor** is the Interim Human Resources Director in Richmond, and **Angela Walton** is the Administrative Services Project Manager.



**Shasa Curl** was hired to be the Richmond City Manager in April 2022 following the dismissal of City Manager **Laura Snideman**. Shasa served as the Interim City Manager starting in November 2021. Since 2011, Shasa has worked in various roles in the City Manager's Office. In 2003 she started working with the Richmond Community Redevelopment Agency. Between 2009 and 2010 she was the Director of Green For All in California. Shasa earned a Master's degree in urban planning from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**).



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## Contra Costa County Cities Group Three

Richmond's **Lina Velasco** began her public service career in November 2002 with the City of Vacaville. There she worked as an Associate Planner and Assistant Planner. Lina joined the Richmond city staff in June 2005 as a Senior Planner. In January 2018 Lina was promoted to Planning Manager and in January 2019 she became the Director of Planning and Building Services. Since January 2020 she has been the Community Development Director. Lina earned a BA from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and she continued her studies in regional planning at Cornell University.

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The CJPIA staff team attending the Annual League of California Cities Conference & Expo



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"The way a team plays as a whole determines its success. You may have the greatest bunch of individual stars in the world, but if they don't play together, the club won't be worth a dime."

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**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.

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Three



San Pablo became part of a large land grant to a former soldier station at the San Francisco in 1823. The grant was given the name "Rancho San Pablo". The first post office was opened in 1854. The city was incorporated in April 1948. The 2019 estimated population is 30,990. **Matt Rodriguez** is the City Manager, and the Assistant City Manager is **Charles Ching**. **Alicia Platt** is the Human Resources Manager. **Dorothy Gantt** is the elected City Clerk, appointed in January 2021.



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## Contra Costa County Cities Group Three



**Matt Rodriguez** was appointed City Manager in the City of San Pablo in May 2010. Matt began his career as an Administrative Intern in Los Angeles, and he held positions with Orange County between 1992 and 1996. In 1996 Matt worked as the Assistant Public Works Director in the City of Imperial Beach. He became the Assistant to the City Manager in 1998 and he was appointed Assistant City Manager in 2000. He served as Interim City Manager for about a year (2002-2003) before taking the Assistant City Manager position in the City of Solana Beach in July 2003. Matt moved to the City of Pittsburg as Deputy City Manager in March 2005, and he joined the San Pablo executive team as City Manager and the Executive Director of the San Pablo Economic Development Corporation in May 2010. Matt earned a BS, MPA and Master's in urban and regional planning from the University of Southern California (**USC**). He also completed seminars at Stanford University and Harvard University. Rodriguez. Matt is an ICMA Credentialed Manager. In 2021 he received a 30-years ICMA Service Award.

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Here are members of the **PARS** Team who attended the 2022 Annual League of California Cities Conference & Expo in Long Beach in September 2022. From left to right are: **Dennis Yu**, CEBS Executive Vice President; **Ryan Nicasio**, Senior Vice President; **Keri Forsberg**; **Anthony Armas**; **Rachael Sanders**, CEBS Senior Manager, Consulting; **Kevin O'Rourke**, Senior Municipal Consultant, a former President of the League's City Managers' Department; **Mitch Barker**, Executive Vice President; and **Brett Griffin**.



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## Contra Costa County Cities Group Three

**Charles R. Ching** is the Assistant City Manager with the City of San Pablo. After working as a Senior Economic Development Project Manager for the City of Fairfield (May 2007-June 2014), he joined the San Pablo city staff as Assistant to the City Manager. After working as the Community and Economic Development Director (March 2018-December 2020) he was appointed Assistant City Manager; first in an interim capacity and then took the position in March 2021. Charles earned a BA in management of financial institutions and a BA in economics from De La Salle University, and an MBA from St. Mary's College of California.



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Former Artesia City Manager  
**Jim L. Barisic**  
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Jim also worked for the cities of Paramount and Cerritos.

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## Contra Costa County Cities Group Three

San Ramon grew out of a land grant in 1834. The tracks of the San Ramon Branch Line of the Southern Pacific Railroad were completed in 1891. In 1909 the line was extended to Radum near Pleasanton. Passenger service was discontinued in 1934. The city incorporated in 1983. The 2020 population of San Ramon is 84,605. **Joe Gorton** is the City Manager, and **Christina Franco** is the City Clerk. **Steven Spedowski** is the Deputy City Manager, and **Candace Daniels** is the Finance Manager for the city. **Kathi Heimann** is the Parks and Community Services Director. The Public Works Director is **Maria Fierner, P.E.** and the Chief of Police is **Denton Carlson**.

