



--Whitaker-Jaynes Historical House in Buena Park where **Aaron France** has served as the City Manager since March 2021. The home was built for **Andrew W. Whitaker**. In 1887 Whitaker registered a plat map for the Town of Buena Park. The home was sold to the Jaynes family 1903. The home is located at 6631 Beach Boulevard, Buena Park. You may call about seeing the home at 714-562-3570. The Buena Park City Hall is located at 6650 Beach Boulevard just down the street from the Whitaker-Jaynes House.

First Six Cities Alphabetically in Marin County

There are eleven incorporated cities in Marin County. They include Belvedere, Corte Madera, Fairfax, Larkspur, Mill Valley Novato, Ross, San Anselmo, San Rafael, Sausalito and Tiburon.

This issue of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown acknowledges the first six of these cities alphabetically. The city managers include **Robert Zadnik, Adam Wolff, Hearther Abrams, Dan Schwarz, Todd Cusimano** and **Adam McGill**.

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First Six Cities Alphabetically in Marin County

Belvedere is a residential community on the San Francisco Bay in Marin County. The city includes two islands and a lagoon and is connect to the Tiburon Peninsula by two causeways. The city incorporated in 1896 and its first post office opened in 1897. The 2020 population is 2,126. The late **Robin Williams** was a Belvedere resident. **Robert Zadnik** is the City Manager.



In June 2010 **Robert Zadnik** began serving as a Public Works Supervisor for the City of Sausalito. In January 2012 he joined the Mill Valley city staff as Public Works Manager. Robert worked there until October 2016 when he became the Public

Works Director and Emergency Preparedness Manager in the City of Belvedere. He was selected to serve as the City Manager in June 2022 following the retirement of City Manager **Craig Middleton**. After studying at California State University, Sacramento, Robert earned a BA in business administration and management from Eastern Oregon University.

Helga Cotter is the Belvedere Administrative Services Director. She previously worked as a Senior Accountant for the Transportation Authority of Marin County.



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First Six Cities Alphabetically in Marin County



In 1878 the first post office was opened in Corte Madera, and it closed in 1880. The Adams post office opened in 1902 and changed its name later that year to Corte Madera. **Jerry Adams** was the first postmaster. In 1850, California joined the Union, and the Gold Rush brought settlers to the area. The North Pacific Coast Railroad set tracks through Corte Madera by 1875. Corte Madera incorporated in June 1916. The 2020 population is 10, 222. **Adam Wolff** is the Interim Town Manager and **Rebecca Vaughn** is the Assistant Town Manager and Town Clerk. **Daria Carrillo** is the Director of Finance and **Ashley Howe** is the Director of Parks and Recreation.



Interim City Manager **Adam Wolff** is the Planning and Building Director for the Town of Corte Madera. In July 2022, Adam took the position from City Manager **Todd Cusimano**, who left to accept the position of City Manager in Mill Valley.

Adam was a Deputy Director in the New York City Department of City Planning starting in 2009 and joined the Town of Corte Madera in June 2014. Adam earned a BA in political science from the University of Washington and an MS in urban planning from the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation.

Rebecca Vaughn, Assistant Town Manager & Town Clerk, worked as a Public Information Assistant in Culver City in 1999-2001. She held jobs in San Francisco, Brisbane and Redwood City. She worked as for the Sausalito Marin City Sanitary District (2011-2014) before joining the Corte Madera city staff in May 2014. She earned a BA from the University of California, Berkeley and an MPA from the University of Southern California.

First Six Cities Alphabetically in Marin County



Fairfax is named for **Lord Charles Snowden Fairfax**. Stories have it that Fairfax was the location of the last political duel in California. In 1861, **Daniel Showalter** and **Charles W. Piercy**, both members of the State Assembly faced off at the home of Lord Fairfax, who was a mutual friend. Though Lord Fairfax tried to talk them out of it, the two political adversaries dueled and **Daniel Showalter** killed **Charles Piercy**. The first post office opened in 1910, and the town incorporated in 1931. **Heather Abrams** is the Town Manager, **Maria Baird** is the Parks and Recreation and Community Service Director, and **Michael Vivrette** is the Finance Director.



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"Every city manager has to deal with the reality that there is a political component to the job, but we must continue to strive in all ways to remain apolitical in our efforts to serve every single council member."