After working with the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department between 1988 and 2006, City Manager **Joe Gorton** joined the San Ramon city staff as a Captain in the Police Department in November 2006. Joe was elevated to Chief of Police in November 2013. He was selected to serve as the San Ramon City Manager in January 2017. Joe completed Command College with the Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training. He earned a BA in public administration and an MS in organizational development from the University of San Francisco. He also earned an AA from Butte College.

**Kathi Heimann** worked as a Program Manager for the City of San Leandro between June 1996 and June 2000. After joining the San Ramon staff as a Program Manager, Kathi was promoted to Division Manager in February 2016. She became the San Ramon Director of Parks & Community Services, first as "interim," in February 2018. Kathi earned a BA in theater from California State University, Fullerton.



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—Don Zimmer



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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  
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**Michael Colantuono** is the  
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Retired City Manager **Jim Marshall** submitted this picture. He says, "...here's one of my son Andrew and me on our annual Alaska king salmon/halibut trip. Got to keep active!! Cheers!" Jim served as the City Manager in Ceres (1978-1992) and he retired as City Manager from the City of Merced (1992-2008) in 2008. In 2007 he received a 35-year ICMA Service Award.



**Hdl Companies'** President **Andy Nickerson** sent us this picture of **Lloyd de Llamas** and **Denise Ovrom** taken on a rafting trip in Idaho. These two former city managers and **Hdl Companies** executives are keeping active in retirement. Both Lloyd and Denise have been "Proof of Life" lunch program participants.

## Contra Costa County Cities Group Three

After initial settlement and modest development, **Hiram Penniman** laid out a town site in 1850. In December 1862 a U.S. Post Office was established under the name "Walnut Creek". Southern Pacific Railroad service arrived in 1891. The city was incorporated in October 1914. The 2020 population is 70,127. The Walnut Creek City Manager is **Dan Buckshi**, and the Assistant City Manager is **Teri Killgore**. **Suzie Martinez** is the City Clerk. **Kevin Safine** is the Director of Arts and Recreation, and the Chief of Police is **Jamie Knox**.

**Dan Buckshi** began his working career in the private sector with Honda and Hewlett-Packard. In May 2002 he joined the staff of the County of San Luis Obispo as an Administrative Analyst. He worked his way up in the county organization during a 15-year 4-month tenure. He was appointed County Administrative Officer (CAO) in October 2012. Dan left the county when he was selected to serve as the Walnut Creek City Manager in August 2017. Dan earned BA from Michigan State University, and a Master's in public policy from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. He completed leadership and management training at an Executive Seminar at the University of California, Berkeley.



Former City Managers **Wayne Wedin** (Brea), **Jim Barisic** (Artesia), **Ron Molendyk** (Lake Elsinore), and **Jeff Collier** (Whittier) at a "Proof of Life" lunch. The next lunch is planned at the La Mirada North Woods Inn Restaurant at noon, on Thursday, September 29. Please RSVP to: [jack@trackdownmanagement.net](mailto:jack@trackdownmanagement.net)



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

**Wolf & Company Inc.**, founded in 1993, is a housing, financial and insurance advisory firm that provides services to state and local governments, not-for-profit corporations with a special emphasis on:

**Mobile home Park Acquisitions - Program Administration and Oversight Agent Services**

**Mortgage Program Administration Services**

**Mortgage Insurance-Product Research and Development**

**Continuing Disclosure Services**

**Wolf & Company** is also capable to provide other services, such as:

First Time Home Buyer Programs  
Lease to Own Programs  
Down Payment Assistance Programs  
Mortgage Portfolio Management & Asset Sales  
Program Administration & Oversight Agent Services  
Strategic Consulting

Since 1993, **Wolf & Company Inc.**, has helped design, market and structure single family mortgage revenue bond issues, whole loan sales transactions, taxable single family mortgage bond programs with down payment assistance, down payment assistance programs, lease to own programs and is a provider of mortgage bond program administration and oversight agent services. **Wolf & Company Inc.** works nationally and internationally.



**Wolf & Company** Founder **Wesley Wolf**, is a former City Administrator,

## **Wolf & Company Housing and Mortgage Finance Programs**

In today's standard assembly line, affordable housing, and mortgage marketplace, inevitably someone gets left out. We ensure that you, the client, are provided a housing/mortgage product or program drafted to your individual needs, risk parameters, and geographical specifications. At **Wolf & Company**, housing and mortgage products are designed with attentive care, and uncommon resources, customized specifically to meet these individual needs.

**Wolf & Company** is deeply committed to long-term, successful business relationships based on trust and integrity.



Please contact **Wesley Wolf** at 949-235-0525 or [wesley@wolfco.net](mailto:wesley@wolfco.net)  
Please visit the company website at: [www.Wolfhousing.com](http://www.Wolfhousing.com)

### **A Sample of What We Can Do:**

Successor Agency to the El Monte Community  
Redevelopment Agency Taxable Tax Allocation  
Refunding Bonds Series 2017  
Estimate: \$31,900,000

The Successor Agency to the El Monte Community Redevelopment Agency is issuing its Series 2017. **Wolf & Company** has been appointed as Financial Advisor in connection with the bonds. The refunding was expected to close in May 2017.

For information on the duties of the Financial Advisor and/or to discuss a potential financing, please contact **Wesley Wolf** at 213-744-0437

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

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

**Wolf & Company Inc.** is a veteran owned company.





**Picking Up the Pieces:** Costa Mesa Fire Chief **Dan Stefano** has been serving as Acting City Manager since mid-July when City Manager **Lori Ann Farrell** underwent surgery due to a serious leg injury. Assistant City Manager **Susan Price** retired. Dan is continuing to fill in as Lori recovers.

After only four months as the City Manager in California City, **Doug Dunford** has resigned. Doug was selected to serve in the City Manager post in March. His first day on the job was May 2. Doug previously served as the City Manager in Gustine (May 2017-April 2022). Doug served as the Chief of Police in Gustine from 2011 to 2017. Prior to that he was the Chief of Police in Livingston (2010-2011) and Escalon (2002-2010). He began his career in 1978 as a Deputy Sheriff in Los Angeles County. Doug earned a BASc from Azusa Pacific University and an MA from Bellevue University. Goleta's new City Manager **Robert Nisbet** was sworn in. Robert worked 19-years for the County of Santa Barbara before he was hired to serve as the City Manager of Half Moon Bay, where he served for four-years. He is also a former Public Works Director for Carpinteria for 7-years. He replaces City Manager **Michelle Green** who retired. He earned a Master's degree in economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara. With San Clemente City Manager **Erik Sund** leaving to be the Big Bear Lake City Manager, veteran retired City Manager **Sean Joyce** has been hired as Interim City Manager in San Clemente. Sean began his public management career in the City of Walnut in 1987. He was appointed



Assistant City Administrator in Sierra Madre in 1990 and became City Administrator in 1993. Sean worked as the South Pasadena City Manager from 1996 to 2004 when he was hired to serve as Assistant City Manager in Irvine. Sean took the Irvine City Manager position in 2006 and retired in 2018. Since his retirement, he has served as Interim City Manager in South Pasadena (2020-2021), and Huntington Beach (2021-2022). Sean earned a BA and MPA from California State University, Fullerton. Atascadero City Manager **Rachelle Rickard** wants a new Chief of Police. She wishes to terminate current Chief of Police **Bob Masterson** who officially became the Chief in January 2021. He took the position following the retirement of Chief **Jerel Haley** in October 2020. Bob is on leave until the City Council can hear the issues. **Chet Simmons** has been the City Manager in the City of Los Alamitos since February 2020. Chet is a former Assistant City Manager in the City of Westminster. He earned a BA in political science from Gonzaga University.

## Dr. Ronald R. Bates (July 14, 1946-September 6, 2022)

Condolences to the family and friends of Los Alamitos City Council Member **Dr. Ronald R. Bates**. Ron (76) was an avid bicycle rider and had a heart attack while riding. He was doing what he loved. Ron is a retired City Manager with service in Buena Park, South Gate, Pico Rivera and La



Habra Heights and he taught public finance and public works administration at California State University, Long Beach. He previously served as Assistant City Manager in Anaheim. From 1988 to 2004 he previously served as Council Member/Mayor in Los Alamitos and recently returned to the City Council. Ron earned a BA from California State University, Los Angeles and a PhD in public administration from the University of Southern California (**USC**). He served as the Student Body President (1968-1969) at CSULA. Ron is a past President of the League of California Cities (1996-1998). Ron is a past participant of the Southern California "Proof of Life" lunch program.



This picture was submitted by retired City and County Manager **Roy Pederson**. Standin' on a corner in Winslow, Arizona in a 1963 356 Porsche.