--**Oliver Chi**, Irvine City Manager (quoted when he served as City Manager for the City of Rosemead)

First Six Cities Alphabetically in Marin County



Fairfax Town Manager **Heather Abrams** began her public service career with the City and County of San Francisco as a Recycling Coordinator in October 1995. She worked for the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority starting in

November 1997 before she joined the staff of the City of El Cerrito in February 2002. She left El Cerrito in 2008 to work with some private consulting firms until she joined the Menlo Park staff in November 2014 as an Environmental Programs Manager and Sustainability Manager. From January 2017 to February 2022, Heather served as the General Manager for the Tamalpais Community Services District, until she joined the Fairfax town staff as Town Manager. Heather earned a BA from the University of California, Berkeley, and an MBA from California State University, Monterey Bay. She also completed the curriculum for special executive program at Harvard University Kennedy School.



Novato High School graduate **Maria Baird** is the Fairfax Community Resources Coordinator. She began her career as a Hazardous Waste Coordinator in San Francisco in

January 1988. She joined the San Anselmo town staff in August 2003 as the Assistant Community Resources Coordinator. Maria was hired in the Town of Fairfax in January 2006. She earned a BS in health science from San Francisco State University.

"Cheating, disloyalty, unfaithfulness...they start out as little things justified by clever reasonings of the brain, but never do they fully convince the knowing heart."

--**Richelle E. Goodrich**, author

First Six Cities Alphabetically in Marin County



Larkspur was laid out by **Charles W. Wright** in 1887. The first post office opened in 1891, and the city was incorporated in March 1908. The 2020 population is put at 13,064. **Janis Joplin's** last know home was in Larkspur. **Dan Schwarz** in the City Manager, and **Cathy Orme** is the Administrative Services Director.

Daniel R. Schwarz became the Larkspur City Manager in March 2010. Dan previously served as the Assistant City Manager in the City of Rohnert Park. He also served as Interim City Manager there. Dan also works for the Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCO) in Orange and Napa Counties. He served as the Executive Officer of the Napa County LAFCO. Dan earned a BA from the University of California, Berkeley and an MA from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**). In 2016 he received a 10-year ICMA Service Award.



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This picture was posted previously but deserves to be seen again and again. A 1970s group that call themselves the Certified Urban Managers. Left to right: **Jack Simpson**, **John Jameson**, **Ray Harris**, **Frank G. Tripepi**, **John E. Maulding** and **Dan W. Heil**.

In 2004 **Cathy Orme** began working for the City of Healdsburg as an Accountant and Budget Analyst. In 2007 Cathy became the Controller of the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District, and in 2008 she joined the city staff in Rohnert Park as the Accounting Manager, and she was promoted to Finance Director in January 2010. Cathy took the Administrative Service Director position in the City of Larkspur in October 2013. She earned a BS in finance from the University of San Francisco.

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In the 1830s **John Reed** built the first sawmill on Cascade Creek in Mill Valley. Wood was processed at the mill for the San Francisco Presidio.

Through the years other business were developed and new people moved to the area. The city incorporated in September 1900. The 2020 population is 14,231. **Todd Cusimano** is the City Manager and **Hannah Politzer** is the City Clerk. **Kelsey Rogers** is the Assistant to the City Manager and **Linn Walsh** is the Public Information Officer. **Eric Erickson** is the Finance and Human Resources Director, and **Seth Allingham** is the Human Resources Manager. **Sean McGrew** is the Director of Arts & Recreation. **Ignacio R. Navarro** is the Chief of Police.



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After nearly 19-years with the Twin Cities Police Authority in Larkspur between May 1994 and 2013 **Todd Cusimano** left the Authority as Police Chief and then served as Police Chief for the Central Marin Police Authority (2013-2016). In

October 2016 Todd moved out of law enforcement to become the Town Manager in the Town of Corte Madera. In September 2022 Todd became City Manager in the City of Mill Valley. Todd earned an AA from Santa Rosa Junior College, a BA from California State University, Sacramento, a BA for Kaplan University and an MBA from Columbia Southern University.

Kelsey Rogers is the Assistant to the City Manager in Mill Valley was a Deputy City Clerk in the City of Malibu (2007-2010). She joined the Belvedere city staff as an Assistant Planner and Records Technician (2010-2011). In November 2011 Kelsey was appointed City Clerk in Mill Valley (2011-2022). This past July she became Assistant to the City Manager. During the time from December 2017 and to December 2019, Kelsey served as the Legislative Committee Analyst for the Marin County Council of Mayors and Council Members. She earned a BA from the University of California, Irvine and an MPPA from California Lutheran University.

Mill Valley's Arts and Recreation Director is **Sean McGrew**. Sean was a Recreation Supervisor for the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department (2010-2015). In June 2015 Sean worked as a Superintendent of Recreation and Community Services for Mill Valley. He has served as the Director since December 2019; the first year and 7 months as "Interim." Sean studied at San Diego State University and the University of California, Santa Barbara.