## California Contract Cities Association

**Marcel Rodarte,**  
Executive Director

17315 Studebaker Road, Suite 210  
Cerritos, California 90703  
Telephone No. 562-622-5533





**More Pieces Picked Up:** Corona City Manager **Jacob Ellis** served as a Legal Researcher for the Municipality of North Cowichan in British Columbia in 2006. After working in the Cowichan Valley Regional for a little more than 8-years Jacob moved to the U.S. to served as the Assistant to the Town Manager in Gilbert, Arizona in July 2015. He was appointed

Deputy Town Manager in July 2017. Jacob was selected to serve as the Corona City Manager in November 2019. He earned a BA from Brigham Young University, an MPA from Cleveland State University and a Juris Doctorate from the Marshall College of Law at Cleveland State University. Former Pasadena Mayor and Council Member and City Manager in Azusa, Ventura and Santa Monica (2015-2020), **Rick Cole**, is the Executive Director for The Congress for the New Urbanism. Rick is also an Adjunct Professor at the Pepperdine University School of Public Policy and Assistant Professor at Occidental College. Rick earned an AB from Occidental College and an MS in journalism from Columbia University. **Meghan Wishner**,



daughter of retired Walnut City Manager **Rob Wishner**, is a Management Aide in the Fountain Valley City Manager's Office. Meghan was an Intern with the City of Thousand Oaks in July 2017 and worked as an Administrative Assistant for

Mt. San Antonio College starting in August 2018. She joined the Economic Development staff at the City of Ontario in May 2019. Meghan was hired in Fountain Valley starting in September 2021. Meghan earned a BA in communications from California State University, Channel Islands. She recently celebrated her birthday. Pasadena City Hall has bid farewell to Interim City Manager **Cynthia Kurtz** as they welcome new City Manager **Miguel Marquez**. Cynthia retired as the Pasadena City Manager (1998-2008) and since then served as the Interim City Manager in the City of Santa Ana. She was appointed Interim City Manager in Pasadena in November 2021. Cynthia earned a BA from Pennsylvania State University and a Master's from the University of Iowa. In 2007 Cynthia received a 30-year ICMA Service Award. She served as the President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities in 2007. **Mike Chapman**,

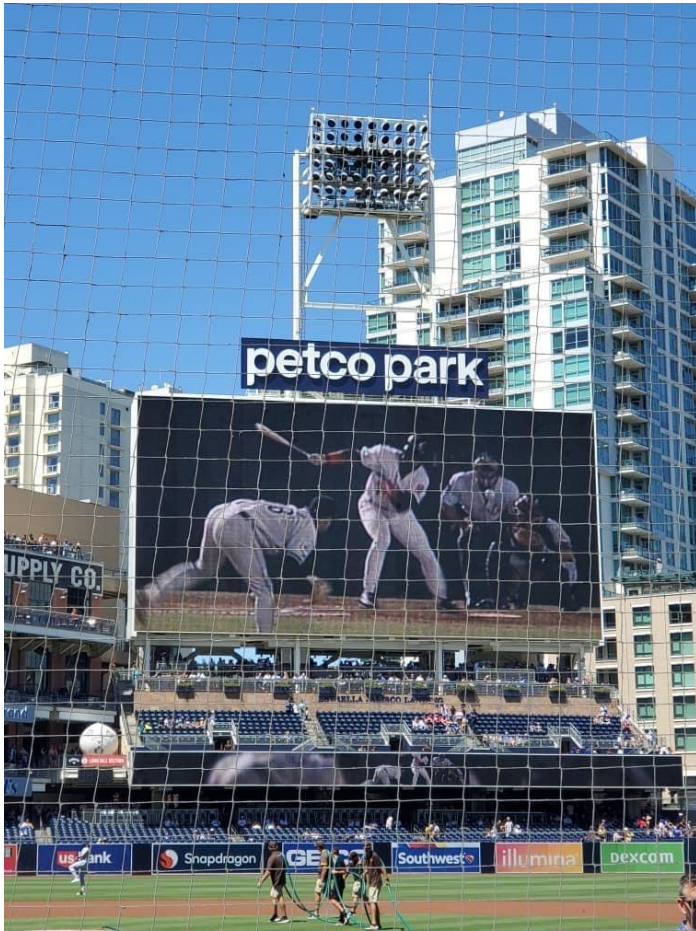


a longtime member of the Kern County Fire Department has passed away. Mike was a Captain for the KCFD. He earned a BA in public health at Fresno State University. Mike was a Bakersfield resident. **Denise Pennell**, wife of retired City Manager **Larry Pennell**, received Joyce's permission to announce Mike's passing.



**Jack Simpson** of Trackdown and longtime friend **Sam Olivito**, retired Executive Director of the California Contract Cities Association. Sam and his wife Sharon have relocated to the Coachella Valley.