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First Six Cities Alphabetically in Marin County



Linn Walsh has worked for the City of Mill Valley for more than 16-years. Prior to joining the city staff in October 2006, she served as a Mentor Teach, Assistant Education Director, an Americorps Supervisor and a Sea Kayak Guide in Tomales Bay. Linn earned a BA in women's studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz and a Master's in the humanities and leadership from New College of California. She also completed an extension environmental studies program at the University of California, Berkeley.



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"It's a beautiful day for
a ballgame...
Let's play two!
--Ernie Banks

First Six Cities Alphabetically in Marin County

Early Novato pioneers planted orchards and vineyards in the 1850s. The first post office for Novato opened in 1856. It closed in 1860 and a new post office opened in 1891. The original town was located around Novato Creek. A railroad was connected to the town in 1879. The city incorporated in January 1960. The 2020 population figure is 53,225. **Adam McGill** is the City Manager and **Jessica Deakyne** is the Assistant City Manager. **Christina Soares** is a Management Analyst in the City Manager's Office. **Laura McDowall** is the Novato City Clerk.



Adam McGill was originally in law enforcement. He left the Modesto Police Department as a Police Commander in January 2008 after working there 7 and a half years. Adam served as the Chief of Police in Newman (2008-2010) before becoming a Senior Police Advisor for the U.S. Department of State. In February 2012 he became Chief of Police for the Town of Truckee (2012-2017). Adam became the Chief of Police in Novato in January 2017 and was appointed City Manager in November 2019. Adam earned a BS in criminal justice administration from the University of Phoenix, an MS in emergency services administration from California State University, Long Beach. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy.

Novato Assistant City Manager **Jessica Deakyne** began her public service career as a Desk Assistant for the Orange County Museum of Art in 2005. After working in transportation in Orange and Solano Counties, she joined the Novato staff in 2016 as a Management Analyst. She left for a few months for St. Helena and returned as Assistant City Manager in September 2019. She has a BA from University of California, Irvine and an MPA from California State University, Fullerton.



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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). Fran was elected as a University of California Alumni Regent in 2016.



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First Six Cities Alphabetically in Marin County



In August 2010 **Katie Gauntlett** was a Coaches Liaison for the Chico Area Recreation & Park District. Katie joined the Novato staff as a Recreation Coordinator in January 2012. In July 2015 she moved to the City of Healdsburg as a Recreation

Supervisor. Katie returned to Novato as a Recreation Supervisor in September 2016. She was elevated to Deputy Director in September 2020. Katie was promoted to Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Services in July 2022. Katie has been active with the California Parks and Recreation Society (CPRS). She is a past President of CPRS District I (2015-2016) and she has held other executive committee posts of Secretary and Treasurer. Katie earned a BS in recreation, hospitality and parks management from California State University, Chico.



<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
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James Barisic, the company founder is a former Artesia City Manager, beginning his local government career as an Administrative Intern in Paramount. He also served as Assistant City Manager in Cerritos. Jim is a Vietnam veteran.

"From day one, we have stayed true to our strategy, even though it was extremely tempting to go looking for targets of opportunity," says **Jim Barisic**. "The last time the market took off, many builders pursued large projects in outlying markets. Later, those same projects fell into distress and everyone was chasing them. Both times, we took a hard look at our options and decided, 'Let's stick with what we know and do it better than anyone else.'"



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Brett Whitehead is Principal and CEO of Irvine-based **Brandywine Homes**. The 28-year-old family-owned company has developed in small and mid-sized communities in places like Garden Grove and Stanton.



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Company President **Brett Whithead** has said: "We stayed true to our strengths – building infill homes that truly reflect local demand – and as a result, we are healthy, well-funded and positioned for solid growth."



Picking Up the Pieces: City of South San Francisco City Manager **Mike Futrell** is the next City of Riverside City Manager. He has been the City Manager in South San Francisco since 2014. Mike was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives (2000-2005). He then