Vallejo Assistant to the City Manager **Natalie Peterson** is the new Houselessness Manager for the city. Natalie joined the Vallejo city staff in August 2020 as a Community Development Analyst. In July 2021 Natalie moved to the City Manager's Office as an Administrative Analyst. She took the Assistant to the City Manager position in April 2022 in an interim basis and was appointed to the post in August 2022. After graduating from Benicia High School, Natalie earned a BS from Saint Mary's College of California. She is a member of the Municipal Management Association of Northern California (MMANC). **Joe Esquivel**, affectionately known as "**The Great Joe Esquivel**", former Lakewood Mayor and City Council Member (1990-2011) and past President of the California Contract Cities Association (2001-2002), has passed away at the age of 89. He died on Wednesday, August 24, 2022. Joe was born in 1932 and grew up in Donaldsonville, Louisiana. He served in the U.S. Navy and was discharged in Long Beach. He and his wife Pat, a huge Boston Red Sox fan, settled into Lakewood in 1963. Joe worked for the American National Can Company in Carson for 35-years. He filled a leadership role in the United Steelworkers Local District 39. Former City of La Mirada City Planner (1991-2005) **Steven Mendoza** is currently the Assistant City Manager in the City of Santa Ana. Steve worked in La Mirada with former City Managers **Gary Sloan** and **Andrea Miller**. In 2005 Steve went to Desert Hot Springs to serve as Assistant City Manager and in October 2008 he became the Development Service Director for the City of Los Alamitos. After nearly 9-years, Steve left his Los Alamitos position in 2018 to serve as the Executive Director of the Santa Ana Community Development Agency. He was appointed Assistant City Manager in December 2020. Steve has been quoted, "ACM is the best job in city government." Firebaugh City Manager **Ben Gallegos** was interviewed by NPA's **Leila Fedel** in August 2022 about preparing for megastorms. **UCLA** researchers predict that climate change is bringing megastorms as often as every 50-years. Ben spoke of funding that is needed to prepare public facilities for the large storms. Scientists call it a megaflood or megastorm, when there is 30-days of continuous moderate to severe rain and snow covering wide swaths of land.



Many Dodgers and Giants fans venture south to San Diego to see their teams play the San Diego Padres.



A City of Cerritos delegation attended the 2022 League of California Cities Conference & Expo in Long Beach. Thank you for the picture **Arcy Hinojosa**.

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." –**C. S. Lewis**

**Still More Pieces Picked Up:** Oceanside City Manager **Deanna Lorson** resigned in March and Director of Development Services **Jonathan Borrego** was assigned the Interim City Manager responsibilities. He has now been appointed City Manager. Jonathan came to the city in 2017. His department includes the Planning, Building, Engineering and Code Enforcement Divisions. He was promoted to Deputy City Manager by Deanna in 2019 in addition to his Director responsibilities. Prior to working in Oceanside, Jonathan worked as a City Planner for the City of Anaheim for nearly 30-years. He earned a BA and MPA from California State University, Long Beach. City of



Vernon Utilities Strategic Planning Coordinator **Jessica Balandran** previously was a member of team **Tripepi Smith** in 2012. She worked as a Senior Administrative Analyst for the City of Cudahy between 2012 and 2016. Jessica joined the city staff in Vernon as an Administrative

Analyst in October 2016. She was the Utilities Compliance Analyst from October 2020 to September 2022 when she was elevated to her current position. Jessica took classes at Eastern Michigan University and earned a BA in political science and an MPA from St. Mary's University.



**SHORTS:** \*Beverly Hills Director of Community Development **Ryan Gohlich** has been selected to serve as Assistant City Manager. \***Timothea Tway** has been promoted from City Planner to the Beverly Hills Director of Community Development. \***J. Paul Paris** has been the City Manager in the City of Wasco since June 2014,

and previously worked as the Director of Public Works there from 2012 to 2014. \***Jamie Earl**, who went to work for the City of Claremont in August 2010 as a Senior Recreation Leader, is currently the Claremont Assistant City Manager since November 2020. \*Chino Assistant to the City Manager **Jack Morgan** earned a BA and MPA from California State University, Fullerton. \***Ken Domer**, who earned a BA and MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**), after serving as the Fullerton City Manager (2017-2021) has been the Assistant City Manager in the City of Laguna Beach since June 2021. \***Sam and Sharon Olivito** have moved to the Coachella Valley. \***Tom DeSantis**, who retired as the City Manager in Temecula in December 2019, served as a President and Member of the Board of Trustees of the Hemet Unified School District (November 2000-November 2004) while he served as a Deputy Executive Officer for the County of San Bernardino (2001-2004). Keep smiling! \*\*\*