worked as a senior staff member in the United States Senate in Louisiana and Washington D.C. (2005-2008). He then became the Chief Administrative Officer in the City/Parish of Baton Rouge (2008-2010). Mike served in the United State Navy, HQ for the Pacific Command as a Captain from October 2010 to 2011. He was then an Executive Vice President for Hawaii Gas in Honolulu (2011-2014). Mike was then selected to serve as the South San Francisco City Manager in April 2014. Mike earned a BS and Juris Doctorate from Louisiana State University. He also earned an MBA from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Assistant City Manager **Akbar Alikhan** has been selected to serve as Acting City Manager in Ventura. City Manager **Alex D. McIntyre** was placed on Administrative Leave on November 14, 2022. Alex held positions in Burbank (1985-1988) and Arcadia (1988-1994) before going to work with executive recruiter Norm Roberts & Associates. In 1997, Alex became the Town Administrator in Portola Valley, and in 2000 he moved to the Town Manager post in Tiburon. After working as the Chief Assistant County Administrator in Marin County (2006-2008), he served as City Manager in Lake Oswego, Oregon (2008-2012). Alex was the City Manager in Menlo Park (2012-2018) before he became City Manager in the City of Ventura in November 2018. Alex earned a BA from the University of California, Irvine and an MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**). Former Assistant City Manager for five-years, **Sue Casey** is the Sonoma City Manager. This month Sue has been the subject of at least three executive sessions. An evaluation of her performance as city manager is being considered. Sue is Sonoma's fourth city manager since the end of 2020 when City Manager **Cathy Capriol** retired after three years. **David Kiff** was the interim city manager for 6-months and **Garrett Toy** took the job, only to resign after 6-months.



1969 Dodge Charger prepared by **Ray Dunton** and his Ray-A-Motive team in Bellflower.

El Monte Chief of Police **Ben Lowry** passed away in October 2022 at the age of 45 from unspecified "health issues." **Jake Fisher** is the Acting Chief. Ben began his law enforcement career in 2000 with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. He joined the El Monte Police Department in 2002. Ben earned two AA degrees from Rio Hondo College, a BA from Union Institute & University, and a Masters degree from Woodbury University. He was also a P.O.S.T. Command College program graduate. Ridgecrest Public Works Director **Travis Reed** is the new General Manager of the Indian Wells Valley Water District filling in behind the retirement of General Manager **Don Zdeba**. Travis is a former employee of the District. He will start his new position on November 15, 2022. Travis earned a BS in civil engineering from the University of California, Irvine. **Charles "Chuck" R. Cates** is listed as a Fairfax resident by ICMA. Chuck served as the Town Administrator between 1986 and 1991. He also served as the Morgan Hill City Manager (1978-1985) and Calabasas (1991-2000). Chuck worked as the Assistant to the City Manager in Ventura (1967-1973) and Assistant City Manager there in 1973-1978. Chuck earned a BA from San Jose State College and an MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**). In 1998 he received a 30-year ICMA Service Award. Former City of Los Alamitos Development Director and Interim City Manager, **Les Johnson**, currently works as the Director of Planning Services for T & B Planning, Inc. in Irvine. Les is representing a Lampson-Los Alamitos dense single-family, multi-family and affordable apartment units project in an existing community near the military Los Alamitos Airport. The street renderings show handsome three-story buildings with minimum street setbacks. The project has sparked controversy in the area.

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—Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager of Upper Moreland Township, Pennsylvania



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A few supervisors, county staff and other attendees to the 128th Annual CSAC Meeting competed on an early morning "Fun Run" in Orange County. Napa County Supervisor-elect **Anne Cottrell** and CSAC staff member **Justin Garrett** tied for the win.



More Pieces Picked Up: Assistant City Manager **Sue Casey** was named Acting City Manager in the City of Sonoma in February 2022, and then Interim City Manager in May. In 1988 Sue was the Assistant Finance Manager in the City of El Cerrito, and after working on the private side she became the Administrative Services Director for the Moraga-Orinda Fire District. In August 2013 she went to work for American Canyon as the Administrative Services Director. She joined the Sonoma city staff in May 2017 as the Interim Finance Director, and she was hired to be the Assistant City Manager in October 2017. Sue earned a BS in child development from the University of California, Davis. Former Monterey Park Chief of Police **Dan Cross** has passed away this month. Dan was the Deputy Police Chief when Chief **Robert W. Collins** retired and was elevated to the Chief of Police position. At the time of his appointment, he had worked for the Monterey Park Police Department for 17-years. Dan earned an MPA from California State University, Los Angeles. South Pasadena City Manager **Armine Chaparyan**, a former Assistant City Manager in San Gabriel, joined the South Pasadena staff in May 2021. She went to work for West Covina as an Analyst in 2001, and she joined the City of Ontario staff as a Senior Project Manager in 2006. In September 2008 Armine became the Housing & Community Preservation and Redevelopment Manager in Santa Clarita. She left there in December 2014 for San Gabriel. Armine earned a BA from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**) and a MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**).



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Jonathan Borrego was appointed to be the next City Manager in the City of Oceanside in August 2022. Oceanside City Manager **Deanna Lorson** announced her retirement effective immediately following a performance session on March 23. Jonathan joined the Oceanside in 2017 as the Development Services Director. He was made Deputy City Manager in 2019. He worked for the City of Anaheim for nearly 30-years before coming to Oceanside. Jonathan earned a BA and MPA from California State University, Long Beach. **Michael Chandler** is set to be the next City Manager of the City of Martinez effective January 4, 2023. Michael is currently serving as the Acting City Manager taking over for City Manager **Eric Figueroa**. Michael has worked for the City of Martinez for more than two decades serving in various positions including Assistant City Manager. Prior to coming to work for Martinez, Michael served as a Naval officer. Orinda City Manager **David Biggs** earned a BA from California State University, Fullerton and MBA from the University of California, Irvine. David is an ICMA credentialed manager. He started his career as an Administrative Intern in Santa Ana in 1980. David has served as City Manager in Morgan Hill (1992-1995), Tustin (2010-2011), Carson (2011-2013) and Hercules (2014-2021) before he was selected to be the Orinda City Manager in April 2021. Between 2005 and 2010 David worked as the Assistant City Manager in the City of Redondo Beach. In 2020 David received a 40-year ICMA Service Award. North Bay Division of the League of California Cities Officers include President **Alma Hernandez** of Suisun City; Vice President **Mariam Aboudamous**, American Canyon; Second Vice President **Janelle Kellman**, Sausalito; Board Director **Mike Healy**, Petaluma; and Immediate Past President **Susan Harvey**, Cotati. City Managers in these Division Officers' city's includes **Greg Folsom**, **Jason Holley**, **Chris Zapata**, **Peggy Flynn**, and **Damien O'Bid**.

Servant Leadership

Servant leadership goes beyond building strategy, goals, financial performance and customer satisfaction. Servant leaders go further by focussing on providing their employees with development opportunities. Employees want a job where they can succeed. They want an opportunity to be coached and mentored by someone. Since servant leaders put people first, they get to know them on a different level. They help them to develop.

This is reposted from August 2008

City Manager Prichard Swims Around Alcatraz Island

This is a repost of our coverage of retired City Manager **Doug Prichard** of Rolling Hills Estates. Sure "The Incredibles" are a cartoon family, but they have nothing on the real life California City Manager "Mr. Incredible." We have provided a *Reader's Digest* version of Rolling Hills Estates City Manager **Doug Prichard**'s account of his awesome performance in the Third Annual "Swim Around the Rock" event in San Francisco...a distance of 3.25 miles "out, around and back."



City Manager **Douglas R. Prichard** began his public management career in Bellflower as an Administrative Assistant in 1982. He moved to Rolling Hills Estates in 1985 as the Assistant City Manager, and he was appointed City Manager in 1990. Doug has a 20-year ICMA Service Award. Doug has a BA from the University of California.

On July 12, 2008, Doug swam from the beach at Aquatic Park in San Francisco out and around Alcatraz Island (The Rock). Doug did it in 1:28:57 and finished seventh out of 35 swimmers, and second among men who made the swim without wetsuits. At 50-years old he has been able to weather the stresses of the city management craft and find the time to keep extraordinarily fit.

Doug's wife Kathy stepped in to be the official race photographer as the planned photographer had to bail at the last minute. The water was a "cool" 58 degrees; Doug says it was "manageable." Those interested in viewing a map of the course should visit the web site at:

<http://www.waterworldswim.com/sar/intro.html>

During this "Swim Around The Rock" event Doug said that he saw a red swim cap from time-to-time but for the most part he was left alone to find his pace and seek the quickest course line. Finding and taking the right course is part of the appeal of open water swimming. It is not simply about putting your head down and churning out strokes. It requires handling unpredictable currents, course management and judgment, adjusting to changing conditions and sometimes relying on just plain luck. Of course, a well-prepared swimmer makes his or her own luck.



Doug, ever the City Manager, notes that the event "...was an extremely wellrun event." He says that the organizers are expert at putting on such an event from the Coast Guard cooperation in temporarily closing the channel to shipping, to the tests swims, the briefings, the safety kayaks, the timers, the post-race feast and the awards presentation...Doug says, "...handled expertly..." by Race Director **Pedro Ordenez** and Events Manager **George Rehmet**.

Doug notes that the winning time was 1:14:01 by a male without a wetsuit. He also points out that the sixth place swimmer, ahead of him by more than a minute, was a fourteen year old girl...no wetsuit. There are some awesome swimmers out there and **Doug Prichard** is among them.

Doug's next big swim challenge is the ten-mile Maui Channel. He plans to swim solo from Lani to Maui on August 30. In the meantime Doug is the new Chair of the California Contract Cities Association's City Manager and Administrators' Committee.

